Go out, my heart, and seek delight







Go out, my heart, and seek delight in golden sunshine, summer bright; rejoice in God's gifts daily. See all of nature's bright display; it clothes itself in fine array for you and me so gaily for you and me so gaily.

Lord, in your boundless love to us you scatter joy and bounty thus on us poor erring mortals. What nobler glories will be given hereafter in your shining heaven, within the golden portals within the golden portals!

What peerless joy when, on our sight, Christ's garden beams with radiant light and echoes with his praises; when heaven's choir of seraphim in one accordant voice and hymn loud alleluias raises loud alleluias raises! O were I there! O that I now, dear God, before your throne could bow and bear my palms before you! Then, like the angels, I would raise a thousand anthems to your praise and thankfully adore you and thankfully adore you!

And yet, as long as I must bear and body's yoke, I still will dare to raise my voice in singing; my homage nevermore shall end, but here and everywhere ascend to you, my praises bringing to you, my praises bringing.

Now fill my soul with gifts of love, with every blessing from above, my life in you to nourish! O may the sunshine of your grace within my heart's each barren place cause fruits of faith to flourish cause fruits of faith to flourish! For your good Spirit, Lord, make room within my heart, that I may blooma plant, that root has taken! O let me in your garden be an evergreen and fruitful tree that ne'er will be forsaken that ne'er will be forsaken!

Elect me then to paradise, let soul and body, till I rise, e'er thrive and wither never! Thus, Lord, will I in you abide, serve you alone - and none beside both here and there for ever both here and there for ever!

Paul Gerhardt