

Gather Us In

TFWS 2236

Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of
this day.

Gather us in the lost and foresaken, gather us in the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young our lives are a myst'ry we are the old who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry called to be light to the whole human
race.

Gather us in the rich and the haughty, gather us in the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meak and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water here we will take the bread of new
birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the
earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are
true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Luke 4: 1-13

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry. ³ And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." ⁴ And Jesus answered him, "It is written, `MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.'" ⁵ And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶ And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. ⁷ "Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, `YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'" ⁹ And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here; ¹⁰ for it is written, `HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU,' ¹¹ and, `ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'" ¹² And Jesus answered and said to him, "It is said, `YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every temptation, he left Him until an opportune time.

Life-giving Bread

TFWS 2261

Life-giving bread, as our hearts are
transformed anew,
And life-giving wine, may we share in a
life with you.

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

UMH 269

Lord, who throughout these forty days
for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with thee to mourn our sins
and close by thee to stay.

As thou with Satan didst contend,
and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in thee to fight,
in thee to conquer sin.

As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst,
so teach us, gracious Lord,
to die to self, and chiefly live
by thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence,
and through thy passion tide,
yea, evermore in life and death,
Jesus, with us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life
of suffering over past,
an Easter of unending joy
we may attain at last.