

# 161 Father, hear the prayer we offer

Maria Willis (1824-1908)

Traditional English melody adapted by  
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

TUNE 1: SUSSEX 87 87



1. Fa - ther, hear the prayer we of - fer: not for ease that prayer shall be,



but for strength that we may e - ver live our lives cou - rage - ous - ly.

2. Not for ever in green pastures  
do we ask our way to be;  
but the steep and rugged pathway  
may we tread rejoicingly.

3. Not for ever by still waters  
would we idly rest and stay;  
but would smite the living fountains  
from the rocks along our way.

4. Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
in our wand'rings be our guide;  
through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.