



A Hymn for the 75th Anniversary of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

You Turn Mourning into Dancing

HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7 D ("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee")

You turn mourning into dancing, you give peace in times of strife;
You turn weapons made for fighting into tools that nurture life.
God of love, you give a vision of a time when war will cease,
And you call us as your children to embrace your way of peace.

Through the ages, some have answered, seeking mercy more than might.
Some have struggled just to whisper, "God does not want me to fight!"
Some have stood in opposition to the ways that lead to war.
Some have made the firm decision: Peace is worth our working for!

May we learn that peace and justice mean much more than saying, "No!"
Peace requires our daily practice, seeds of listening need to grow,
Justice can indeed be costly, love can put us to the test,
And nonviolence must be nurtured— yet in seeking peace, we're blessed!

May we journey with our neighbors in the struggles they go through;
To accompany another is a peace-filled thing to do.
May we change our laws and culture that give guns priority;
May we care for earth and nature, seeking to be fossil free.

When we're driven to distraction at the hatred and the fear,
When we struggle to take action as we grieve the violence here,
Turn our mourning into dancing! May our songs of joy increase
As we see what you are doing in our midst, O God of peace!

Biblical references: Psalm 30:11*, Isaiah 2:4; Micah 6:8; Matthew 5:9,6; 26:51-52;
Luke 6:29; 22:49-51, Romans 15:33

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824 ("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee")

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