

Behind the Hymn: Nothing Between

The author and composer of “Nothing Between” was Charles Albert Tindley (1851-1933) an eminent African-American Methodist minister. Preacher, pastor, writer, and social activist, he is regarded as the ‘father of African-American hymnody’.

During my teen years at Pisgah (now West Chester) Church of the Nazarene, I have a clear memory of “Nothing Between” being sung as a solo by our pastor’s daughter, Joy McKinney Wisehart. Her heartfelt performance of this sincere prayer left a lasting impression on me.

But over the years since, I noticed that the song hadn’t gotten much usage, especially as a congregational hymn. To me, the tune seemed too repetitious, and parts of the text were awkward to today’s ears – though the thoughts were wonderful.

On the evening of August 26, 2008, I dreamed about revising the song. Taking that as a message from God, the next morning I interrupted my work on another hymn and began by revising the music. I revised the text over the next few days, finishing on August 31, 2008.

Our Father God made us for Himself. Let us keep our hearts and lives for Him alone, with nothing distracting, nothing between.

--Ken Bible

Hymn: [Nothing Between](#)