

## AWAKE, AWAKE TO LOVE AND WORK

**AWAKE** means more than just getting out of bed and moving through space!

**Awake** means keeping your whole being – outside and inside – looking and listening and feeling and exploring what is happening around and within yourself.

Jesus taught us to be awake:



- to look up and see sparrows and larks!
- to look down and find the miraculous design of a lily or a diamond dewdrop!
- to look within and discover God's love waiting to be put to use!

We need to be **awake** to hymns too. Instead of singing hymns automatically, without giving them our attention, we must tune our senses and our mind to the words and music:




Try using your sense of **movement** to feel the joyful rhythm of the "Morning Song" tune. You may need to move your body to the music to let the rhythm flow through you. How do you want to move: walk, run, leap, twirl and stretch, stoop, or glide?



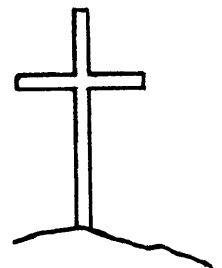
Try using your sense of **hearing** to enjoy the melody and the harmony of the tune. Does the minor mode take away from the joyfulness of the rhythm and text? Do you remember how to find minor relationships of major keys by counting down a third from the major tonic? The relative of **A $\flat$**  major is \_\_\_\_\_ minor. The relative of **G** major is \_\_\_\_\_ minor.



Try some more. Notice the switch back to major on the final chord of the *Amen*. Add your sense of **vision** to find the  patterns that occur throughout the tune. Can you find the pattern in the alto? the tenor? the bass? Let vision help you discover the phrases which are identical. Can you discover portions of the tune where the soprano and bass double one another? What effect does this have on the tune?



Next give your attention to the **ideas** in the text **Awake, Awake to Love and Work**. Which phrases need to be connected in order to make sense? Study the ideas expressed by Studdert-Kennedy in the three stanzas. How would you explain the meaning of the third stanza words: "... to spend thyself nor count the cost?"



Only now are you ready to let your senses and your intellect work together to make you awake to the whole beauty and meaning of the hymn – its rhythm, its melody, its harmony, its text. When the hymn becomes a real part of you, the separate bits of information will flow together and you will be able to use the hymn to show that you are awake to God's presence in your life. Some people live a lifetime without discovering this kind of whole-self hymn singing!

Life must be full of the **ordinary** kinds of being awake – getting up, dressing and eating, going the usual places, watching television! But remember that Christianity came into being because of an **extra-ordinary** kind of awareness:

"So let the love of Jesus come  
And set thy soul ablaze!"