



Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati
405 West Seventh Street
Cincinnati, OH 45203
(513) 381-3858
www.union-baptist.net
Rev. Dr. Orlando Yates, Pastor

ROOM AT THE CROSS FOR YOU

Word and Music by Ira R. Stanphill, 1914-1994

**“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
(Romans 5:8)**

Out of the varied experiences of a fruitful life have come the many moving hymns of Ira R. Stanphill. As a child he traveled by covered wagon from Arkansas to New Mexico, then later moved to Oklahoma and Kansas. Converted at age 12, Stanphill began preaching at 22 in revival meetings and later served pastorates in Florida, Pennsylvania, and Texas. At 17 he wrote his first gospel song and traveled for several years with evangelists, playing the piano, organ, ukulele and accordian.

Mr. Stanphill began to write his own gospel hymns, and he employed the unusual practice of creating a text from titles suggested from the congregation during a service. He would explain:

“The basic reason I have written songs is that I love God and Christ has loved me. Most of my songs are the outgrowth of real experiences with Christ. I think they appeal to people because I have had trials, heartaches, and sorrow in my own life, and I know what I write about.”

“Room at the Cross” was a title suggested to Ira in 1946 at one of his meetings. He wrote it on a scrap of paper, which he found in his pocket after returning home. Impressed with the title, he quickly wrote both words and music as they appear today. Since then the song has been recorded by numerous Christian artists, translated into Spanish, German, and Italian, and was used as the closing theme of the national broadcast Revival Time for many years. Only eternity will reveal the number who have been directed to Christ through this one gospel hymn that reminds us that there is always room at the cross for one more sinner.

- ♪ The cross upon which Jesus died is a shelter in which we can hide; and its grace so free is sufficient for me, and deep is it fountain wide as the sea.
- ♪ Tho millions have found him a friend and have turned from sins they have sinned, The Savior still waits to open the gates and welcome a sinner before it's too late.
- ♪ The hand of my Savior is strong, and the love of my Savior is long; through sunshine or rain, through loss or in gain, The blood flows from Calvary to cleanse every stain.
- ♪ Chorus: There' room at the cross for you, There's room at the cross for you; Tho millions have come, There's still room for on-Yes, there's room at the cross for you. **Amen.**

**Amazing Grace – 366 Devotional Hymn Stories
by Kenneth W. Osbeck**

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20

