

# Life presents the puzzles

Cogenhoe

65. 65

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1. Life pre - sents the puz - zles Wis - dom moves to solve --  
2. One soul longs for mean - ing, quest - ing ev - ery day,  
3. One soul keeps tra - di - tion, trust - ing truths long known,  
4. Each will need the oth - er in their kin - dred search,

5  
1, 2, 3. 4.  
liv - ing in the bal - ance, sea - soned faith e - volves.  
gain - ing in the seek - ing faith to find her way.  
gain - ing in the keep - ing faith be - yond his own.  
gain - ing in the meet - ing one en - dur - ing Church.

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Epiphany 7B  
Mark 2:1-12

This hymn is designed as a musical puzzle, playing with the text of the hymn. The first puzzle is the name of the tune. The name of this Northamptonshire village is pronounced "cook-no."

The first verse speaks of balance. Therefore, the hymn is a balance of alternating major and minor measures. Also, the theme of measure 1 is reversed in measure 5.

The second verse searches for meaning; life can seem strange and sometimes unsettling, as is reflected in the odd major/minor alternation of the music. However, the hymn begins and ends peacefully in major, to remind us that through our faith, all is well.

The third verse longs for tradition. The harmonies of this hymn are traditional, yet provided in a curious balance of major vs. minor, reminiscent of the joys and sorrows of life.

The last verse reminds us of the need for balance in our lives as we tread the *Via Media* -- the middle road -- where meaning in the modern age & tradition can live harmoniously with each other.