My Shepherd Will Supply My Need 803

(Psalm 23)

1 My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.
2 When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay;
3 The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;

In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.

He brings my wandering spirit back when I for-sake his ways,
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;

and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

The effectiveness of this beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness through the poet's masterful use of single-syllable words.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.
MUSIC: U.S.A. folk melody; Lewis's Beauties of Harmony, 1828; harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1986
Music Harm. © 1990 Dale Grotenhuis

RESIGNATION
CMD
(alternate harmonization, 74)