

"Hymn for the Working Children," ca. 1913

Hymn for the Working Children*

(Tune, "Autumn", or Austrian National Hymn)

There's a voice that now is calling,
Loudly calling, day by day;
'Tis the voice of right and justice,
And its tones we must obey.
We must hasten to the rescue
Of the children young and frail,
Who are weary of their burdens,
And too soon their strength will fail.

In our stores and shops we find them,
'Mid the bloom or early spring;
But the Lord is watching o'er them,
And their calls to Him we bring,
Though their parents bid them labor
And deny their needed rest;
Yet our faith believes the promise,
That their wages be redressed.

Men of rank and high position,
Men who guard our native land,
In the name of our Redeemer,
Come and lend a helping hand.
Come at once; the plea is urgent,
And the hours are waning still;
Make these children glad and happy,
And the law of love fulfil.

Fanny J. Crosby

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**This hymn was especially written for the National Child Labor Committee by Fanny J. Crosby, the blind hymn writer 92 years old. In sending it, Ms. Crosby wrote "I was never asked to write a hymn that I have more cheerfully written than this."*