



Pamela Ann Prevallet *Hymn Writing* *Competition Criteria*

THEOLOGY

Theological Strength

How well does the hymn exhibit the hallmarks of the Lutheran confession? Is it grounded in Scripture? Is it Christological in its reading of Scripture? Are Law and Gospel properly distinguished?

POETRY

Technical poetical soundness (meter, rhyme)

Does it use a consistent number of syllables in each line? Are the accents on the right syllables (feet)? Is the rhyme scheme consistent? Do the words flow naturally from line to line?

IMAGERY

Freshness of imagery

Does it exhibit a fresh use of imagery and a creative approach, or does it borrow tired clichés from other hymns?

STRUCTURE

Structural strength (including flow of thought)

Do the stanzas flow well from one to the next, working through a unified theme or message? Is the language clear and comprehensible to the worshipper?

LITURGY/LECTIONARY

Aptness for liturgical use

Does the hymn go well with one of the readings from the lectionary, seasons of the Church Year, or a saint's day? Is its language and imagery suitable for public prayer? Will the hymn wear well with repeated use?



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