

Spend Some Years Here

by Tom Woodworth
for Pastor Matt and family

We here before you, God's people in this place, have been waiting – Oh, Lord, help wait!

Do we, have we wondered, sure we puzzled, and puzzle, how God, here always, yet soon,
Will make arrival, is on His way, request to fill, plea before Him, object we feel late –

The God we know, Our God always beside, yet also, also 'bout to give us, new hewn,
New array of tasks in His Name, of spreading the news of a Love unknowable, and a way,

Of a room in great splendor, where God Himself sits, where, somehow, in we may go,
And we praise Him – for the will, strong to hold forth, to stay believing until now the day,

And actions in that Name, and service to His Glory, and partners, we all, now, and so –
And so . . . and so we ask,

Will you, servant, spend some years here, now,
Share our seeking of Him, of our God 'round bringing,
Take on with us the conquest of hearts, kindnesses show,
Walk the steps toward a Light, bright Light of singing,
The looking heavenward, quoting of what He's said,
Attempting to live full by the quoted; then, days ahead,
Will you, servant, spend some years here, now,
Lead us, walk with us, message proclaiming, look how;
Spend some years here –
Spend some years here!

The promise, you know, servant, is not you only, or even you first – oh, is so, for us all,

It is the journey, blessed and holy march, which some times a trudge, others a dance,
Set here before all of us, assigned tasks each, together advancing, all for God, who be shall,

Our trust, given Him; 'tis certain, 'tis verity, can be stood on, relied, and show the chance –
Not chance, really, but open invite, open curtain, Greatest Fate mind cannot now understand,

Save a little, save enough, enough that we so, so want to tell of it, all th'expanse,
Of the promise we've embraced, and Neighbors, so want we to 'brace with us, join our band,

Of blessedness, of assurance of all be well at the end, and sure is well this day,
Completing work we be here to do, starting in this time, this moment, we say,

Will you, servant, spend some years here, please,
Share our seeking of Him, of our God 'round bringing,
Take on with us the conquest of hearts, kindness no cease,
Walk the steps toward a Light, bright Light of singing,
The looking heavenward, mapped by His words, repeated,
And trying best to live, fully, by the Great Words, us completed;
Will you, servant, spend some years here, now,
Lead us, walk with us, message proclaiming, search how;
Spend some years here –
Spend some years here!