

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Gathered together
to
worship God

July 23, 2017

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

What is this place

Hymnal #1
words by Huub Oosterhuis, 1968
translated by David Smith, 1970
music from *Nederlandtsche
Gedcnckclanck*, 1626
harmonized by S. Huizers, 1968
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"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

1:
What is this place
where we are meeting?
Only a house, the earth its floor,
walls and a roof sheltering people,
windows for light, an open door.
Yet it becomes a body that lives
when we are gathered here,
and know our God is near.

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

2:
Words from afar, stars that are falling,
sparks that are sown in us like seed.
Names for our God,
dreams, signs, and wonders
sent from the past are what we need.
We in this place remember and speak
again what we have heard:
God's free redeeming word.

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

3:
And we accept
bread at his table,
broken and shared, a living sign.
Here in this world, dying and living,
we are each other's bread and wine.
This is the place where we can receive
what we need to increase:
God's justice and God's peace.

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Announcements

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Prelude

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Call to Worship

based on Psalm 126
by Rev. Penny L. Lowes
newly elected assistant moderator of
the 23rd General Synod of
the United Church of Christ in 2019
she is a recently retired pastor from Michigan

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

One:
We gather to worship with
expectations: God revealed in new and
astounding ways.

All:
God comes to us in real time.
God comes to us in dreams.

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

One:
Sometimes God's presence is hard to take in— difficult to believe.

All:
**O God, we long to believe.
Help our unbelief!**

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

One:
God is present here.
God is working in our midst.

All:
**Then our mouths are filled with laughter,
Our tongues shout out with joy!**

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

I sing the mighty power of God

Hymnal #46
words by Isaac Watts, 1715 alt.
music from *Gesangbuch der Herzog*, 1784

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

1.
I sing the mighty power of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's
command and all the stars obey.

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

2.
I sing the goodness of the Lord,
that filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures with a word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
wherever I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

3.
There's not a plant or flower below,
but makes thy glories known,
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne.
While all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
there's not a place where we can flee
but God is present there.

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Opening Prayer

courtesy of www.living-prayers.com
inspired by the prophet Isaiah's vision
of worshipping angels recorded in Isaiah 6:3
and witnessed again by the writer of Revelation.

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Genesis 28:10-19a

from *The Message*
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"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

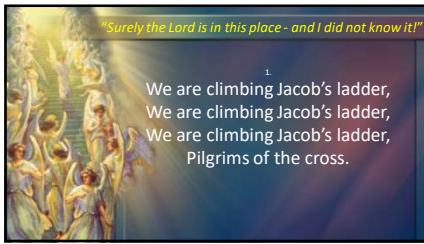
Jacob's Ladder

an African-American spiritual

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

1.

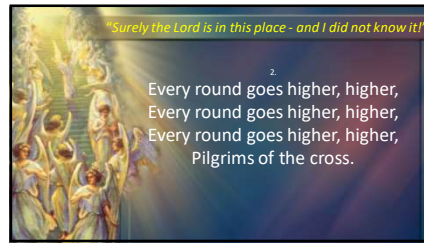
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
We are climbing Jacob's ladder,
Pilgrims of the cross.



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

2.

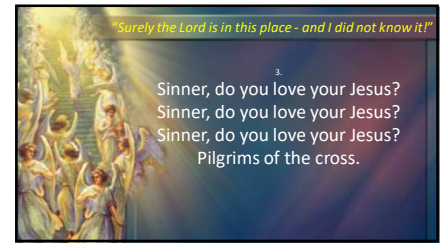
Every round goes higher, higher,
Every round goes higher, higher,
Every round goes higher, higher,
Pilgrims of the cross.



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

3.

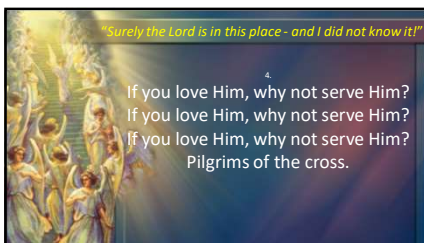
Sinner, do you love your Jesus?
Sinner, do you love your Jesus?
Sinner, do you love your Jesus?
Pilgrims of the cross.



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

4.

If you love Him, why not serve Him?
If you love Him, why not serve Him?
If you love Him, why not serve Him?
Pilgrims of the cross.



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

today's message:

*"Even when
not aware"*



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Blessed assurance

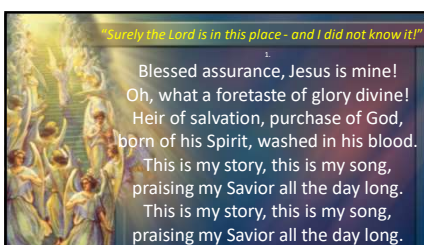
Hymnal #332
words by Fanny Crosby, 1873
music by Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

1.

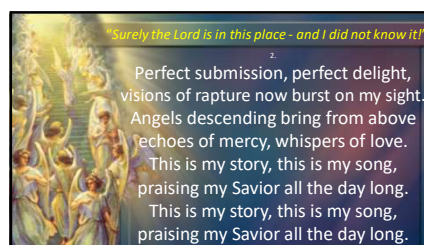
Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

2.

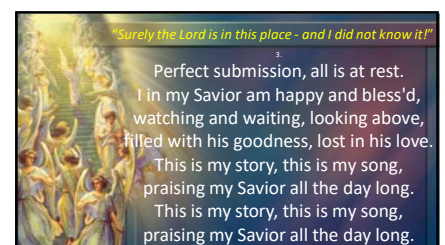
Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

3.

Perfect submission, all is at rest.
I in my Savior am happy and bless'd,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Psalm 139:1-12,
23-24

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"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Sharing a joy,
a concern, a word
of testimony
or praise

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Directed Prayer

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Our Father who
art in heaven

Hymnal #351
words based on Matthew 6
music by Jabani P. Mambula
copyright © 1974 Church of the Brethren General Board

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Our Father who art in heaven,
(congregation repeats)
hallowed be thy name.
(congregation repeats)
Thy kingdom come,
(congregation repeats)
thy will be done on earth,
(congregation repeats)
as it is in heaven.
(congregation repeats)

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

And give us this day our daily bread.
(congregation repeats)
Forgive us our debts,
(congregation repeats)
as we forgive our debtors.
(congregation repeats)
And lead us not into temptation,
(congregation repeats)
but deliver us from evil,
(congregation repeats)

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

for thine is the kingdom
and the power
(congregation repeats)
and the glory forevermore,
(congregation repeats)
forevermore. Amen.
(congregation repeats)
Forevermore. Amen.
(congregation repeats)

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Romans 8:12-25

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"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Returning our
Tithes and
Offerings



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Shine, Jesus, shine

by Graham Kendrick
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www.grahamkendrick.co.uk
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"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

1

Lord, the light
of your love is shining
In the midst
of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world,
shine upon us
Set us free by the truth
you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Chorus

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations
with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

2.

Lord, I come to
your awesome presence
From the shadows
into your radiance
By the blood
I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me,
consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Chorus

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations
with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

3.

As we gaze on
your kingly brightness
So our faces
display your likeness
Ever changing from
glory to glory
Mirrored here
may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Chorus

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations
with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

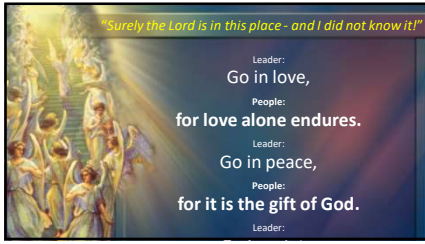
"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Responsive Benediction

Hymnal #764
by Earle W. Fike
from Book of Worship
©1964 by Brethren Press

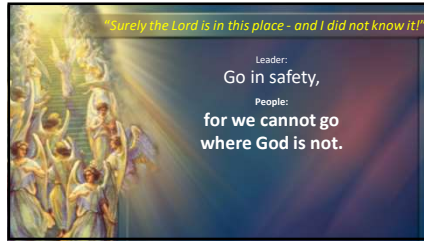
"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Leader:
Go in love,
People:
for love alone endures.
Leader:
Go in peace,
People:
for it is the gift of God.
Leader:



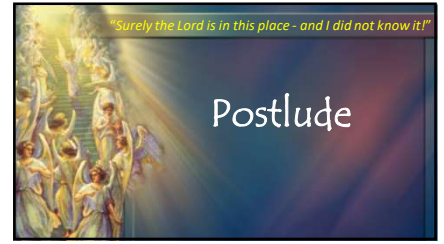
"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Leader:
Go in safety,
People:
for we cannot go
where God is not.



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

Postlude



"Surely the Lord is in this place - and I did not know it!"

