

Dear God, Embracing Humankind

502

John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872; alt.

Mark 1:16–20; Matt. 14:22–23; 1 Kings 19:11–12

1 Dear God, em-brac-ing hu-man-kind, for-give our fool-ish
 2 In sim-ple trust like theirs who heard, be-side the Syr-ian
 3 O sab-bath rest by Gal-i-lee! O calm of hills a-
 4 Drop your still dews of qui-et-ness, till all our striv-ings
 5 Breathe through the puls-es of de-sire your cool-ness and your

ways; Re-clothe us in our right-ful mind, in
 sea, The gra-cious call-ing of your word, let
 bove! There Je-sus met you prayer-ful-ly; the
 cease; Take from our souls the strain and stress, and
 balm; Let sense be numb, let flesh re-tire; speak

pur-er lives your ser-vice find, in deep-er rev-erence, praise.
 us, like them, by spir-it stirred, rise up and fol-lowers be.
 si-lence of e-ter-ni-ty, in-ter-pret-ed by love.
 let our or-dered lives con-fess the beau-ty of your peace.
 through the earth-quake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

In his poem "The Brewing of Soma," New England poet John Greenleaf Whittier compares frenzied ecstasies of a sect of Hindu priests to the noisy Christian revivals he found so offensive. This hymn of quiet worship is from the final stanzas.

Tune: REST 8.6.8.8.6.
 Frederick C. Maker, 1887
 Alternate tune: REPTON
 (repeating last phrase)