August 31, 2026

While working on my sermon this morning, I came across this hymn which was written by Charles Wesley. The main connection with the scripture was the imagery of water and being thirsty. If you want to sing it to yourself, try the tune for Hymn #73, O Worship The King

1. Ye thirsty for God, to Jesus give ear,
And take, through His blood, a power to draw near;
His kind invitation ye sinners embrace,
Accepting salvation, salvation by grace.

2. Sent down from above, who governs the skies,
In vehement love to sinners He cries,
Drink into My Spirit, who happy would be,
And all things inherit by coming to Me.

3. O Savior of all, Thy Word we believe!
And come at Thy call, Thy grace to receive;
The blessing is given wherever Thou art.
The earnest of Heaven is love in the heart.

4. To us at Thy feet the Comforter give,
Who gasp to admit Thy Spirit,
The weakest believers acknowledge for Thine,
And fill us with rivers of water divine.

I love this imagery of being thirsty and coming to God to have our thirst quenched. Drinking into God's spirit, being revived by God's grace, I find those thoughts to be powerful. How about you?

Sometimes life and circumstances really pull us down. It is easy to get depressed, to lose hope, to simply be sad. Beginning this Sunday I will be addressing some of this as I preach a series on hope. Each week I will talk about where or how we can find hope. I think you will recognize many of the scriptures that I will be using each Sunday. I will focus on finding hope in community, in God's love, in God's future and in God's peace.

I invite you to be thinking about where you find hope. What gives you hope? How can hope sustain you? What kinds of things can make you lose your hope or lessen your hope? And what is hope for you - how do you define hope?

This week I challenge you to find songs that make you hopeful. They don't have to be Christian to make you feel positive.

I have several songs I go to elevate my own mood. Number one? "Always On My Mind" with the Pet Shop Boys singing, extended dance version. I can't help but sing along, it makes me want to dance, it gets me out of my head and just be joyful and feel happy about life. No, it isn't religious at all and you may think I'm crazy but that song just does it for me. And it is over eight minutes long so by the end I am always out of my sad or solemn mood.

Have a hopeful, musical week!

You are always on MY mind (and in my heart and prayers),
Amelia