



Adam M. L. Tice has been named a Fellow of The Hymn Society in recognition of his significant contributions to hymnology as a hymn writer and editor. He was formally recognized as a Fellow at the Annual Conference of The Hymn Society in Atlanta, Georgia in July.

Adam was born in Pennsylvania, and grew up in Alabama, Oregon, and Indiana. After graduating from high school in Elkhart, Indiana, Adam went to nearby Goshen College, a Mennonite liberal arts school. He majored in music with an emphasis on composition and completed a minor in Bible and religion, graduating in 2002. He began working as a church musician and choir director while still in college.

Adam took his first course at the Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in the fall of 2003, which led to the writing of his initial hymn text. In 2004, Adam was named a Lovelace Scholar by The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada. He served as a member of the Society's executive committee from 2007 to 2010 and served as editor of *The*

Hymn from 2017 to 2018. He was Associate Pastor of Hyattsville (Maryland) Mennonite Church from 2007 to 2012 and now lives with his family in Goshen, Indiana. Since 2020 he has worked at GIA Publications as Editor for Congregational Song.

As a hymnwriter, Adam's contributions have had a significant impact on the worship of churches across denominations. Over 250 of Adam's hymns have been published in five collections. His hymns have appeared in dozens of recent hymnals and his attention to undersung themes (inclusion, creation care, justice and peace, for example) has expanded the ways that congregations engage with God and each other in worship. Former Executive Director of The Hymn Society, Carl Daw, FHS notes, "One of Adam's special gifts has always been a commitment to finding fresh and clear ways to express ideas, especially during the process of revising his own texts from first draft to published form. That gift has similarly informed his work as an editor, helping him to select and refine appropriate texts from various possibilities." Adam's groundbreaking work as text editor for the 2020 Mennonite hymnal, *Voices Together*, will influence the work of hymnal editors for decades to come.

As an editor and collaborator, Adam has nurtured the gifts of many hymnwriters and composers. Hymnwriter Hannah Brown shares, "It has been such a privilege to learn from Adam, who brings a deep knowledge of hymn traditions and function, a fascination with new and hybrid forms, and a serious commitment to issues of justice. I can send him metrical experiments or pieces on topics that I have never found in congregational song, knowing that he will respond with openness, wisdom, kindness, and occasionally, wry humor." The work of many poets and composers (this author included) is better because of Adam's careful attention to detail and wise feedback.

Beyond these many accomplishments, Adam has been a faithful participant in the full life of The Hymn Society, taking leadership roles in multiple hymn festivals and sectionals, as well as the formal roles noted above. He contributed, both structurally and informally, to nurturing a culture of greater involvement, retention, and leadership among Lovelace scholars and other younger members. While his hymnwriting spans just over 20 years, the quantity and quality of his work is of such significance that it merits this honor. Congratulations to Adam!

Submitted by Benjamin Brody, Past President of The Hymn Society and Professor of Church Music,
Whitworth University.