

Music Blurbs for 3-3-19

News and Notes

This Sunday's music will include the St. James' Ringers playing "Morning has broken." Does anyone remember Cat Stevens singing this? Extra credit if you can name the album! St. James' Singers will sing "O Lux Beatissima" (O most blessed light) by Cincinnati-based composer Howard Helvey. We all will sing "Be thou my vision," "Christ upon the mountain peak," and "O wondrous type! O vision fair!"

Sunday bulletins

The text for today's hymn, "Christ upon the mountain peak" was poet Brian Wren's second attempt at hymn writing. He went on to become a prolific hymn writer in the later part of the twentieth century. Wren's work is represented in our hymnal with such hymns as "Christ is alive!" (182) and "I come with joy to meet my Lord" (304). This text was written for a conference in June 1962 in association with composer Peter Cutts and intended for the tune SHILLINGFORD (130). It is based on scriptural accounts in Matthew, Mark, and Luke of the transfiguration. The text invites worshipper and all creation to praise the glorified Christ. The tune, MOWSLEY is named after the tiny village in Leicestershire where its composer, the Rev. Canon Cyril Taylor, grew up and his father served as rector. Taylor, as head of religious broadcasts for the BBC during WWII, was one of England's most beloved clergy and hymn composers. The tune first appeared in *The BBC Hymnbook* (1951) with the Easter text "Jesus lives" (195). His most well-known tune is ABBOT'S LEIGH for the text "Glorious things of thee are spoken" (523) during the war to replace the tune associated with the German national anthem.