

Faith courage takes, assurance comes of faith,  
And, prayer-becalmed, the pastor's friend draws near,  
To tell how love can conquer sin and death,  
And sanctify the soul through faith-girt fear.  
'Betray it not, nor yet thyself betray,'  
The preacher saith, 'Avoid the world's way ;  
With guidance from the truth thy path is clear :  
Though narrow is its course, it leadeth straight,  
Where peace and happiness the pilgrim's end await.'

The youthful of the flock have wondering seen  
The mystery of the feast. They know in part ;  
For who is wise to know what all may mean ?  
Who can attain true purity of heart ?  
'Tis theirs to join in praise with pure-eyed mirth,  
Receive the blessing, and discern the worth  
Of righteous dealing ; theirs to learn the art  
From piety matured,—God's flock in sooth,  
Though timorous as yet, to watch the ways of truth !