

# Turn Back

Clifford Bax, 1919

Louis Bourgeois  
arr. *English Hymnal*, 1906

1. Turn back, turn back, for - swear thy fool - ish ways.  
2. Earth might be fair, all peo - ple glad and wise.  
3. Earth shall be fair, and all her peo - ple one:

5

Old now is earth, and none may count her days,  
Age af - ter age their trag - ic em - pires rise,  
Nor till that hour shall God's whole will be done.

9

Yet thou, her child, whose head is crowned with  
Built while they dream, and in that dream - ing  
Now, ev - en now, once more from earth to

12

flame Still wilt not hear thine in - ner God pro -  
weep, Would they but wake from out their haunt - ed  
sky, Peals forth in joy that old un - daun - ted

16

claim,  
sleep,  
cry—

“Turn back, turn back, for -  
Earth might be fair, all  
“Earth shall be fair, and

19

swear thy foolish ways.”  
peo - ple glad and wise.  
all her folk be one!”