Prayer Is The Soul's Sincere Desire

BYEFIELD C. M.

1. Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, Unuttered or expressed;
The motion of a hidden fire, That trembles in the breast.

2. Prayer is the burden of a sigh, The falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of the eye, When none but God is near.

3. Prayer is the simplest form of speech That infant lips can try,
Prayer the sublimest strains that reach The Majesty on high.

4. Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice, Returning from his ways,
While angels in their songs rejoice, And cry, "Behold, he prays!"

5. Prayer is the Christian's vital breath, The Christian's native air,
His watch-word at the gates of death,— He enters Heav'n with prayer.

6. O Thou, by whom we come to God, The Life, the Truth, the Way!
The path of prayer Thyself hast trod; Lord, teach us how to pray!

Words: James Montgomery, 1819
Music: Thomas Hastings, 1843, Har. H. P. Main, 1881

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