Prayer Is the Soul’s Sincere Desire

1. Prayer is the soul’s sincere desire, Uttered or unexpressed, The motion of a motion of a tear, The upward glancing lips can try; Prayer, the sublimest native air, His watchword at the

2. Prayer is the burden of a sigh, The falling of a tear, The upward glancing lips can try; Prayer, the sublimest native air, His watchword at the

3. Prayer is the simplest form of speech That infant voice can try; Prayer, the sublimest native air, His watchword at the

4. Prayer is the Christian’s vital breath, The Christian’s fire That trembles in the breast. The hidden fire That trembles in the breast. The hidden fire That trembles in the breast.

5. Prayer is the contrite sinner’s voice, Returning from his ways, While angels in their songs rejoice And cry, “Behold, he prays!” 7. Nor prayer is made on earth alone: The Holy Spirit pleads, And Jesus at the Father’s throne For sinners intercedes.

6. The Saints in prayer appear as one In word and deed and mind, While with the Father and the Son Their fellowship they find. 8. O thou by whom we come to God, The Life, the Truth, the Way! The path of prayer thyself hast trod; Lord, teach us how to pray.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854
Music: George Careless, 1839–1932
3 Nephi 13:5–13; 18:15–20
James 5:16