

## Hymn Lyrics for May 28, 2023

### Hymn #161 "Peace! The Perfect Word"

Peace! The perfect word is sounding, like a universal hymn  
under oceans, over mountains, to the world's remotest rim.

Toiling centuries have struggled upward on a stony way  
just to set the torch of freedom where it flames aloft today.

All the old forlorn lost causes, every fair forbidden dream,  
and the prophet's hopeless vision, and the poet's fitting gleam.

All the hopes of subject peoples, all the dreams of the oppressed,  
must be ours, our hopes, our visions, we can never stay or test.

### Hymn # 207, "Earth Was Given as a Garden"

Earth was given as a garden, cradle for humanity;  
Tree of life and tree of knowledge placed for our discovery.  
Here was home for all your creatures born of land and sky and sea;  
All created in your image, all to live in harmony.

Show to us again the garden where all life flows fresh and free.  
Gently guide your sons and daughters into full maturity.  
Teach us how to trust each other, how to use for good our power,  
How to touch the earth with rev'rence. Then once more will Eden flower.

Bless the earth and all your children, one creation: make us whole,  
Interwoven, all connected planet wide and inmost soul.  
Holy mother, life bestowing, bid our waste and warfare cease.  
Fill us all with grace o'erflowing. Teach us how to live in peace.

### #414, "As We Leave This Friendly Place" (2x)

As we leave this friendly place,  
Love give light to every face;  
May the kindness which we learn  
Light our hearts till we return.