

Reading

Optimism

Jane Hirshfield (b. 1963)

More and more I have come to admire resilience.
Not the simple resistance of a pillow, whose foam
returns over and over to the same shape, but the sinuous
tenacity of a tree: finding the light newly blocked on one side,
it turns in another. A blind intelligence, true.
But out of such persistence arose turtles, rivers,
mitochondria, figs – all this resinous, unretractable earth.

Jazz Meditation

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation,
ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith
in his excellent Word!
What more can he
say than to you he hath said,
to you who for refuge
to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee;
O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God,
and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee,
and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous,
omnipotent hand.

"When thro' fiery trials
thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient,
shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee;
I only design
thy dross to consume,
and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus
hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not
desert to his foes;
That soul, tho' all hell
should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never,
no, never forsake!"

-Text "K" in John Rippon's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt
-Tune American folk melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832, alt.
Jazz Interpretation: Elena Escudero

Dismissal

Linda Abe

Closing Sung Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Elena Escudero

First Christian Jazz Vespers Staff

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Elena Escudero, Director of Friday Jazz Vespers Moments
Jan Harrington, Director of Music
Jono Palmer, Video and Audio Editing

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to strictly follow guidelines regarding social distancing.*