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Hymn Tune

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Hymn Tune

Barbara Armbruster

The forced march
meter of the hymns
and our quavery
voices finding comfort
in their easy rhymes
must amuse You
like a mother
accepting a stick
figure drawing
for her refrigerator door.
We somehow know the drawing's
flat disc sun,
ringed evenly
with yellow crayon rays,
is not the giant
ball of living flame
too dense, too hot
too far away to contemplate.
We know we could not look
upon your face and live.
We struggle just to glance
into these sober early
morning singing faces
and see your fire
reflected there.