Hushed was the Evening Hymn (6.6.6.8.)

Composed for “Church Hymns with Tunes”, S.P.C.K., 1874, and appears there in this version rather than the four part arrangement found in many hymn books.

This tune appears in some hymn books as “Samuel”.

1. Hushed was the evening hymn,
The temple courts were dark,
The lamp was burning dim
Before the sacred ark,
When suddenly a voice divine
Rang through the silence of the shrine.

2. The old man, meek and mild,
The priest of Israel, slept;
His watch the temple child,
The little Levite, kept:
And what from Eli’s sense was sealed
The Lord to Hannah’s son revealed.

3. Oh! give me Samuel’s ear,
The open ear, O Lord,
Alive and quick to hear
Each whisper of Thy word;
Like him to answer at Thy call,
And to obey Thee first of all.

4. Oh! give me Samuel’s heart,
A lowly heart, that waits
When in Thy house Thou art
Or watches at Thy gates
By day and night - a heart that still
Moves at the breathing of Thy will.

5. Oh! give me Samuel’s mind,
A sweet un murmuring faith,
Obedient and resigned
To Thee in life and death,
That I may read with childlike eyes
Truths that are hidden from the wise.

James Drummond Burns, 1823 - 64.