

“We Come Here For Solace”

Hymn Tune: Woodfords

About the Composer:

Anne Acker McNair was born and grew up in Raleigh, NC. She has had dual careers as a music teacher/composer/church musician and as an actuary. Her music degrees are from St. Andrews Presbyterian College (B.M., sacred music/organ and music education, 1976), Georgia State University (M.M., music education, 1981), and the University of S.C. (Ph.D., music education, 2010). She also holds a degree in statistics from the University of S.C. (B.S., 1995).

Anne recently retired as Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, Savannah, Georgia. From 2005-2014, she served as Director of Choirs for Children and Youth at Shandon Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC. She is active in the Presbyterian Association of Musicians at the national level and has served as an elected board member (2010-2013), president elect (2014-2016), and will serve as president (2016-2018).

She and her husband, William McNair, were Co-Conference Directors of the Montreat Worship and Music Conference in 2013. Anne's writings have been published in "Call to Worship", "presbyterian Outlook" "Perspectives", and in the "Journal of Research in Music Education". Her choral compositions have been published by Mark Foster Music and by Augsburg Fortress. She has been a clinician at the Montreat Worship and Music Conference in NC, the Mo Ranch Worship and Music Conference in Texas, and will serve as clinician at the Dallas Choristers Guild Midwinter Conference in January 2024. She enjoys writing both hymn texts and hymn tunes for use in her church. Three hymn tunes have been published by Darcey Press.

“Mission in Living”

Hymn Tune: Woodfords Church

About the Composer:

Patrick Michaels has been a professional church musician for 48 years. He was born in Minnesota and attended the University of Minnesota as a music major. Michaels worked at two churches in that area before moving to the Boston area. He has been the Minister of Music at St. James's Episcopal Church, Cambridge, for 39 years, where he has led the community in a vibrant and innovative music program. He began encouraging and supporting members of the congregation to compose musical Psalm settings for the church's own use; this program has yielded an abundance of wonderful settings of the Psalms which are sung every week, and the composing continues to this day. Michaels was also the Director of Chapel Music at the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge from 2004--2012, where he helped expand the repertoire of and encouraged music-making from all members of the community.

Michaels began writing hymns (both texts and tunes) in the 1970s and has attended various hymn-writing workshops sponsored by The Hymn Society since that time. He has benefited especially from the professional advice of Brian Wren and Al Fedak. Patrick Michaels' texts and tunes are published in denominational hymnals, in various supplements, and in single-author collections in the U.S., Canada, and Australia. Wayne Leupold published his first single-author collection of hymns, *From Depths of Love: The Hymns of Patrick Michaels*, in 2015. Michaels is a member of The Hymn Society in the U.S. and Canada. His other profession is teaching piano, which he has done since 1969.

He is married to the Rev. Laurie A. Rofinot, and they have one adult daughter, Marian Rose.