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WATCH-WORD FOR THE NEW YEAR.

“ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN THE WORK OF THE LORD.” 1 Cor. xv. 58.

Come, labour on !  
Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain,  
While all around him waves the golden grain ?  
And to each servant does the Master say,  
“ Go work to-day.”

Come, labour on !  
Claim the high calling angels cannot share,  
To old and young the Gospel gladness bear ;  
Redeem the time ; its hours too swiftly fly.  
The night draws nigh.

Come, labour on !  
The labourers are few, the field is wide,  
New stations must be filled, and blanks supplied,  
From voices distant far, or near at home,  
The call is “ Come !”

Come, labour on !  
The enemy is watching night and day,  
To sow the tares, and snatch the seed away ;  
While we in sleep our duties have forgot,  
*He* slumbereth not.

Come, labour on  
Away with gloomy doubts and faithless fear !  
No arm so weak but may do service here ;  
By feeblest agents can our God fulfil  
His righteous will.

Come, labour on !  
No time for rest till glows the western sky,  
While the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,  
And a glad sound comes with the setting sun,—  
“ Servants well done !”

Come, labour on !  
The toil is pleasant, the reward is sure,  
Blessed are those who to the end endure ;  
How full their joy, how deep their rest shall be,  
O Lord with Thee !

*Author of “ Hymns from the Land of Luther.”*