

Edgar F. Girtain IV

# Three Celebratory Hymns (2014)

For SATB Chorus

# 1. LISTEN! WISDOM CALLS US

Angier Brock

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*f*

1. Lis ten! Wis-dom calls us. Hear how un-der-stand-ing lifts her voice a-bove the nois-y cross-roads of the cit-y:  
2. First in all cre-a-tion, dai-ly in God's pres-ence wis-dom played. As springs be-gan to spar-kle with fresh wa-ters,  
3. Je-sus, be our wis-dom. Live in us, our way, our truth, our life. When we lapse in-to care-less-ness, for-give us.

*f*

*p*

"Re-cieve my teach-ings, fin-er than pure sil-ver. Pur-sue my way, a bet-ter choice than gold.  
As hills took on their heights, and fields their bor-ders, as seas re-ceived their lim-its, skies their lights,  
When we grow wea-ry, be our in-spi-ra-tion. In all we seek to do, may grace in-crease

*p* *unis.*

*f*

My words are wor-thi-er than cost-ly ru-bies, from my lips a world of truth is told." A-men  
Fish and birds knew life, and hu-man crea-tures, then God re-joiced, and wis-dom took de-light.  
un-til your wis-dom spreads through all cre-a-tion, and heals our hearts, and mends the earth with peace.

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## 2. CHRIST! WHO WAS BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN

3

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*p*

1. Christ who was be - fore the world be - gan, Christ with God as all things came to be,  
 2. Christ, we are your peo - ple gath - ered here, hol - ding earth's near fu - ture in our hands.  
 3. Christ the hope of gen - er - a - tions past, Christ as yet our com - pass, star, and guide,

*f*

Christ in eve - ry a - tom eve - ry span of love and light a - cross e - ter - ni - ty: You \_\_\_\_\_  
 Needs are great, but Godd News draws us near with dreams of jus - tice love's sweet prov-d-dence. Come \_\_\_\_\_  
 Christ, who sum-mons us to feast and fast by which the great - est love is mul-ti - plied: You \_\_\_\_\_

— took on our hu-man - i - ty. You walked the shores of gal - i - lee  
 — set our hearts at li - ber ty. In this, our year of ju - bi - lee  
 — pour out grace un-spar-ing - ly. You ask us to live dar-ing - ly

*ff* *p*

You healed the blind and set the cap-tive free — and still you walk with us through his - to - ry. A - men.  
 Help us to serve, in peace and con - fi - dence as faith - ful stew - ards of your New Cove' - nant  
 Teach us to an - swer with a clear "A - men!" and through your church, may you be glor - i - fied.

*ff* *p*

## 3. GOD, WE GATHER

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*p*

1. God, we ga - ther as your peo - ple called to ho - ly time and space, danc - ing in the sa - cred sto - ry  
 2. As your crea - ture bless'd with mem' - ry we re - call sal - vat - ion's hymn, tunes of hope for all the age - s,  
 3. Yet great fear is all a - round us. Greed and rage leave dread - ful scars. Lack of shar - ing and com - pass - ion  
 4. God, cre - a - tor most a - maz - ing, Je - sus, heal - er, tea - cher friend, Ho - ly Spir - it stir - ring in us

*p*

of de - liv - er - ance and grace. O - ver land and wa - ters, far and wide your name is heard  
 words of light that nev - er dims: with her tim - brel danc - ing, Da - vid play - ing on his lyre,  
 forge de - struc - tive pris - on bars. In the land of hon - ey bring us heal - ing right our wrongs,  
 dreams of peace on grace - filled wind, All your time is ho - ly, all of earth is sa - cred, too,

car - ried by your sons and daugh - ters trust - ing your life giv - ing word. A - men  
 sav - ior Je - sus, born of Mar - y, wor - shipped by the an - gels choir.  
 move us with bright notes of prom - ise, help us wise - ly use your songs.  
 all your chil - dren are be - lov - ed. Help us know them, one with you.