AMNS 23 I O for a closer walk with God

William Cowper (1731-1800)  
Melody: Caithness  
Melody from Scottish Psalter (1635)

1. O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heav’ly frame;  
2. What peace-ful hours I once en-joyed, how sweet their mem’ry still!  
3. Re-turn, O ho-ly Dove, re-turn, sweet mes-sen-ger of rest:  
4. The dear-est i-dol I have known, what-e’er that i-dol be,  
5. So shall my walk be close with God, calm and ser-ene my frame;

a light to shine up-on the road that leads me to the Lamb.  
but they have left an ach-ing void the world can nev-er fill.  
I hate the sins that made thee mourn, and drove thee from my breast.  
help me to tear it from thy throne, and wor-ship on-ly thee.  
so pu-rer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

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