

**Hymn of the Month** is a new worship-focused series at Salem Hellers. Worship is the most important thing we do; as part of our efforts to enrich and deepen our worship, each month we will focus on one of the less familiar or more recently composed songs from *Hymns of Grace* that we hope will be appreciated and loved by our congregation. We will explore different ways to introduce and incorporate these songs throughout the month; we want to help you become comfortable with them. May we grow together in faith as we learn these theologically rich hymns and join our voices in corporate worship.

**Listen to a recording of this month's hymn** on our new website at [www.salemhellers.com](http://www.salemhellers.com). Look for *Hymn of the Month* in the Worship tab menu and click on "visit the download page".



# Hymn of the Month

August 2025



*Yet Not I,  
but Through Christ in Me*

# 1

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer;  
there is not more for heaven now to give.  
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,  
my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.  
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus,  
for my life is wholly bound to His.  
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

# 2

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,  
for by my side, the Savior, He will stay.  
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,  
for in my need His power is displayed.  
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me;  
through the deepest valley He will lead.  
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

# 3

No fate I dread; I know I am forgiven;  
the future sure, the price, it has been paid.  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,  
and He was raised to overthrow the grave.  
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated;  
Jesus now and ever is my plea.  
Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

# 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,  
for He has said that He will bring me home.  
And day by day I know He will renew me  
until I stand with joy before the throne.  
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus;  
all the glory evermore to Him.  
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:  
yet not I, but through Christ in Me.

**Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me** is a composition of CityAlight, a music ministry of St. Paul's Castle Hill Church in Sydney, Australia. Their name is based on Matthew 5:14-16 and their vision is "to write songs with biblically rich lyrics and simple melodies for Christian churches to sing." Formed in 2013, the ministry has gained international recognition but still operates as a local church ministry with part-time musicians and volunteer participants. Recordings of their songs are made in their church building, and the congregation participates.

**"We pray that the lyrics and melodies of these songs would fix eyes, hearts, and minds on Jesus."** Contemporary worship songs are often written quickly and produced in high volume, but CityAlight favors a slower timeline and careful process: "There is a lot of danger in potentially misleading or teaching slightly wrong things through your songs...songs have to be so deeply, deeply rooted in Scripture, if you're going to be recalling them like that. And if they're even a little bit off...it has the potential to lead people astray or confuse them. The stakes are very high."

**The Lyrics:** CityAlight song writers Richard Thompson and Jonny Robinson worked together for several months to write *Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me*. "We dove deep into the idea of what it meant to have Christ dwell in us. What an incredibly profound, mysterious truth. It needed time. We wrote and rewrote the song many, many times. We struggled for every word." The text is based on Galatians 2:20, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 and Philippians 1:6. Thompson and Robinson explain: "Having Christ in us does not mean we do no more work, and neither does it mean we do it all. Rather, we contend, and we contend with his energy. Even our final resurrection is made possible by the gift of Christ in us. He will bring us to glory. In our weakness he is strong, and he will complete the work he has begun. He himself is within us, leading us home, step by step. Every believer has been given this gift. It's worth singing about!"