

REPORTS TO GENERAL SYNOD BURLINGTON-EBENEZER 2010

VOLUME 2

- STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE
PUBLICATION OF THE *BOOK OF PRAISE*



**Reports to
General Synod Burlington
2010**

**Standing Committee for the Publication of the
Book of Praise**

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REPORT TO GENERAL SYNOD BURLINGTON 2010

Introduction:

The Standing Committee for the Publication of the Book of Praise (SCBP, hereinafter referred to as the Committee) hereby submits a report on its activities regarding the mandate given by General Synod Smithers, 2007. Throughout the report, references to the Committee's mandate are provided based on the various articles published in the *Acts General Synod of the Canadian Reformed Churches – Smithers, BC, 2007*.

The Committee expresses deep gratitude to the LORD for His care and guidance as we worked to fulfill all aspects of the mandate given by the churches. Although the mandate was a substantial one that, in addition to the regular elements of the mandate for this Standing Committee, included the revision of the 150 Psalms, a review of the 65 Hymns presently in our *Book of Praise*, and seeking feedback from the churches to the 28 hymns proposed in the *Augment*, the Committee did its work with much joy and in a spirit of good harmony. In particular we mention the close cooperation that existed between the Committee and Dr. William Helder. We thank the LORD for what He continues to give us, and the churches, in the faithful work of br. Helder.

It is our hope that the churches will take careful note of all the various aspects of this report, with the intent that together we may come a step closer to a revised *Book of Praise* that may continue to be a blessing to the church of Christ for many years to come.

Overview of the report:

For ease of reading, the report is divided into seven sections. Each section deals with one key element of the Committee's mandate, and is organized under headings and sub headings with specific references to the *Acts 2007*:

SECTION ONE

Mandate received from General Synod Smithers, 2007

1.0 Implementation of GS decisions re. changes in *Book of Praise*:

- 1.1 Article 111 - Form of Subscription
- 1.2 Article 141 - Prose Section with NIV Bible References
- 1.3 Article 164 - Overleaf Notation
- 1.4 Article 166 - Capitalization of Pronouns Referring to God
- 1.5 Article 172 - Other Matters Dealing with Changes in the *Book of Praise*

2.0 Printing and Distribution (Acts, Art.148)

- 2.1 Contract
- 2.2 Printing
- 2.3 Distribution

3.0 Fostering Awareness (Acts, Art.148, 165)**4.0 Input Australian Sister Churches (Acts, Art.165)**

- 4.1 Official Communication
- 4.2 Recent decisions by the FRCA Synod (June 2009)

5.0 Corporate Status (Acts, Art. 148, 165)**6.0 Committee Address (Acts, Art.148, 165)**

- 6.1 Permanent Mailing Address
- 6.2 eMail Address
- 6.3 Meetings and Place of Meeting
- 6.4 Archives

7.0 Committee Membership (Acts, Art.159)

- 7.1 Members as appointed by General Synod Smithers
(Acts, Art.159, par 6.1)
- 7.2 Resignation Dr. N.H. Gootjes
- 7.3 Appointment Dr. A.J. de Visser
- 7.4 Suggested future Membership
- 7.5 Advisors (Acts, Art.159, par. 6.1.2)

SECTION TWO**8.0 Revision of the Psalms (Acts, Art. 148)**

- 8.1 Revising the Psalter in Accordance with Synod's Mandate
- 8.2 Background to the process of revision of the Anglo-Genevan Psalter
- 8.3 Proposed revised Anglo-Genevan Psalter

SECTION THREE**9.0 Review of the current Hymn Section of the *Book of Praise* (Acts, Art. 148)**

- 9.1 Report on the 65 hymns of the *Book of Praise*
- 9.2 Proposal regarding the 65 hymns of the *Book of Praise*

SECTION FOUR**10.0 Expanded Hymn Section (Acts, Art. 149)**

- 10.1 Review of the *Augment* by the *Ad Hoc* Committee
- 10.2 The review process
- 10.3 The Committee's proposal to the churches regarding the *Augment*.
 - I *Introduction*
 - II *Proposals to General Synod 2010 regarding the inclusion (or exclusion) of hymns presented to the churches in the Augment*
 - III *Copyright Implications*
 - IV *Conclusion, and Request for Direction*

SECTION ONE**Mandate received from General Synod Smithers, 2007****1.0 Implementation of GS decisions re. changes in the *Book of Praise*:**

In addition to working with all aspects of the mandate as reported below, the Committee has implemented the decisions made by General Synod 2007 as follows:

1.1 Article 111 Form of Subscription**1.1.1 Par 4.1**

The Committee included the words “either publicly or privately; rather, we will first make...” in the formulation of the Form of Subscription.

1.1.2 Par 4.2

The Committee implemented the term “broader assemblies” in place of “major assemblies”.

1.1.3 Par 4.3

The Committee changed the sentence “During the time of appeal we will acquiesce in the decision of classis or regional synod” in paragraph 5 of the proposed form for use at classis to read: “During the time of appeal we will acquiesce in the decision of consistory or classis or regional synod.”

1.1.4 Par 4.4

The Committee has included [will include] the proposed subscription form for office bearers in the 2007 [next] printing of the *Book of Praise*. The form has been [will be] inserted immediately following the text of the Church Order.

1.1.5 Special note: Re. Form of Subscription

While executing its mandate the Committee was made aware of a mistake in the printed Acts of General Synod Smithers. On p.107, sub section , the Acts refer to “the proposed form for use at classis (8.3.1 of the report)”. In the subject report (of the SCBP) Par 8.3.1 refers to the “Form for use in the local Congregation”, not the form for use at Classis. The recommendation (to Synod) by Winnipeg Redeemer, which was adopted by Synod, was to change the proposed form for use in the local congregation (8.3.1). This points clearly to the fact that the Acts should have read “the proposed form for use in the local congregation (8.3.1) of the report.” The members of the ex-moderamen were consulted in this matter and unanimously expressed their concurrence.

The Committee made the Churches aware of the error in the printed *Acts 2007*, and subsequently these forms were amended and distributed to all the Churches. Both forms were published in the 2007 edition of the *Book of Praise*.

1.2 Article 141 Prose section with NIV Bible References

1.2.1 Par 4.1

The Committee has included the updated prose section of the *Book of Praise* with the NIV Bible references in the 2007 edition of the *Book of Praise*.

1.3 Article 164 Overleaf Notation

1.3.1 Par 4.1

GS Chatham 2004 affirmed the preparation of an overleaf notation as part of the Committee's mandate (*Acts* 2004, Art. 115, par. 7.3.1). Considering the current substantial proposed changes in the Psalm section of the *Book of Praise*, the Committee desired to work pro-actively by including the overleaf notation as part of the proposal to the churches.

1.4 Article 166 Capitalization of Pronouns Referring to God

1.4.1 Par 4.1

The Committee retains the capitalization of personal pronouns referring to God. This applies to the Psalm and Hymn section as well as to the prose section of the *Book of Praise*.

1.5 Article 172 Other Matters Dealing with Changes in the *Book of Praise*

1.5.1 Par 4.1 To adopt the proposal as found in observation 2.2.2 and 2.2.3.

In keeping with replacing the word "ingrafted" with "incorporated," the form of the excommunication of communicant members (2nd line of the first announcement and 3rd line of the second announcement) was adjusted to read: "by baptism incorporated into."

1.5.2 Par 4.3 To adopt the proposal of the committee in 2.4.1.1.

In the *Form for the celebration of the Lord's supper*, the phrase "fulfilled for us all" has been reformulated to read: "He has for us fulfilled all the righteousness of God's law."

1.5.3 Par 4.4 To adopt the proposal of Carman West in 2.4.2.2.

In the *Form for the celebration of the Lord's supper*, the phrase "the weight of our sins and the wrath of God" has been reformulated to read: "We remember in particular that the weight of the wrath of God caused by our sins pressed out of Him..."

2.0 **Printing and Distribution (Acts, Art. 148, par. 4.4.1)**

2.1 Contract

Presently the Committee operates under contractual relationship with Premier Printing Ltd., Winnipeg MB. This contract expires on 28 February 28, 2012.

The Committee seeks the approval from Synod to negotiate the continuation of this contract for an additional five (5) years with an expiry date of February 28, 2017.

2.2 Printing

Books printed:	2006	4293
	2008	4969
<u>Inventory:</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>112</u>
Total:		9381

2.3 Distribution

During the past three years, sales may be summarized as follows:

Canada:	6018
United States of America	163
<u>International</u>	<u>60</u>
Total Sales	6241
Rejects	7
Inventory 1 August 2009	3133

The current retail price for the *Book of Praise* is \$24.00

3.0 Fostering Awareness (Acts, Art. 148, par. 4.4.3; Art. 165, par. 4.2)

With gratitude the Committee notes the expressions of interest in our *Book of Praise*. During the past three years, the Committee responded to various requests for information regarding the *Book of Praise*, and also dealt with a number of requests to copy, in whole or in part the Psalms and Hymns as well as other parts of the *Book of Praise*. These requests originated from within as well as from outside of our federation of churches. The Committee is delighted that there remains considerable interest at home and abroad in the Anglo-Genevan Psalter. The Committee anticipates it will advertise the revised Psalm and Hymn sections more widely, once these have been adopted by the churches.

The Committee published a press release on two occasions to keep the churches informed about the progress of the work of the Committee. The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to foster an increased awareness of the existence of the *Book of Praise*, among others in the English-speaking world, be continued.

4.0 Input Australian Sister Churches (FRCA) (Acts, Art. 165, par. 4.3)

4.1 Official Communication

Since granting our Australian sister churches permission to use *Book of Praise* materials for possibly publishing their own *Book of Praise*, (with the proviso that a different name be chosen and the copyright to all parts of the *Book of Praise* be acknowledged and maintained), the only communication was an inquiry related to the copyright of the current *Book of Praise*. The concern expressed was that, with a current revision in progress, it might affect their eventual publication as well as the availability of the *Book of Praise* as is now published. We have assured them that any parts to which the Committee holds copyright will be available to them. For parts to which the Committee holds no copyright we referred to the appropriate address.

4.2 Recent decisions by the FRCA Synod (June 2009)

4.2.1 With gratitude the Committee took note of recent decisions by FRCA GS that “although there is a desire for an Australian *Book of Praise*, at present the Canadian *Book of Praise* sufficiently meets our needs.

To appoint deputies with the mandate to:

- a. Monitor developments with the Canadian *Book of Praise*.
- b. Resume investigations regarding copyright, printing costs and feasibility of producing an Australian *Book of Praise* only if the Canadian *Book of Praise* is substantially altered such that it is no longer suitable for use by the Australian churches.
- c. Keep the churches informed of, and elicit responses from the churches regarding developments with the Canadian *Book of Praise*.

4.2.2 To permit the 2008 interim *Book of Praise* with NIV prose section for use in the churches.

4.2.3 To invite the churches to scrutinize and test that portion of the 28 additional hymns to be adopted at the CanRC Synod 2010 outside the church services so that a following synod can determine whether to adopt them.

4.2.4 To extend the mandate of the Deputies for the *Book of Praise* to include the following:

- a. To scrutinise the revised sections of the *Book of Praise*, especially the completely revised Psalter, and that portion of the 28 additional hymns to be adopted at the CanRC Synod 2010.
- b. To invite comments from the churches on these revisions.
- c. To receive and assess comments from the churches about that portion of the 28 additional hymns to be adopted at the CanRC Synod 2010.
- d. To pass on the findings to the Standing Committee of *Book of Praise* so that the Standing Committee of *Book of Praise* can use them.
- e. To report to our next synod so that it can decide on the above matters.
- f. To give account to synod of the principles and guidelines used to scrutinize these hymns.”

Note: All material found in 4.3 is taken from
<http://frca.org.au/synod/2009/acts/20090616e.cgi>

The Committee thankfully takes note of these encouraging developments, and requests Synod that the mandate to maintain contact with our Australian sister churches be continued.

5.0 Corporate Status (Acts, Art. 148 par. 4.4.2, Art. 165, par. 4.4.4)

5.1 The Committee has maintained its status as a corporation; all necessary documents for this purpose have been kept up to date. This also includes filing the *Annual Income Tax* forms with Revenue Canada. This is a legal requirement even though the Committee does not operate under an annual budget, and the Corporation does not generate an income or profit.

The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to maintain its corporate status be continued for the purpose of protecting the interests of the Canadian Reformed Churches in matters concerning the *Book of Praise*.

6.0 Committee Address (Acts, Art. 148 par. 4.4.4, Art. 165, par. 4.4.5)

The Committee served as the address to which correspondence regarding the *Book of Praise* could be directed. The committee requests that the mandate to receive, scrutinize and evaluate the contents of correspondence from the churches be continued and to report to the next General Synod as to the validity of the suggestions made.

6.1 Permanent Mailing Address

Standing Committee for the *Book of Praise* (SCBP)
c/o Theological College
110 West 27th Street
Hamilton, Ontario, L9C 5A1

6.2 eMail Address

In addition to the regular mailing address, correspondence may be sent electronically to: bookofpraise@canrc.org.

6.3 Meetings and Place of Meeting

The committee regularly met at the facilities of the Church at Ancaster and, a few times, of Burlington-Waterdown. The Committee is grateful to the Councils of these Churches for the opportunity to use these facilities.

Since April 2009 the Committee began to hold its meetings at the facilities of the Theological College, our official address. Since publishing the report to Synod Smithers the committee has met 24 times. All meetings were conducted in excellent harmony.

6.4 Archives

The Committee's central archives are maintained at our permanent address, in the Theological College library. Rev. C. Bosch continues to serve as archivist. The Committee received permission of Burlington Ebenezer to transfer archives, containing materials relating to the *Book of Praise* of the earlier years, from their facilities to the Committee's central archives.

7.0 Committee Membership (Acts, Art. 159, par. 6.1)

7.1 Members as appointed by Synod Smithers (Acts Art. 159, Par 6.1)

Synod Smithers appointed committee members as follows:

D.G.J. Agema (2010)

N.H. Gootjes (2010)

C.J. Nobels (2010)

C. van Halen-Faber (2013)

G. Ph. Van Popta (convener) (2010)

7.2 Resignation of Dr. N.H. Gootjes

Since March 2008 Dr. N.H. Gootjes was unable to participate in the committee's activities due to illness. Since it had become clear that it was not possible for him to serve for the foreseeable future, he offered his resignation in February of 2009. The Committee accepted his resignation with regret but noting with thankfulness to God that Dr. Gootjes was able to expertly contribute to the Committee's work for more than six (6) years. We commend Dr. Gootjes and his family into the continuing care of our heavenly Father. The Committee recommends that Synod formally thank Dr. Gootjes for his work as a member of the Committee.

7.3 Appointment of Dr. A.J. de Visser

Since with the resignation of Dr. N.H.Gootjes the Committee was reduced to just four members and the workload was heavy, it exercised the option to appoint a fifth member, in the person of Dr. A.J. de Visser to complete the term of Dr. Gootjes. To make such an appointment is in line with Acts of General Synod 1989, Art 167.

7.4 Suggested future Membership

Four of the Committee members are due to complete their term in 2010. The work is at a critical stage with respect to implementing the various changes to the *Book of Praise* therefore continuity is highly desirable. For this reason, and to obtain a staggered member renewal pattern, the Committee proposes that Synod decide to:

appoint A.J. de Visser for three 3-year terms (2019)

reappoint C.van Halen-Faber one 3-year term (2013)

reappoint D.G.J. Agema for an additional 3 year term (2013)

reappoint C.J. Nobels for two 3-year terms (2016)

reappoint G.Ph.van Popta for two additional 3-year terms (2016)

7.5 Advisors (Acts, Art.159, Par 6.1.2)

Synod Smithers appointed two (2) advisors:

F. Ezinga (music) and K. Dieleman (language)

On several occasions, and at the request of the Committee, the advisors provided helpful feedback and advice. The Committee requests that Synod reappoint sr. Dieleman and br. Ezinga as language and music advisors respectively.

SECTION TWO**8.0 Revision of the Psalms (Acts, Art. 148)****8.1 Revising the Psalter in Accordance with Synod's Mandate**

8.1.1 As instructed by Synod, the Committee initiated a thorough review of all 150 Psalms of the Anglo-Genevan Psalter in the 1984 edition of the *Book of Praise*. The Committee is grateful for the manner in which this process occurred: The work of revision went extremely efficiently, and as a result, the complete reworked psalm section is included in this report.

8.1.2 In accordance with the instruction of Synod, Dr. W. Helder was engaged to work with the committee to update the entire psalm section within a set timeframe. We are grateful that he was able to complete this task. A fair remuneration was negotiated for the work involved. Details of this arrangement will be available at Synod in a confidential letter.

8.1.3 As they became available, the revised and updated psalms were published on the Committee's website at www.bookofpraise.ca, hosted by Adverdea Web Design (br. Bernie Harsevoort of Ancaster) at no cost to the Committee. A link to this website was placed on the website of the Canadian Reformed Churches (www.canrc.org). Premier Printing, with permission from the Committee, made the revised and updated Anglo-Genevan Psalter available in printed format in a loose-leaf binder.

8.1.4 The churches were notified of the existence of the website; input of the churches was solicited and a number of churches took advantage of this invitation. The Committee gratefully made use of the extensive and valuable comments received from these churches.

In its final review of the Psalms, the Committee incorporated many of the suggestions received from the churches; these suggestions are included in the psalms submitted for approval in this report. Since these improvements were not published on the website at the time of publishing this report, the version in this report differs from that on the website and the loose-leaf binder.

Appendix A to this report lists the lines of the psalms as they were published on the web and in the loose-leaf binder but are now altered as submitted in this report. The Committee intends to post this proposed final text of the revised Psalms on the website when this report is distributed to the churches.

8.2 Background to the process of revision of the Anglo-Genevan Psalter**8.2.1 *Introduction and Sources Consulted***

When one compares the present (1984) version of the Psalter with the proposed revision, it becomes evident that

the revision can be divided into thirds: One-third of the psalms are unchanged or only slightly changed; one-third have been corrected or improved to a greater extent; one-third have been reworked. The aim is always to bring the psalms we sing into closer harmony with the actual text of the biblical Book of Psalms and to present them in the most stylistically beautiful and pleasing form possible. The psalms, as we currently sing them, were well done, but there were some (especially the ones written in the 1930s) that were crying out to be reworked.

In the process of revising the Psalms, very careful attention was paid not only to the most-commonly used Bible translation in the Canadian Reformed Churches, the NIV, but also to many old and contemporary translations of the Psalms in English and other languages. As well, many existing English, French, Dutch, etc. Psalters were consulted. Since three brothers on the Committee are able to read Hebrew, the text of the proposed revisions was carefully compared with the original text.

8.2.2 *Preface to the Revised Psalter*

The Committee proposes a slightly revised preface to the revised Psalter. Some changes are due to the proposed revisions to the Psalter. The major change however, is the reintroduction of the quotation by John Calvin on congregational singing. The revised preface is included as part of [Attachment I](#).

8.2.3 *Global Editorial Changes to the Psalm Section*

The Committee proposes several global editorial changes to the Psalm section as follows:

- a. Initial capitals are used for proper nouns, pronouns referring to God, and designations for God where necessary and appropriate (e.g., H.8:1, “He is the Rock of our salvation;”).
- b. Initial capitals are used for words at the beginning of sentences, and not at the beginning of each line of text when such a line is a phrase rather than a complete sentence. The rationale for this is to enhance awareness of the complete thought conveyed in the sentence.
- c. As a header, the psalms will be indicated using the numerical numbering found in the *Book of Psalms*, and as we have it presently in the *Book of Praise*. Additionally the superscripts as indicated in the NIV, e.g., “A psalm of David” are added under the psalm number.
- d. To readily distinguish between a first stanza and an overleaf stanza, visual cues are provided. The psalm header for a first stanza is centered. For overleaf notation stanzas and text-only pages, the headers are aligned to the left or right as applicable. This is indicated by the use of a different font.

8.3 Proposed revised Anglo-Genevan Psalter

The Committee hereby submits the revised Psalter. After receiving Dr. Helder’s initial submission of the revisions, the Psalter has undergone two rounds of review by the Committee: The first round of review prior to publishing on the website and the second round after receiving comments from a number of churches. Working closely with Dr. Helder, these reviews resulted in a quite a number of further improvements.

We acknowledge our deep gratitude and praise to the LORD: He provided all that was needed for Dr. Helder, as well as the Committee, to complete the challenging and beautiful task of updating the entire Psalter in such a relatively short time.

The 150 Psalms of the revised Anglo-Genevan Psalter are hereby submitted to Synod. The Committee recommends that Synod

- a. adopt this revised Psalter, including the revised preface, for full use by the churches and that
- b. this revised Psalter be published in the next edition of the *Book of Praise*.

Please note that the revised Psalter forms an integral part of this report, and is included as Attachment I.

SECTION THREE

9.0 Review of the current Hymn Section of the *Book of Praise* (Acts, Art. 148)

9.1 Report on the 65 hymns of the *Book of Praise*

General Synod Smithers, 2007, gave the Committee the following mandate:

Article 149.4.4.1 – To also review the suitability of individual hymns that we already have in our *Book of Praise*, for possible change, deletion, or improvement.

In fulfilling this part of its mandate, the Committee was keenly aware of the context provided by other aspects of the mandate given to us by GS Smithers: The preparation of a revised *Anglo-Genevan Psalter* and the addition of a modest number of hymns (as presented in the *Augment*) based on the feedback received from the churches after a period of testing.

In the course of our work, we reminded ourselves that the song section of the *Book of Praise* consists of two distinct sections: The *Anglo-Genevan Psalter*, the *Hymn Section*. We observe that the nature of the Psalter is quite different from that of the Hymn Section. This has implications for the process of revision. For example, in terms of the origin of the text, the text of all 150 Psalms originates from the same source: The Hebrew text of the biblical Book of Psalms. The revised text of the Psalms must represent a faithful rendition of the original text. The proposed revised metrical text prepared by Dr. William Helder set to the authentic Genevan melodies lends a quality of uniformity and consistency to the *Anglo-Genevan Psalter* section of our *Book of Praise*. The collection of the 150 Psalms clearly forms a unit in the Scriptures, and the churches do well to reflect this in the consistency within the Psalter section of the *Book of Praise*.

In contrast, the *Hymn Section* by its very nature is much more diverse. The text of hymns written by poets is often based on text(s) found in the Scriptures, and then is set to music by various composers. Scriptural hymns constitute a thank offering of praise when we sing of the facts of redemption by God in Jesus Christ. As a collection of songs representing different styles and time periods, the very nature of our *Hymn Section* demonstrates the spatial and temporal catholicity of the church. However, because of the diversity of the songs due to the variation in sources and time periods, the *Hymn Section* of the *Book of Praise* will always be somewhat diverse in character. As much as possible, one tries to respect the style of the author and the integrity of the song. The Committee kept this in mind when fulfilling this part of its mandate. We considered, for example, to what extent one can freely change a classic text. We concluded that if a particular “classical” hymn is

in the public domain, changes may be made, yet one ought to be reticent about doing so. We ought to avoid having our own “Canadian Reformed” version of the classic English hymns. As an example, we cite *O God our help in ages past*, a classic hymn still used frequently during public Remembrance Day services. Sometimes the older words are so deeply imbedded in a very well-known classic hymn that altering the hymn would ruin it.

If the hymn is subject to copyright, no changes may be made, at least not without the written permission of the copyright holder. For example, *Great is Thy Faithfulness* is subject to copyright and may not be changed to Great is Your Faithfulness.

In fulfilling its mandate given by GS Smithers 2007 (*Acts*, Art. 149, Par. 4.4.1) the Committee embarked on the review of the current 65 hymns, keeping in mind the general rationale applied to the revision of the Psalms: Hymns that closely follow Scripture passages were reviewed for accuracy against the original text of the passage, and its rendition in the NIV and other translations. This includes, for example, *The Song of Mary* and *The Song of Zechariah*. Hymns that reflect a general connection to a particular Scripture passage were reviewed for accuracy and clarity of language. Throughout this process, the Committee worked closely with Dr. Helder, who in many instances proposed recommendations for an improved text. The Committee gratefully acknowledges his contribution to this review.

Conclusion:

Keeping in mind all aspects of its mandate throughout the review process, the Committee sought to maintain consistency in appearance of the *Anglo-Genevan Psalter* and the *Hymn Section*. This leads us to propose several global editorial changes to the Hymn Section as follows:

- a. Initial capitals are used for proper nouns, pronouns referring to God, and designations for God when necessary and appropriate.
- b. Initial capitals are used for words at the beginning of sentences, and not at the beginning of each line of text when such a line is a phrase rather than a complete sentence. The rationale for this is to enhance awareness of the complete thought conveyed in the sentence.
- c. All the hymns will be numbered sequentially; this means that Hymn 1A will become Hymn 1 and Hymn 1B will become Hymn 2.
- d. A title will be added to each hymn. In most cases, this title will be taken from [part of] the first line of the text. If the hymn is well known by another title it will be used instead, e.g., “The Song of Mary”.
- e. The musical notation of the hymns will continue to consist of a single melody line to lend consistency throughout the *Book of Praise*.

In seeking to serve the Churches by presenting a well-balanced *Hymn Section* in the *Book of Praise*, the Committee proposes the addition of fourteen hymns taken from the *Augment* (see Section Four – Par 10.2). These hymns will be interspersed throughout the *Hymn Section*. Specific to this aspect of its mandate, the Committee proposes not to delete any of our present 65 (66) hymns. However, some changes and improvements to selected hymns are proposed in the section of the report below. Note that alterations of the present text are indicated in bold letters. If a hymn or a stanza has no proposed changes, it does not appear in this report.

If the recommendation is to leave a hymn unchanged, there may be several reasons. Either the text is clear and contemporary as-is, or the specific words are so embedded in the historical text of the hymn that to make changes would result in a new hymn.

9.2 Proposal regarding the 65 Hymns of the *Book of Praise*:

The Committee requests that Synod adopt the Committee's recommendation regarding the proposed changes to the existing hymns, as listed below, and direct the Committee to publish these changes in the next edition of the *Book of Praise*.

Note: Changed text is in **bold** font.

Hymn 2. Together with the original author, Dr. W. Helder, the Committee reviewed this well-known hymn based on the text known as *Te Deum*. We concluded that many words and expressions have become obsolete and propose the following altered text:

1. **O God, we praise You, we acknowledge You as Lord.
Eternal Father, You are everywhere adored.
Led by the seraphim, the angels praise You rightly:
“O holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty!
Both heaven and earth are filled with Your majestic
splendour.”
To You all angels never-ceasing praises render.**
2. **The prophets and apostles praise Your deeds of might
as they in chorus join the martyrs robed in white.
Your holy church rejoices, everywhere confessing
You, Father, high-enthroned in glory all-surpassing;
Your true and only Son, worthy of adoration;
the Holy Spirit, source of help and consolation.**
3. **O Christ, our glorious King, the victory You have won.
You, Lord, are God the Father's everlasting Son.
Yet You did not despise the Virgin's womb, O Saviour,
when You came from on high to free mankind forever.
You then defeated death and Satan's power infernal;
You opened up the way that leads to life eternal.**

4. **You are enthroned in glory at God’s own right hand, till You from there as judge will on the clouds descend. O Lord, we therefore pray, grant help and vindication to those who through Your precious blood have gained salvation.**

In everlasting glory add them to the number of all Your saints, O Lord. Your heritage remember!

5. **We bless You day by day, we praise Your holy name; from age to age Your power and glory we acclaim. O Lord, keep us this day from evil and transgression. Have mercy on us, Lord; show pity and compassion. Let all who hope in You be with Your love surrounded. In You alone we trust: we’ll never be confounded!**

Hymn 3. In order to reflect the change of “Thee/Thou” to “You/Your” without altering the integrity of the text and style, the Committee proposes to alter the text as follows:

1. We praise **You**, God the Father, the Creator;
we praise **You**, God the Son, our Lord and Saviour;
we praise **You**, God the Spirit, co-eternal;
one God almighty.
2. Trinity holy, Unity unbroken,
let all creation praise **You** without ceasing,
for **You** are one in truth and love and splendour,
Rock of salvation.
3. We praise **You**, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
LORD God eternal, we bow down before **You**.
Yours be all honour, **Yours** the power and glory,
now and forever.

Hymn 6. The Committee received a request from a church to add an “Amen-cadence” to this well-known doxological hymn. We concluded that the decision to sing (or not to sing) the “Amen-cadence” can be made locally, and announced by the minister or otherwise indicated in the liturgy. Alter as follows, providing the option of concluding this doxology with “Amen”:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **(Amen*)**

***May be sung with Amen-cadence**

Hymn 7. Alter the text of stanzas 2, 3, and 9 as follows to replace archaic expressions, bringing it closer to the NIV text used during the worship service:

2. "I am the LORD, your God and Saviour,
who out of **slavery** set you free,
who brought you from the land of Egypt.
Have, then, no other gods but Me.
3. "You shall not **make or serve an idol**:
a jealous God am I, the LORD,
who punish evildoers' offspring
but cherish those who heed My **word**.
9. O LORD, let **Your** commandments teach us
our sins and misery to **know**,
that we, delivered from all evil,
to You our thankfulness **may show**.

Hymn 8. Leave unchanged except exchange "worthless race" for "foolish race" in stanza 7: No race is worthless. The proposed text is closer to the biblical text, "a nation that has no understanding" (Deut. 32:21).

7. "With worthless gods have they offended Me,
provoking Me to indignation.
Since they have roused My jealousy,
I will requite their provocation:
I'll make them jealous and embrace
instead of them some **foolish** race.
A blaze is kindled by My fury;
down into deep Sheol it spreads,
consumes the earth, and will most surely
make mountain roots glow fiery red.

Hymn 10. This hymn was originally written by W. Helder. However, with all the "Thou's," removed, the updating of language seems the obvious thing to do. At the same time, some other very minor changes/corrections in some stanzas will bring the text closer to the original text. The Committee proposes a revision as follows:

1. LORD, I have heard the tidings
of **You** and of **Your** might.
Your deeds reveal **Your** greatness;
I tremble **at their** sight.
LORD, **in our time renew them**;
in our day make them known.
In wrath remember mercy;
do not forget Your own!

2. From Teman and Mount Paran
came God, the Holy One,
and all throughout the heavens
His radiant splendour shone;
the brightness of His glory
filled all the earth with praise,
and from His hand the lightning
flashed forth in blinding rays.
3. He came with plagues before Him,
with fevers in His wake.
He stood, the earth surveying,
and made the nations quake.
The everlasting mountains
did crack and split and fold;
the ancient hills He levelled.
His ways were as of old.
4. I saw the tents of Cushan
by squalls to tatters torn;
the curtains of all Midian
were fluttering in the storm.
O LORD, **were You** then angry
with rivers and with sea,
**when You rode with Your horses
and drove to victory?**
5. When with **Your** mighty rivers
You all the earth **had cleaved**,
the mountain ranges saw **You**;
with fear they writhed and heaved.
Then were the rushing waters
in raging streams outpoured.
The waves their hands uplifted;
the voice of oceans roared.
6. **Your** glittering spear and arrows
made sun and moon stand still.
You, marching on in fury,
made earth in terror **kneel**.
You, trampling down the nations,
came with Your dreadful wrath
to rescue **Your** own people,
to clear for them a path.
7. To save **Your** own anointed
You crushed the mighty foe.
By their own weapons wounded,

their chieftains were brought low.
 Advancing like a whirlwind,
 they came to **vanquish** me.
You with Your **horses trampled**
 the surging of the sea.

8. I hear **Your** steps approaching
 and at their sound I quake.
 Lips quiver, bones are trembling;
 I totter and I shake.
 In quiet expectation
 I **shall** await the day
 when those who **now** invade us
will all be swept away.
9. Though fig trees may not blossom
 and vines no fruit may yield,
 though olives be a failure
 and barren be the field,
 though in the fold and stables
 there be no flock or herd,
 yet I will sing and worship,
 rejoicing in the LORD.
10. The LORD, my God and Saviour,
 in Him I will rejoice,
 and, in His power exulting,
 I will lift up my voice.
 He makes my feet as nimble
 as feet of graceful roes;
 He lets me walk on mountains,
 beyond the reach of woes.

Hymn 11. To reflect more accurately the original text of Is. 40:1-5,
 the Committee proposed a revision as follows:

1. Comfort, comfort **now** My people;
 speak **of** peace: **so says** our God.
 Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 mourning **under** sorrow's load.
Cry out to Jerusalem
 of the peace that waits for them;
 tell her that her sin I cover
 and her warfare now is over.
2. For the herald's voice is crying
 in the desert far and near,
calling all men to repentance,

since the kingdom now is here.

Oh that warning voice obey!

Now prepare for God a way;

let the valleys rise to meet Him,

and the hills bow down to greet Him.

3. **Then** make straight what long was crooked;
make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now **on** earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token
that His Word is never broken.

Hymn 13. In order to reflect the Scriptural text more closely, and in keeping with the tone of the Anglo-Genevan Psalter, the Committee accepts Dr. Helder's revised text and proposes that the *Magnificat* (*The Song of Mary*) be reworded as follows:

1. My soul **will** magnify
the Lord, **who from on high**
has **blessed me with** His favour.
His praises I will voice;
my spirit will rejoice
in Him, my God and Saviour.
2. **The Lord, so good and great,**
looked on my lowly state.
Now will all generations
from age to age attest
how richly I am blest.
Great is my exaltation!
3. How holy is His name!
The Mighty One, He came
and showed me His great favour.
With mercy He is near
to all who Him revere;
His love endures forever.
4. **His arm revealed His might,**
for He has put to flight
all those who are proud-hearted,
and He pulled haughty ones
down from their lofty thrones;
the lowly He supported.

**5. Abundant gifts the Lord
has on the hungry poured;
their suffering He has ended.
The rich He sent away;
He, much to their dismay,
let them go empty-handed.**

**6. The Lord is merciful;
His servant Israel
He graciously delivered,
remembering evermore
what He to Abraham swore
and to his seed forever.**

Hymn 14. In order to reflect the Scriptural text more closely, and in keeping with the tone of the Anglo-Genevan Psalter, the Committee accepts Dr. Helder's revised text and proposes a new version as follows:

**1. Blest be the God of Israel,
for He has come to set us free;
in David's house the Lord has raised
salvation's horn for all to see.
He through His prophets long ago
said He would save us from our foe,
from all who scorn and hate us.
He has not put our fathers' faith to shame
but, in His love remembering them,
has kept the oath He swore to Abraham.**

**2. His faithfulness He has now shown,
that we might serve Him without fear,
that all our days with upright hearts
we in His presence might appear.
Of you, my child, it will be said
that God Most High sent you ahead
as herald of salvation.
You will before the Lord prepare His way
and tell His people of the day
when He to them His mercy will display.**

**3. As God has promised, all our sins
will be forgiven, swept away.
He from on high in tender love
will bless us with the glorious day
on which before our very eyes
the radiant Morning Sun will rise
to shine on us forever.**

**From death's dark shadow He will grant release
and, when its tyranny shall cease,
will guide our feet into the path of peace.**

Hymn 15. In order to reflect the change of "Thee/Thou" to "You/Your" without altering the integrity of the text and style, the Committee proposes to alter the text of stanzas 1 and 2 as follows:

1. The people who in darkness walked
have seen a glorious light;
now day has dawned for those who dwelt
in death's surrounding night.
To hail **You**, Sun of righteousness,
they with rejoicing come
as when with joy they share the spoil
or bear the harvest home.
2. For **You** the burden **have** removed
that on their shoulders lay,
have broken the oppressor's rod
(etc.)

Hymn 18. In order to reflect the Scriptural text more closely, and in keeping with the tone of the Anglo-Genevan Psalter, the Committee accepts Dr. Helder's revised text and proposes an altered version as follows:

1. **Now let Your servant, Lord,
according to Your word,
depart in exultation.
Now I in peace may rest:
my eyes have seen at last
Your wonderful salvation.**
2. **Lord, You have graciously
prepared for all to see
a light for revelation
to Gentiles far and near,
and glory bright and clear
to Israel, Your nation.**

Hymn 21. To removed what appears to be a Dutchism [in Dutch, *smart* means sorrow, rather than pain or infirmity], the Committee proposes to alter the text of stanza 3 as follows:

3. **Our sufferings and infirmities He bore;
our sorrows He was willing to endure,
while we thought He was being punished for
His own wrongdoing.**

But He was pierced because of our transgression,
bruised for our sin – His punishments and passion
procured our peace: His scourgings and oppression
healed us again.

Hymn 22. In order to reflect the change of “Thee/Thou” to
“You/Your” without altering the integrity of the text and style, the
Committee proposes to alter the text as follows:

You, holy Lamb of God, we bless:
You, through **Your** cross, redemption sent us,
and to the Father **You** present us
as priests and kings in holiness.
O Saviour, **You have** ransomed us.
So we will honour and adore **You**,
and cast in gratitude before **You**,
the crowns by grace bestowed on us. Amen, etc.

Hymn 26. This hymn was changed and updated in the past, and at
this time we propose two minor adjustments to stanza 2:

dawning with **Your** healing light
You have put all gloom to flight!

Hymn 27. The Committee spent considerable time reviewing this
well-known hymn. In the end, we came to the conclusion that the
question-answer format of Rom. 8:31-36 makes it very difficult to
sing it in such a way that the meaning remains intact. This applies
especially to the present stanzas 2 and 3. For example, the first
line of stanza 2 may lead us to (mis)understand that it is Christ
Jesus who condemns us, even when we know, of course, that the
contrary is true.

We therefore propose to delete stanzas 2 and 3, changing this
hymn into a two-stanza song in which we express our praises for
the redemptive work of our Saviour.

In addition, one minor change in Stanza 4 would allow this stanza
to be sung independently.

(4 now) 2. **I am** convinced that neither powers, death, nor life

Hymn 29. To remove a dated expression, and increase the
directness of the text, the Committee proposes a minor change in
stanza 2, line 1:

2. Hallelujah! **The praises** tell
of David’s Son, Emmanuel,
the Saviour, God incarnate.
In Him, who will return again,
let all the universe acclaim
the Father, Son, and Spirit.

Hymn 31. Except for “Lo,” in stanza 1, this hymn has no archaic language. For the sake of increased clarity, we propose a correction and a minor alteration:

1. The Lord ascended up on high,
the Lord has triumphed gloriously,
in power and might excelling. [replace ; with .]
The grave and hell were captive led [no period]
when He went up, our glorious Head,
to His eternal dwelling.

Hymn 32. In order to reflect the change of “Thee/Thou” to “You/Your” without altering the integrity of the text and style, the Committee proposes to alter the text as follows:

1. Christ, above all glory seated,
King triumphant, strong to save!
Dying, **You** have death defeated;
buried, **You** have spoiled the grave.
You have gone where now is given
what no mortal might could gain,
on the eternal throne of heaven,
in **Your** Father’s power to reign.
2. There **Your** kingdoms all adore **You**,
heav’n above and earth below;
while the depths of hell before **You**,
trembling and defeated, bow.
We revere **You**, Lord and Saviour;
we implore **Your** grace and love.
Hear our prayers and help us ever
Seek the things that are above.
3. Lord, when **You** return in glory
on the clouds of **heaven above**
we **Your** flock will stand before **You**,
kept forever in Your love.
In **Your** faithfulness confiding,
Jesus, **all shall You** adore.
On **Your** holy throne abiding,
You shall reign for evermore.

Hymn 35. In order to avoid an awkward contraction, we propose a minor alteration to stanza 5, line 3 as follows:

5. He who from **heaven reigns**
Will come on His great day

Hymn 36. In order to reflect the change of “Thee/Thou” to “You/Your” without altering the integrity of the text and style; and to help clarify and strengthen the text of stanzas 4 and 5, the Committee proposes to alter the text as follows:

4. Spirit of all understanding,
of all grace, of truth, and prayer,
show the paths of life unending;
always guide us, everywhere.
May we say, yes, “Abba, Father,”
say of Jesus, “**You** are Lord,”
and praise **You** with one accord.
Be where Christ His churches gathers,
take the offerings that they bring,
hear **them** when **Your** praise they sing.

5. Counsellor, O Holy Spirit,
You who were from heaven sent,
may You with our Saviour’s merit
fill the earth’s remotest end.
O revive, refresh, and nourish
all that here may fade and fail!
Let Your healing wind prevail,
causing love and zeal to flourish.
To new life let us be raised.
Holy Spirit, You be praised!

Hymn 37. In order to reflect the change of “Thee/Thou” to “You/Your” without altering the integrity of the text and style, the Committee proposes to adjust stanza 3 as follows:

3. Led by the Holy Spirit,
our flesh we crucify;
in Him shall we find freedom
as unto sin we die.
O Spirit, by **Your** power
our faithfulness increase,
and reap in us Your harvest
of love and joy and peace.

Hymn 38. For increased clarity by removing the rather unknown word “Paraclete” and by replacing it with text that describes the role of a Paraclete, the Committee proposed to alter stanza 3 as follows:

3. The Spirit, knowing all our needs,
perfects our prayers and intercedes
for us who cannot on our own
gain access to God’s holy throne.

Hymn 40. The punctuation in stanza 2, line 5 will be corrected by replacing the period by a comma as follows:

One holy Name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,

The committee proposes to alter stanza 4 to reflect the original and commonly-used expression “till with the vision glorious.” This expression is scriptural and refers to “seeing God” (e.g., Matt. 5:8; Luke 21:27; 1 John 3:2; Rev. 22:4.)

4. ‘Mid toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with **the vision** glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great Church victorious
shall be the Church at rest.

Hymn 44. Leave text unchanged. Correct the punctuation by deleting the commas in stanza 2, line 3.

Hymn 46. In order to reflect the change of “Thee/Thou” to “You/Your” without altering the integrity of the text and style, the Committee proposes to adjust stanzas 1 and 2 as follows:

1. We thank **You**, Father, who **have** planted
Your holy Name within our hearts.
True knowledge, faith, and life immortal
Jesus **Your** Son to us imparts.
You, Lord, **have made** all for **Your** pleasure;
You gave man food for all his days,
giving in Christ the Bread eternal;
Yours is the power, **Yours** be the praise.
2. Watch o’er **Your** Church, O Lord, in mercy;
save it from evil, guard it still.
perfect it in **Your** love, unite it,
cleansed and conformed unto **Your** will.
As grain, once scattered on the hillsides,
was in the broken bread made one,
so from all lands **Your** Church be gathered
into **Your** kingdom by **Your** Son.

Since this hymn may be subject to copyright, the Committee will seek further clarification on the extent changes may be made. Our findings and their implications will be made available to General Synod 2010.

Hymn 47. The Committee carefully reviewed this hymn also. In view of its archaic phrasing and dated language, we felt that a revision was in order. In addition, we examined the place of this hymn in a worship service, and determined that it does not function as a prayer as such, but is often used in connection with the preaching on *The Heidelberg Catechism* LD 45-52. The Committee concluded that this hymn, based on the *Lord's Prayer*, would be enriched by incorporating elements found in the Heidelberg Catechism. We accept Rev. G.Ph. Van Popta's revised text, and propose a completely revised version as follows:

- 1. Our Father, great in majesty,
enthroned in heaven eternally,
with childlike trust we seek Your face,
relying on Your love and grace.
In faith and reverence we draw near
for You, in Christ, our prayer will hear.**
- 2. Your name be hallowed and adored.
Teach us to know You from Your Word
and from Your glorious works and ways,
that we might offer You our praise.
May our whole life enhance Your fame,
that others, too, might praise Your name.**
- 3. Lord, may Your kingdom come with haste;
lay Satan's dark domain to waste.
May You so rule us by Your Word
that we acknowledge You as Lord.
Preserve Your church, make her complete
until all worship at Your feet.**
- 4. O Father, may Your will be done
on earth below by everyone.
May we deny our wilful way,
and, without murmuring, You obey.
In all our duties, Lord, may we,
like heaven's angels, faithful be.**
- 5. Give us this day our daily bread,
that we may from Your hand be fed.
In all the work we need to do
remind us to depend on You,
not trusting creatures here below,
but You from whom all blessings flow.**

6. Do not our sins and debts record,
but freely pardon them, O Lord.
Cleanse us from all our wretchedness
through Christ, whose blood was shed for us –
as, prompted by the grace You give,
our neighbours' debts we, too, forgive

7. Into temptation lead us not,
lest we in Satan's snares be caught.
Uphold us by Your Spirit's might;
put mortal enemies to flight.
May we against our foes contend
and be victorious in the end.

8. Yours is the kingdom, Yours the might,
and Yours alone the glory bright!
All this we ask of You, our King,
for You are Lord of everything
in this age and eternally.
Amen, Amen, so shall it be!

Hymn 49. In stanza 2, the meaning of “veneration” is not immediately clear. We propose that it be replaced with “dedication” as a more meaningful choice that seems closer to the “heartily ready and willing” of the text. It will get across the idea of commitment better than the word “veneration” does.

2. He makes me willing now with **dedication**
in hope His yoke to bear.

Hymn 50. In order to reflect the change of “Thee/Thou” to “You/Your” without altering the integrity of the text and style, the Committee proposes to adjust the text as follows:

1. “Come, Lord Jesus! Maranatha!”
pray the Spirit and the Bride.
Come upon the clouds of heaven
with **Your** angels at **Your** side.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!
evermore with us abide.

2. Come, O Lord, with power and glory
and descend before our eyes
when the sounding of the trumpet
shall re-echo through the skies
and the voice of **Your** archangel
shall command the dead to rise.

3. When the sky is rent asunder
and **Your** face we shall behold,
when to every tongue and nation
You Your judgment **will** unfold,
death will be completely vanquished,
as Your Holy Word foretold.
4. Call the dead! Let them bear witness
to **Your** rule, O Lord renowned.
Call those once forced into silence,
those who once were judged unsound.
Lift up all who were downtrodden;
let them be with honour crowned.
5. When the tombs at last break open
and the throngs from far and near,
gathering in **Your** holy city,
in **Your** festal hall appear,
Lord, let us then not be missing,
Though we're often tardy here.
6. Then let **Your** refining Spirit
us with flaming zeal endue.
May we wait with eager longing
for **Your** promise to come true
when **You**, Lord, with fire from heaven
all creation **will** renew.
7. No one knows the day or moment
when the Bridegroom shall appear.
Let us then be ever watchful;
may our lamps be bright and clear.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!
Your great Day is drawing near.

Hymn 56. In order to reflect the change of “Thee/Thou” to “You/Your” without altering the integrity of the text and style, the Committee proposes one minor adjustment to the text as follows:

1. Our outer nature wastes away;
yet inwardly, from day to day,
we are in **You** renewed, O Lord.
Our suffering here is soon endured:
The harvest it for us prepares
by far out-weighs our woes and cares.

Hymn 58. In keeping with the tone of the Anglo-Genevan Psalter, the Committee accepts Dr. Helder’s revised text and proposes this altered version as follows:

1. **Praise God Most High, you servants of the Lord.
Praise His great name and of His glory sing;
with shouts of joy your thankful praises bring.
Let Him by all His people be adored,
acknowledged as their sovereign Lord and King.**

2. **Praise God the Father, great in majesty;
praise God the Son, who came to save His own;
praise God the Spirit, sent from heaven's throne,
that He our guide and comforter might be.
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit, Three in One.**

Hymn 60 The Committee observes that this Hymn is full of awkward and archaic language, yet the text itself conveys a timeless message. In order to strengthen this Hymn, the Committee proposes to alter the text as follows, omitting the original stanza 4:

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is **your** health and salvation!
Come, all who hear, now to His temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things **is** wondrously
reigning,
sheltering you under His wings, **oh,** so gently **sustaining.**
Have you not seen **all that is needful has been**
sent by His gracious ordaining?

3. Praise to the Lord, who **will** prosper **your** work and defend
you;
surely His goodness and mercy **shall** daily attend **you.**
Ponder anew what the Almighty will do;
He with His love **will** befriend **you.**

4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that **has** life and breath, come now with praises before
Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again.
Gladly **forever** adore Him!

Hymn 61. In reviewing this hymn, the Committee took note of the fact that at some point in time, the original text by Isaac Watts ("Give to our God immortal praise") was replaced with "Give to the God of gods our praise." Not only does the melody give "gods" undue and inappropriate emphasis, but also the text is different from that commonly used in North America. Upon closer examination of this hymn, we concluded that the text reflects the context of 1Timothy. The word "immortal" is used to describe our King, who is eternal,

SECTION FOUR**10.0 Expanded Hymn Section (Acts, Art. 149)****10.1 Review of the Augment by the Ad Hoc Committee**

Shortly after receiving the mandate from GS Smithers 2007 to evaluate the expanded hymn section based on the comments received and as yet to be received from the churches, the Committee decided to appoint an *ad hoc* committee to provide an independent, arms-length review. The Committee felt that such a review would serve the churches better and provide for greater transparency than if the Committee would undertake a review of its own work. The *ad hoc* committee was provided with a clear mandate as a guideline for its review process. It is included in the summary report below.

The *ad hoc* committee consisted of the following members of the Canadian Reformed Churches in the Winnipeg, MB area:
br. R. Buist
sr. G. Gortemaker
sr. T. Kamminga
Rev. J. Poppe (convener)

10.2 The review process

Feedback from the churches was collected by the Committee's secretary. The Committee expresses its appreciation to the churches for their active participation in this process: 44 churches provided feedback within the deadline set by the Committee! The Committee also observed the tremendous diversity within the form and content of the feedback: Some churches presented a summary report prepared by the consistory, others offered a report supported by feedback provided by individual members, while there were also some that sent on the "raw" data gathered from the congregation without concluding recommendations.

The Committee was well aware of the complexity of the process, and expressed the need for much wisdom to the members of the *ad hoc* committee.

Initially, the instructions to the *ad hoc* committee included an indication that the *ad hoc* report would form part of the Committee Report to GS 2010. However, upon receiving the 142-page report, the Committee decided that in consideration of the usefulness of such an appendix to the churches, a summary would be prepared instead. This summary was shared with and edited by the *ad hoc* committee. You will find this summary in Appendix B. At the same time, it was decided that the full text of the *ad hoc* committee's report will be made available to the appropriate synodical committee at GS 2010.

Further, the Committee considered carefully how it could best fulfill its primary mandate to the churches within the overall context of the Anglo-Genevan Psalter and Hymn Section of the *Book of Praise*. As such, the responsibility for the final recommendations to

the churches rests with the Committee. The recommendations are based on the Committee's interaction with the *ad hoc* committee's report, its findings and recommendations. You will find this in paragraph 10.3 below.

Lastly, as a Standing Committee appointed by General Synod to serve the churches in matters concerning *The Book of Praise*, the Committee responds to the *ad-hoc* committee's report in the form of a set of proposals to GS 2010.

10.3 The Committee's proposal to the churches regarding the Augment:

This section prepared by the Standing Committee for the Publication of the *Book of Praise* contains four sections for consideration by the churches:

- I Introduction – in which we set the context of our response.
- II Proposal to General Synod 2010 regarding the inclusion (or exclusion) of hymns presented to the churches in the *Augment*
- III Copyright Implications – in which the Committee comments on the costs involved when using copyrighted hymns owned by a publisher.
- IV Conclusion, Observations, and Request for Direction – in which we present some observations that may guide future discussions of the hymn section of the *Book of Praise*.

I Introduction

The Committee expresses its deep appreciation to the *ad hoc* committee (Winnipeg), and thanks the committee for the extensive work it did in evaluating the feedback received on each one of the 28 hymns of the *Augment*. As the summary of the report shows, the brothers and sisters of the committee very carefully noted all the many comments that were made by the churches on the hymns. The *ad hoc* committee evaluated the comments received in light of the synodically adopted *Principles and Guidelines* and made well-considered recommendations as to whether to include or exclude specific hymns.

In turn, the Committee reviewed these findings of the *ad hoc* committee, and presents a proposal to the churches. In some instances, the Committee considers it prudent to share its deliberations and considerations in order to present a full picture to the churches.

II Proposals to General Synod 2010 regarding the inclusion (or exclusion) of hymns presented to the churches in the Augment:

1. **We Come, O Christ, to You.**

This hymn speaks about the Person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ, and allows us to sing our praises in response to Him.

The churches and the *ad hoc* committee presented many observations about the text of this hymn. After reviewing the

comments, the Committee considers that this hymn very well, correctly, and beautifully ascribes attributes of the LORD GOD to the Lord Jesus Christ. [Cf. John 8:58 and the other I AM sayings of Christ; the Prologue of the Gospel according to John; Acts 3:15; Col. 1:16 and 2:9; Rev. 1:8; 21:5-7; 22:13; cf. also Hymn 12:2 where Emmanuel is called “The Lord of might who came to His tribes on Sinai’s height, who in ancient times gave the law in cloud, majesty and awe”]. This hymn is, thus, a good statement against the Arianism of much liberal Christianity.

Further, in response to a concern expressed by one of the churches, suggesting that the hymn is “Arminian” because it sings: “We Come, O Christ, to You,” the Committee disagrees with this observation. When we consider how Christ calls us to Him: (Mat 11:28) “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest,” it is not “Arminian” for us to respond with, “We come, O Christ, to You.”

Although the *ad hoc* committee presented suggestions for alterations to the text of this hymn, no amendments can be made since the text is subject to copyright.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

2. Christ the Lord is Risen Today

The combination of text and melody in this hymn expresses joyfully the resurrection of our Saviour, and forms a welcome addition to the relatively few hymns in the Easter section of our *Book of Praise*. The *ad hoc* committee notes that although there are incomplete sentences in this hymn, the message is clear and easily intelligible: It is a song to praise our risen Lord and acknowledges His redemptive work. The “Alleluia” refrain is not repetitive or overdone when we consider that it is fitting for us as saints to glorify God and give Him praise, just as the angels in heaven are doing. Further, this hymn does clearly indicate the resurrection of the whole person, body and soul.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

3. God Gave to Us this Day of Days

This hymn refers first of all to the fact of the death and resurrection of our Lord who took our sins upon Himself, and suffered in our place – restoring what was broken. It is also a hymn reminding us that the first day of the week is indeed the Lord’s Day.

The churches offered diverse comments on this hymn – from its singability to its content. The *ad hoc* committee recommends to

change “for gone’s the fearful wretchedness” to “for gone will be our wretchedness.” After considering this proposal, the Committee does not support this suggestion, since it shifts what is gone from the past to the future and as such changed the intent and meaning of the text. We consider this hymn that speaks clearly of the light- and life-restoring power of Christ’s sacrifice a worthwhile addition to the hymn section.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

4. Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands

The text of this hymn adds to the texts that speak about the suffering of Christ. As such it can be used for several purposes, including the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.

One element of a hymnal is its eclectic character that illustrates a diverse usage by the church in different times and places. This hymn has been sung in Christian churches since the time of the Reformation. It was also used by J.S. Bach as an easy-to-recognize melody within liturgical settings. Although some churches found the melody difficult to sing, the Committee observes that given its provenance, this melody is well worth learning.

In its review, the Committee took note of the comments received from churches as expressed by the observations of the *ad hoc* committee. In the sections that follow, the Committee addresses several observations as follows:

The *ad hoc* committee notes that “This hymn contains elements of Lutheran theology, with respect to Christ’s descent into hell;’ and, ‘This first line of the hymn can of itself be interpreted in a correct manner. But considering that Luther was the author, it likely refers to his belief that Christ entered Sheol between the time of his death and resurrection, to bring the Old Testament believers from there to Paradise.” In response, the Committee comments that the opening line of stanza 1 is biblical and should not be read through the lens of Lutheran theology. This line brings out what we confess in Lord’s Day 16: That Christ really died.

The *ad hoc* committee also comments on the expression, “‘But now at God’s right hand He stands.’ - We confess that Christ ‘sits’ at the right hand of God. Imprecise language is used to make the words rhyme.” In response, the Committee suggests that, as one of the churches points out, Scripture does, in fact, also say that Christ stands at God’s right hand: (Acts 7:55) “But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.”

The *ad hoc* committee writes: “‘When life and death contended, the victory remained with life.’ – Not fully intelligible or edifying.

'His death has swallowed up our death.' – Loosely based on 1 Corinthians 15:54-55, but not fully intelligible or edifying." In turn, the Committee comments that this song sings about the intense life and death struggle on the cross, and about how Christ won the victory through His death and resurrection (these two being inseparable). Stanza 2 says what 1 Cor. 15 says: Christ has vanquished death.

The *ad hoc* committee says: "'On the accursed tree.' - Imprecise; Christ was accursed, not the tree." The Committee suggests that "Accursed tree" is a metaphor referring to our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross.

The Committee considers it good to have another Luther hymn in our collection, and finds this a worthy addition to the hymn section.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

5. Christ is Risen

This hymn also deals with the resurrection of Christ. Although the *ad hoc* committee recommends that this hymn be included, the Committee, after careful reconsideration, concludes that this song does not quite have the stature associated with congregational hymns. Instead, it seems to be better suited for a children's choir. In our decision we also took into account the pastoral concerns mentioned by several consistories.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

6. Jesus Shall Reign

The text of this hymn is a paraphrase of Psalm 72. The *ad hoc* committee reports that of the churches that commented on the music, the majority consider this a good melody. However, when examining the text, many churches commented that this hymn is an inaccurate rendition of Psalm 72. They consider the wording to be too generic, too vague, lacking a proper basis in Scripture, and leaving out the clear antithetical elements of Psalm 72. Some of the churches also consider it unnecessary to have another hymn that speaks about the reign of Christ. Further, some of the expressions are unclear.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

7. Since our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus

Based on the high-priestly references to Christ as found in the letter to the Hebrews, this hymn speaks joyfully of the ascended Lord. As such it is a welcome addition to the ascension hymns collection in our hymn section, and strengthens the category “The Lord ascended up on high.”

Perhaps the expression “love’s example, hope’s attraction, faith’s beginning” may not be completely clear at first. It is, however, a poetic way of expressing that Jesus our Lord is an example of the love we are to show (1Pet.2:21; 1Joh.3:16; 4:20-21); that it is our hope in Him that draws us to Him (Titus 2:13; 1Pet.1:3, 13); and that our faith finds its beginning and end in Him (Heb.12:2; Rev.21:6).

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

8. The Spirit Came, as Promised

The text of this hymn not only highlights the outpouring of the promised Holy Spirit, but also describes the way the Spirit works in the lives of believers.

The majority of the churches that commented on this hymn consider it to have a good melody and to be easy to sing. In general, the churches consider this hymn to be thoroughly Scriptural and to have theological depth.

The *ad hoc* committee made the following suggestion: “Amend ‘...grieve the Spirit by open sin or shame’ to ‘...grieve the Spirit by any sin or shame.’” In response, the Committee observes that since the song is copyrighted, we cannot alter it.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

9. For the Bread Which You have Broken

This hymn echoes the theme “Watch o’er Your church, O Lord.” Several churches point out correctly that this hymn can especially be used as a thanksgiving song after the celebration of the Lord’s Supper. This is supported by the *ad hoc* committee’s observations, including one that suggests “...this hymn is a prayer that, strengthened by the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, we may live holy lives and witness to our neighbour so that the fullness of Christ’s kingdom may come.” The Committee concludes that it would be good to have more hymns that sing about the Lord’s Supper, in addition to the current Hymns 44 and 46.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

10. Until He Comes

The text of this hymn reflects the redemptive work of our Saviour, and the believer's anticipation of the day of Christ's return. It is fitting to be used during Lord's Supper celebrations. The feedback received from the churches was somewhat mixed. Upon careful examination, the Committee notes that the first 3 stanzas provide a clear summary of the elements found in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, along with additional elements that are not present in our current hymn section: The refrain "until He comes" - brings out much more clearly than either H. 44 or 46 the idea that we celebrate the Lord's Supper in eager expectation of the coming celebration when our Lord returns. The *ad hoc* committee concurs, and in addition observes that this hymn does not so much speak about what we do but rather what Christ has done for us through His death on the cross.

This hymn is scriptural and adds elements not present in hymns currently in the *Book of Praise*.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

11. We praise You, Lord

Indirectly, the text of this hymn refers to some of the elements mentioned in the *Form for Baptism of Infants*. Yet it is not immediately clear that the hymn is linked directly with infant baptism.

The *ad hoc* committee concurs with the feedback received from the churches that states that the doctrine of the covenant does not explicitly come out. Awkward expressions may convey incorrect theology. For example, the notion of being "grafted to the vine" may suggest that the child is a foreign element which is now "grafted" on the original vine. Rather we speak covenantally when we say that a child of believing parents is "incorporated" into Christ's church through baptism. In summary: There are many more appropriate Psalms and hymns that can be used at baptism.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*

12. Our Children, Lord, in Faith and Prayer

Referring to the compassion Christ showed to children (stanza 2), this hymn also refers to the parents' act of presenting their child before the Lord at the time of baptism. Such an expression may be open for misinterpretation.

The *ad hoc* committee summarizes comments received from the churches when it states, "Our children, Lord, in faith and

prayer, we now present to thee” - The word “present” is not Scriptural. HC QA74 – infants belong to God’s covenant and congregation and that is why we baptize them. In addition, we already have Psalms and hymns presently that present a biblical and clearly covenantal message.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

13. O God, Great Father, Lord and King

This hymn reflects scriptural elements connected with the sacrament of infant baptism. Yet the overall intent is not immediately clear.

In its report, the *ad hoc* committee responds to the critical remarks made by the churches. It concludes that although there are unclear expressions and the usage of words which have their own connotation today (e.g., ‘dare’), the hymn itself is not necessarily bad. However, there seems to be a clear consensus that there is no need for additional baptism songs.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

14. O Gracious Lord

In presenting this hymn for consideration by the churches, the Committee sought clarity on the notion whether hymns specifically intended for a wedding ceremony would make a valid addition to the hymn section in the *Book of Praise*.

Together with the churches, the *ad hoc* committee observes that this hymn is a prayer for a blessing on this couple being married and is not a general marriage hymn. Because marriages are not normally solemnized during a worship service, the churches and the *ad hoc* committee consider that there is no need for hymns on marriage.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

15. Lord, Today Bless this New Marriage

Identical to the arguments used for Hymn 14 above, most churches consider that hymns regarding marriage should not be included in our *Book of Praise*.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

16. Jesus with Your Church Abide

This hymn deals specifically with the activities of Christ's church on earth. From demonstrating purity in doctrine and life, to its task of mission and evangelism (salt and light), this hymn summarizes the church's role in the world. Several churches observe that the text may be open to misinterpretation. The *ad hoc* committee concurs, and writes, "When the churches make the point that, while the church can be held responsible for any negligence in spreading the gospel, it cannot be held responsible for "fields un-won," they are correct. A church can faithfully proclaim the Gospel, while God still decides to harden the hearts of the hearers.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

17. Great is Thy Faithfulness

This well-known, classic hymn speaks joyfully about the faithfulness of the Lord. Elements throughout the stanzas reflect God's word and Word (B.C. Art. 2). It expands the section dealing with the Lord's care over His church. Perhaps the language in this hymn is somewhat dated, yet it does reflect common usage of the text, and no changes can be made due to copyright restrictions.

Some churches observed that the refrain, when sung after every stanza, can become somewhat repetitive over time.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*. A note will be added to indicate that the refrain may also be sung after stanza 3 only.

18. Christ Shall Have Dominion

The words of this hymn are set to a majestic melody, and are derived from Psalm 72. However, while Psalm 72 is a prayer of David for blessing on his son Solomon, Augment 18 shows the messianic fulfilment by applying the text directly to the risen Christ. As such, this hymn fits better in the category "The Lord ascended up on high."

The *ad hoc* committee notes that the phrase "all the weak and helpless shall His pity know" refers to line 1, but that it may be open to misunderstanding. Some could interpret it to mean that God will help all weak and helpless people. Instead, the context refers to the fact that He will help those who cry out to Him. The Committee concurs with the *ad hoc* committee's recommendation that the first word of stanza 2, line 2, be changed from "all" to "then," so that the stanza reads:

2. When the needy seek Him, He will mercy show;
then the weak and helpless shall His pity know.
 He will surely save them from oppressions' might,
 for their lives are precious in His holy sight.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn (with alteration) in *The Book of Praise*.

19. Day of Judgment, Day of Wonders

The text of this hymn sings of the day on which the Lord Jesus Christ returns on the clouds of heaven, at the sound of the trumpet. It fits well within the category "Come Lord Jesus! Maranatha!" Given that in some lines the words may be dated and unclear, the Committee considered the suggestions presented by the *ad hoc* committee and proposes changes as follows:

In stanza 1, change "fearful sound" to "awesome sound"; in stanza 3, change "all the powers of nature, shaken by His looks" to "all the evildoers, shaken / by His looks."

1. Day of judgment day of wonders!
 Hark! the trumpet's **awesome** sound
 louder than a thousand thunders,
 shakes the vast creation round.
 How the summons
 will the sinner's heart confound!

3. At His call the dead awaken,
 rise to life from earth and sea;
all the evildoers, shaken
 by His looks, prepare to flee.
 Careless sinner
 what will then become of thee?

The Committee proposes to include this hymn (with alterations) in *The Book of Praise*.

20. The World of Old

The text of this hymn is taken from Rev. 21: 1-5 and speaks of the day on which God will make all this new. The same scripture passage is reflected in Hymn 55 of our present hymn section.

The proposed hymn received a number of critical comments with respect to melody, awkward emphases in text/melody combinations, and the overall character of the song for use in congregational singing. The *ad hoc* committee's report also reflects these sentiments. The overall sense is that the

combination of text and melody in Hymn 55 presents a much stronger representation of the same scripture passage.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

21. The Hope of the Resurrection

The passage found in 1 Thess. 4:13-17 forms the basis for this hymn. In addition to comments received from churches with respect to the melody of the hymn and its suitability for congregational singing, there are a few problematic expressions. For example, “Our hope rests on our faith” reverses the biblical order we find, for example, in Col. 1:5 and Titus 1:2. Also, the expression “those Christ laid to sleep” is generally translated as “those who have fallen asleep.” (John 11:11; 1 Cor. 11: 30; 15: 6, 18, 20; 1 Thess. 4: 14, 15.)

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

22. The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done

The text of this hymn deals primarily with the death and resurrection of Christ. It is best placed in the category “Christ has risen! Hallelujah!” From the feedback received from the churches it becomes clear that little new material is added to this category if this hymn is included. References to the melody and its refrain, as well as expressions that lack clarity resulted in a lukewarm reception of this proposed hymn. The *ad hoc* committee in its comments reflects these sentiments. For example, the reference to “The three sad days are quickly sped;” is not found anywhere in scripture.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

23. O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart’s Desire

The work of Christ is central in this hymn. From His place in creation and re-creation, the four stanzas end in reminding the singer to glory only in the Lord. Feedback from the churches and the review by the *ad hoc* committee suggests that this hymn is not a strong hymn.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

24. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The text of the first stanza of this hymn is a song of praise to the redeeming work of Christ who died on the cross and rose again

from the dead. In the second stanza, the references to 1 Cor. 15 also allude to Christ's return in glory, while the final stanza concludes with our singing alleluias and giving glory to the triune God. The melody is not difficult to learn, but some churches commented on the challenge of singing the triads correctly. Overall the feedback received suggests that this is not a strong hymn for use in a worship service.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

25. Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God

This two-stanza hymn is also based on verses taken from Psalm 72. Churches commented that the melody is a good one, while the *ad hoc* committee wondered whether this hymn was needed in a revised hymn section.

The text of this hymn could serve as a fitting doxology at the end of a service.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

26. O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

This song of praise to our Redeemer fits well under the heading "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty. . ." and adds elements presently not represented in the hymn section. The text refers to the believer (singular "I/my") in the context of the Church in earth and heaven (plural "our"). The *ad hoc* committee observes that this hymn is not individualistic, and that man is not in the centre more than God. The emphasis is on "...my great Redeemer's praise" and "...my God and King".... Also Lord's Day 1 of the Heidelberg Catechism uses the first person to emphasize that each individual shares in the blessings of Christ.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

27. May the Grace of Christ, Our Saviour

This short, two stanza hymn could be used as a doxology. However, the text includes expressions which are not completely clear. This includes the final phrase, "joys which earth cannot afford."

The *ad hoc* committee observes that the melody with its pattern of repeated notes is not a strong one.

The Committee proposes not to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

28. Glory Be to the Father

The hymn represents an ancient liturgical text, which dates back to the second century. The initial part of the *Gloria Patri* (“Glory to the Father”) may be traced back to the Trinitarian baptismal formula recorded in Matthew 28:19. The second part, which begins with “as it was in the beginning,” was added by a synod in 529 A.D. as a response to the heresy of Arianism. The text reflects the orthodox teaching of the eternal unity and equality of the holy Trinity. It is majestic in its simplicity.

In view of its origin, and its possible use as a doxology after the recitation of a creed or at the end of a worship service, this hymn forms a valid addition to the hymn section.

The Committee proposes to include this hymn in *The Book of Praise*.

III Copyright Implications

The Committee wants to be clear that in adherence to copyright law, royalties will need to be paid for the use of four of the hymns proposed, i.e., Augment numbers 1, 7, 8 and 17.

These royalties amount to approximately \$0.125 per printed copy. This will apply also to future reprints of the *Book of Praise*. At each printing, the Committee will ensure that these costs are paid out of the *General Fund* of the churches.

IV Conclusion, and Request for Direction

Conclusion:

In presenting these fourteen “Augment hymns” for inclusion in the hymn section of the *Book of Praise* the Committee requests that General Synod:

- adopt these hymns for use in the worship service
- instruct the Committee to add the fourteen hymns to the appropriate categories in the Hymn section, to change the numbering of the hymns accordingly, and to publish the amended hymn section in the next edition of the *Book of Praise*. (See also Section Five of the Report and *Attachment I*.)

Request for Direction:

At this point the Committee is seeking direction from the Synod with respect to the question whether – with the addition of 14 hymns as proposed – the search for additional hymns is completed or whether the churches are looking for more hymns to be added in the future.

In considering the matter the Committee has noted that 28 hymns had been made available to the churches by way of the Augment, but only 14 are being proposed at this point. There may still be a need to ‘augment’ our hymn section further.

At the same time the Committee recognizes that the decision (*Acts GS Chatham 2004*, Art. 115) not to exceed 100 hymns illustrates that the Psalms will continue to receive primary emphasis in our worship service, and as such will continue to guide the Committee in its work.

The Committee has considered that it does have a mandate to “receive submissions and proposals for additional hymns from the churches with the reasons for their suitability, evaluate them in accordance with the requirements set out by General Synod Ed-monton, 1965, and submit a selection to the churches prior to subsequent General Synods” (*Acts GS Neerlandia, 2001*, Art. 97, p.111).

The Committee also points out that the *Principles and Guidelines* (*Acts GS Chatham 2004*, Art. 115) and published as an introduction to the Augment, replace the 1965 requirements referred to above.

The Committee requests General Synod to take into consideration the decisions made at GS Neerlandia 2001 and GS Chatham 2004 with respect to future amendments to the hymn section of the *Book of Praise*, and confirm whether the Committee indeed has a mandate to receive further suggestions from the churches for the incorporation of new hymns into the hymn section of the *Book of Praise*.

If such suggestions are indeed received, churches will do well to consider carefully new hymns which may enhance corporate, as well as family and personal worship. Such hymns may be presented by individual members to a local consistory, and then forwarded, complete with the rationale for proposing the hymns, to the Standing Committee for the Publication of the Book of Praise.

In conclusion the Committee wishes to emphasize that as churches we are blessed to have our *Book of Praise* in which the Anglo-Genevan Psalter is complemented by a well-balanced hymn section. It is our prayer that above all, now and in the future, our God be “enthroned on the praises of Israel” (Ps. 22:3) also through the use of the *Book of Praise*.

SECTION FIVE

11.0 Proposed new Hymn Section in the *Book of Praise*

Due to the proposed addition of the hymns listed in par10. 2 (II), the hymns section is increased from 66 to 80. The entire hymn section is included as part of Attachment I.

Since the added hymns naturally fit (only) within existing categories and therefore cannot just be placed together at the end, the current hymns will require renumbering.

The Committee requests that Synod adopt the Committee's proposal regarding the renumbering of the hymns and direct the Committee to publish these changes in the next edition of the *Book of Praise*.

The proposed hymn new numbers are in the following cross-reference:

Table 1

Cross reference of new hymn numbers versus old numbers

<i>Cross reference of new hymn numbers versus old numbers with 14 Augment hymns included</i>				
New Number	Current 65	Augment	Title	Book of Praise Category (Page 312 /313)
1	1A		The Apostles' Creed	We praise You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2	1B		The Apostles' Creed	
3	2		O God We Praise You We Acknowledge You as Lord	
4	3		We praise You, God the Father the Creator	
5	4		Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty	
6	58		Praise God Most High, You Servants of the Lord	
7	5		Glory Be to God the Father	
8	6		Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow	
9		28	Glory Be to the Father	
10		25	Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God	
11	7		The Ten Commandments	...He spoke by holy men of old
12	8		The Song of Moses	
13	9		Do You Not Know? Have You Not Heard?	
14	10		The Prayer of Habakkuk	
15	11		Comfort, Comfort Now My People	
16	12		O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.	
17	13		The Song of Mary	
18	14		The Song of Zechariah	
19	15		The People Who in Darkness Walked	The Word became Incarnate
20	16		A Great and Mighty wonder	
21	17		While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night	
22	18		The Song of Simeon	
23	19		Let Us of Christ Our Lord and Saviour Sing	

24	20		With Heart and Mouth Let All Confess	
25	21		Who Has Believed Our Message	Christ Jesus full atonement made
26	22		You, Holy Lamb of God We Bless	
27	23		Hark How the Adoring Hosts Above	
28	24		Salvation Unto Us Has Come	
29	25		All Glory, Laud and Honour	
30		4	Christ Jesus Lay in Death Strong Bands	Christ has risen! Hallelujah!
31	26		Christ Has Risen! Hallelujah	
32		2	Christ the Lord is Risen Today	
33		3	God Gave to Us This Day of Days	
34	27		If God is on Our Side	
35	28		The God and Father of Our Lord	
36	29		Hallelujah! Praised Be the Son	
37		7	Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus	The Lord ascended up on high.
38	30		Our Saviour, When He Told His Own	
39	31		The Lord Ascended Up on High	
40	32		Christ, Above All Glory Seated	
41	33		Where High the Heavenly Temple Stands	
42	34		Lo, What a Cloud of Witnesses	
43	35		Rejoice, the Lord is King	
44		18	Christ Shall Have Dominion	
45	36		He Has Come the Holy Spirit	He has come, the Holy Spirit.
46	37		Come, Praise the Holy Spirit	
47	38		The Spirit, Sent from Heaven Above	
48		8	The Spirit Came, as Promised	
49	39		O Faithful is This Well-known Word	Watch o'er Your Church, O Lord.
50	40		The Church's One Foundation	
51	41		A Mighty Fortress is Our God	
52	42		O God, Our Help in Ages Past	
53	43		Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode	
54	45		Loving Shepherd of Thy sheep	
55	44		Come, Take by Faith the Body of the Lord	
56		10	Until He Comes	
57	46		We Thank You, Father, Who Have Planted	
58		9	For the Bread Which You Have Broken	
59	47		The Lord's prayer	
60	49		What is in Life and Death My Only Aid	
61	48		If You But Let the Father Guide You	
62		17	Great is Thy Faithfulness	
63	50		Come! Lord Jesus! Maranatha!	Come, Lord Jesus! Maranatha!
64	51		Jesus is Our Sure Defence	
65	52		Lo, Round the Throne, a Glorious Band	
66		19	Day of Judgment! Day of Wonders	
67	53		The Hope of Faith Shall Not Deceive Us	
68	54		Behold, the Amazing Gift of Love	
69	55		Lo, What a Glorious Sight Appeared	
70	56		Our Outer Nature Wastes Away	
71	57		Thank the Lord and Come With Praise	
72	59		We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator	
73	60		Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	
74		1	We Come O Christ to You	
75	61		Give to Our God Immortal Praise	
76		26	O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing	
77	62		All Glory be to Thee Most high	
78	63		I'll Thank Thee, O My God and Saviour	
79	64		Ye Servants of God	
80	65		Now Thank We All Our God	

SECTION SIX

12.0 Acknowledgements, Conclusion and Proposal

12.1 Acknowledgements

The Committee’s mandate was wide in scope and therefore it was not unexpected that the Committee required expert advice in specific areas. The Committee is grateful that such advice was always provided when requested. The Committee therefore wishes to acknowledge with appreciation the contributions of the following individuals in their respective areas of expertise:

Mr. F. Ezinga (Langley, BC) Synod-appointed advisor for music related issues.

Dr. K. Dieleman (Lansing, IL) Synod-appointed advisor for language related issues.

Mr. G. van Popta (Langley, BC) for his invaluable legal advice especially with respect to copyright issues.

Mr. Bernie Harsevoort (Ancaster, ON) for creating and hosting (at no charge) the Committee’s web page.

Rev. C. Bosch (Burlington ON), for serving as archivist for the Committee.

Dr. C. Van Dam (Burlington, ON), Dr. J. Smith (Albany, Western Australia) and Dr. G. Kwakkel (Kampen, The Netherlands) for advice in Psalm-related matters.

12.2 Conclusion and Proposal

Conclusion:

In presenting this Report to the churches for discussion at General Synod Burlington 2010, the Standing Committee for the Publication of the Book of Praise recognizes that much material requiring consideration and decision-making is placed before you. The revision of the 150 Psalms in the Anglo-Genevan Psalter, and the proposed revised Hymn section, along with the NIV prose text approved at GS 2007, will result into a completely new *Book of Praise*. The importance of this Report as a means of interacting with the churches via General Synod 2010 cannot be overstated: The *Book of Praise* belongs to the churches!

The Committee’s task is to present the churches with the best possible version of an Anglo-Genevan Psalter and a hymn section that together make up the songs in the *Book of Praise*. As a Committee, we feel that we have done so in this report. We recognize that there are differences in the items we place before you. Some material is new, while much material is based on what we currently have already:

- a. The revised Psalms in essence have not changed. Based on the original Hebrew text, the revised metrical version represents a linguistic update rather than a change in content. We are confident that the process that subjected Dr. Helder’s

work to a round of committee review, followed by a second round using the comments received from the churches, along with the feedback solicited from Old Testament scholars, has resulted in a thorough and trustworthy revision of the Psalms now before you.

- b. In the review and subsequent revision of (some of) the 65 Hymns in the hymn section, we followed a similar approach and geared our efforts primarily towards bringing the language of the hymns in line with the source text.
- c. The proposed new hymn items have received a thorough review after a period of testing resulting in feedback from many churches. A round of review by the *ad hoc* committee, followed by a final review by the *Book of Praise* Committee itself has resulted in the proposal presently before you.

In light of the three considerations above, the Committee is confident that the 2009 edition of the *Book of Praise* now before you, consisting of the 150 Psalms (The *Anglo-Genevan Psalter*, 2009) and the 80 Hymns in the hymn section, is ready for use in the worship service.

Further we recognize that while allowing for due process to occur, we also need to be prudent in what we ask of the churches (and families and schools) given the financial implications that would be involved in printing 12,000 copies of a provisional version. It would mean that everyone would need to purchase two copies (an interim and a “final” edition) within a short time span. Realistically, it may well be that many would skip purchasing the interim version, thus in practice defeating the very intent for churches, families, and schools to become acquainted with the new text.

Proposal:

After due consideration of all the options, the Committee is unanimous when it proposes to General Synod Burlington 2010 to adopt for use in the worship service:

1. The proposed revised text of the 150 Psalms of the *Anglo-Genevan Psalter* (Ref. Par. 8.3a).
2. The proposed revisions to the current collection of 65 (66) Hymns (Ref. Par. 9.2).
3. The addition of 14 hymns presented in the Augment, bringing the total of hymns in the hymn section to 80 (Ref. Par. 8.3b and Par. 10.3 IV).

To this end, the Committee requests General Synod to authorize the Committee to publish a new edition of the *Book of Praise* containing the revised *Anglo-Genevan Psalter* and the hymns adopted by General Synod as outlined above.

13.0 Summary of Requests for a Decision by Synod.

- 13.1 Re: Par 2.1 The committee seeks the approval from Synod to negotiate the continuation of this contract for an additional five (5) years with an expiry date of February 28, 2017.
- 13.2 Re: Par 3.0 The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to foster an increased awareness of the existence of the *Book of Praise*, among others in the English-speaking world, be continued.
- 13.3 Re: Par 4.2.4 The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to maintain contact with our Australian sister churches be continued
- 13.4 Re: Par 5.1 The Committee requests Synod that the mandate to maintain its corporate status be continued for the purpose of protecting the interests of the Canadian Reformed Churches in matters concerning the *Book of Praise*.
- 13.5 Re: Par 6.0 The committee requests that the mandate to receive, scrutinize and evaluate the contents correspondence from the churches be continued and to report to the next General Synod as to the validity of the suggestions made.
- 13.6 Re: Par 7.2 The Committee recommends that Synod thank Dr. Gootjes for his work as a member of the Committee.
- 13.7 Re: Par 7.4 The Committee proposes that Synod decide to:
appoint A.J. de Visser for three 3-year terms (2019)
reappoint C.van Halen-Faber one 3-year term (2013)
reappoint D.G. Agema for an additional 3 year term (2013)
reappoint C.J. Nobels for two additional 3-year terms (2016)
reappoint G.Ph. van Popta for two additional 3-year terms (2016)
- 13.8 Re: Par 7.5 The Committee request Synod that F. Ezinga (music) and K. Dieleman (language) be reappointed as language and music advisors respectively.
- 13.9 Re: Par 8.3 The Committee recommends that Synod
a. adopt this revised Psalter, including the revised preface, for full use by the churches and
b. that this revised Psalter be published in the next edition of the *Book of Praise*.
- 13.10 Re: Par 9.2 The Committee requests that Synod adopt the Committee's recommendation regarding the proposed changes to the existing hymns, and direct the Committee to publish these changes in the next edition of the *Book of Praise*.
- 13.11 Re: Par 10.2 (II) The Committee requests that Synod adopt the Committee's proposals and direct the Committee to add the fourteen (14) proposed hymns to the Hymn section and to publish them in the next edition of the *Book of Praise*.
- 13.12 Re: Par 10.2 (III) The Committee wants to be clear that in adherence to copyright law, royalties will need to be paid for the use of four of the hymns proposed, i.e., Augment numbers 1, 7, 8

and 17. These royalties amount to approximately \$0.125 per printed copy. This will apply also to future reprints of the *Book of Praise*. At each printing, the Committee will ensure that these costs are paid out of the *General Fund* of the churches.

- 13.13 Re: Par 10.3 (IV) The Committee is seeking direction from the Synod with respect to the question whether – with the addition of 14 hymns as proposed – the search for additional hymns is completed or whether the churches are looking for more hymns to be added in the future.
- 13.14 Re: Par 11.1 The Committee requests that Synod adopt the Committee's proposal regarding the renumbering of the hymns and direct the Committee to publish these changes in the next edition of the *Book of Praise*.
- 13.15 Re: Par 12.2 The Committee proposes to General Synod Burlington 2010 to adopt for use in the worship service:
1. The proposed revised text of the 150 Psalms of the *Anglo-Genevan Psalter* (Ref. Par. 8.3a).
 2. The proposed revisions to the current collection of 65 (66) Hymns (Ref. Par. 9.2).
 3. The addition of 14 hymns presented in the Augment, bringing the total of hymns in the hymn section to 80 (Ref. Par. 8.3b and Par. 10.3 IV).
- 13.16 Re: Par 12.2 The Committee requests General Synod to authorize the Committee to publish a new edition of the *Book of Praise* containing the revised *Anglo-Genevan Psalter* and the hymns adopted by General Synod as outlined above.

Respectfully submitted,

The Standing Committee for the Publication of the Book of Praise:

Douwe G.J. Agema
 Arjan J. de Visser
 Christiaan J. Nobels, secretary/treasurer
 Christine van Halen-Faber
 George Ph.van Popta, chairman

APPENDIX A

LIST OF CHANGES IN REVISED PSALMS
(TEXT 'AS WAS' ON WEB)

The proposed psalm text in this report to Synod is not identical to what was published on .

All of the psalms underwent a thorough review since publishing them there and, as a result, many suggestions from churches were incorporated.

The lines below are from the psalms as published on and are those lines that are different in this proposal to Synod.

Listed by psalm and stanza with their line numbers.

Psalm 1

- 1. 3. and will not seek the company of scoffers;
4. Their way of life to him no pleasure offers.
5. But in the law of God is his delight;
6. On it he meditates both day and night.
- 2. 1. Those who the precepts of the LORD obey
2. and from His good commandments do not stray
3. Are like a tree which, planted by a river,
4. is lush and green: its leaves will never wither,
5. And it in season yields abundant fruit.
6. So they will thrive, whatever their pursuit.
- 3. 2. Like worthless chaff. The wind blows it away.

Psalm 2

- 3. 2. I will repeat His public declaration:

Psalm 3

- 1. 3. Who rise up to accuse me,
- 2. 3. Not leaving me forsaken.
7. Though thousands me beset,
8. The LORD will not forget

Psalm 4

- 1. 9. Lies and illusions, vain and hollow?

Psalm 5

6. 4. They carry on their oily chatter

Psalm 6

- 1 1. Chide me, O Lord, no longer

Psalm 8

1. 1. O LORD, our Lord, O God of our salvation,
3. You who have set Your majesty on high
4. Beyond the skies for man to glorify.
2. 1. Out of the mouth of infants praise is sounded,
2. And so a mighty bulwark You have founded,
3. For You through them Your power and glory show
4. To silence the avenger and the foe.
4. 1. Yet You but little less than gods have made him,
2. And You with glorious honour have arrayed him,
3. That over Your creation he might reign;
4. You have assigned all things as man's domain.
5. 3. And all the fish and creatures of the sea.

Psalm 9

9. 2. Those who the LORD forget and spurn.

Psalm 10

- 6 1. But, LORD, You do take note of

Psalm 13

1. 1. How long, O LORD, will You forget?
2. Far from Your face I wait and fret.
3. How long yet must I bear my sorrow?
4. My heart longs for Your mercy's morrow.
5. Why am I still with foes beset?
2. 1. Look, LORD my God, and answer me.
2. Grant that my eyes Your light may see,
3. Lest, when the light of life shall fail me,
4. When foes with joy and pride assail me,
5. My fall delight my enemy.
3. 4. LORD, You I'll praise with jubilation,
5. For in Your goodness I found rest.

Psalm 14

3. 2. As though they eat their bread, they are devouring

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Psalm 15

1. LORD, who may in Your tent abide
2. And have mount Zion for his dwelling?

Psalm 18

8. 4. Your stainless innocence and purity.

Psalm 19

4. 10. It sweeter is by far
6. 11. O LORD so great in might,
12. My rock and my defender

Psalm 22

4. 4. O God my Keeper.
9. 1. I'll sing my praises where God's people meet;
2. I'll keep the vows that I will there repeat.

Psalm 23

2. 1. Though in death's valley, lonely and forsaken,
2. I am by gloom and shadows overtaken,
3. I fear no evil, for You are beside me
3. 6. And in Your house, LORD, I shall dwell forever.

Psalm 24

4. 3. Let Him come in, the King of glory.
4. Who is that King of glorious fame?
6. He who in battle goes before me.
5. 4. Who is that King, in glory great?

Psalm 25

7. 5. I on Him my eyes have set

Psalm.26

6. 5. With vile intrigues acquainted,
7. 2. Redeem and pity me!

Psalm 27

3. 6. And with melodious hymns His mercy laud.

Psalm 28

3. 5. The works of God those foes ignore;
4. 1. Praised be the LORD for my salvation.

5.
 1. The LORD, He is our strength and power.
 2. A saving refuge and a tower
 3. Is He for whom He has anointed
 4. And for those as His heirs appointed.

Psalm 33

1.
 1. Rejoice in God, you who are righteous,
 3. Praise well becomes those who are upright;
2.
 1. He by His word has made the heavens;
 2. their host appeared by His decree.
3.
 1. God brings to nought the nations' counsel;
6.
 3. Because of Him, our heart rejoices,

Psalm 34

7.
 1. But when the righteous cry,
 2. The LORD in mercy hears their pleas;
9.
 4. He'll to perdition send.

Psalm 36

1.
 1. Those who in evil deeds rejoice
 2. Hear in their heart a wicked voice;
 3. It whispers and it flatters.
 4. The fear of God is far from them;
 5. They have no sense of guilt or shame,
 6. Those proud and scheming plotters
 7. Their words are lies, their wisdom's gone;
 8. All their transgressions urge them on.
 9. In sin they find their pleasure.
 10. All through the night they plan deceit;
 11. On wicked ways they set their feet.
 12. Their evil is their treasure.
2.
 1. O LORD, Your faithfulness and love
 2. Reach to the highest heav'ns above.
 3. Your justice, firmly standing,
 4. Is like the mountains vast and steep;
 5. Your judgments are an awesome deep,
 6. Both man and beast defending.
 7. Your people all rejoice and sing,
 8. For in the shadow of Your wings
 9. You will not let them perish.
 12. Your priceless love they cherish.

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3. 9. May God His justice render.
10. See those who revelled in their sin:
11. They fell and will not rise again.
12. The LORD is my defender.

Psalm 37

1. 4. They like green herbs will wither presently.
2. 2. If you make Him your joy and your delight.
4. 6. All gone, reduced to nothing in the end.
5. 2. And will delight in peace within their gates.
7. 5. Their days He knows, and them He in compassion
8. 5. And vanish like the smoke of burning stubble.
10. 3. I once was young, age now its toll has taken,
4. But always God the righteous would defend;

Psalm 42

2. 6. For the days when shouting throngs
5. 5. In His mercy I delight;
6. I will sing all through the night,
7. And in prayer, transcending distance,
8. Seek the God of my existence.

Psalm 43

5. 6. My helper and my God.

Psalm 47

1. 6. Sign to Jacob of God's electing love.

Psalm 48

2. 6. They in panic took to flight,
7. And the pain that made them tremble
8. Throes of travail did resemble.
9. Ships of Tarshish all were scattered,
10. By the east wind wrecked and shattered.
4. 9. God, our God will leave us never,
10. He will be our guide forever.

Psalm 49

5. 6. He will not see the light of day again.

Psalm 50

10. 2. You thought I shared your malice and ill will
6. Or I will rend you, and not one will save you.

Psalm 51

4. 2. And put a steadfast spirit deep within me;
6. Your Holy Spirit. Let me, O my Saviour,
7. Again the joy of Your salvation see,
7. 3. Build Zion's walls, O God. Uphold her towers,
5. In sacrifices You will then delight,
6. In bullocks rightly offered on Your altar;
7. Burnt offerings will be pleasing in Your sight.
8. Your love and mercy will not fail or falter.

Psalm 52

1. 1. Why do you boast, O man so mighty,
2. 1. For you love evil more than merit
3. 1. But God will ruin you forever
4. 1. In awe the just whom he afflicted
2. Will laugh at him and say,
5. 1. But like the olive tree I flourish
6. 1. I will extol Your name for ever;

Psalm 53

3. 2. As though they eat their bread, they are devouring

Psalm 55

3. 1. If I had wings to flee this welter
2. And like a dove could search for shelter,
7. 5. And I will evening, morning, noon

Psalm 56

3. 4. When foes of joy bereave me.

Psalm 57

4. 2. And will with music praise my glorious King.

Psalm 60

4. 1. "My foes I with My taunting sting:
4. In Palestine shout my fame."

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Psalm 61

5. 1. God of love, the king's life lengthen

Psalm 62

7. 1. God once has spoken, twice I've heard
2. The sure and never-failing word

Psalm 63

4. 2. Death's deep abyss will soon receive them.
4. They shall become the jackal's prey.
5. But then the king in God shall glory

Psalm 65

6. 1. The year is crowned, O Fount of blessing,

Psalm 67

3. 1. O God, let every tribe and nation
2. Praise You with shouts of thankfulness.
3. Let them all come with jubilation:
4. The land has yielded its increase.
6. He shall richly bless us –

Psalm 68

2. 1. But let the just with joyful voice
9. 11. I for My people will prepare
12. 3. To God sing joyful praises,
4. To Him who in the heavens rides,
5. Who in the ancient skies resides,
6. From where His voice He raises.
7. Ascribe then strength to God alone,
8. Whose glory is in Israel known,
9. Whose might is in the heavens.
10. He from His temple terror sows,
11. But on His people strength bestows.
12. To God let praise be given.

Psalm 69

4. 2. The taunts of all those taunting You distress me;
3. And when I weep and fast, my foes oppress me.

Psalm 71

6. 4. Who seek my hurt and who accuse me
7. 4. LORD, in Your righteousness I'll glory.

Psalm 72

6. 5. May Sheba's king with gifts adore him,

Psalm 73

2. 8. And in their hearts illusions grow.
7. 5. Yet I'll be with You to the end,
6. For You will hold me by my hand.
7. Your counsel guides me all my days,

Psalm 75

1. 1. You, O God, yes, You we praise
2. And we give You thanks, O LORD,
3. For the proud get their reward
4. And the wicked You will raze,
5. But we laud Your mercy's fount,
6. And Your wonders we recount.
6. 2. Giving thanks to Jacob's God.

Psalm 78

6. 1. He worked great marvels, and their fathers saw them;
- 9 6. And bring us meat, that we may so be fed?"
11. 1. Yet to the skies His orders He had given;
2. God opened wide the very doors of heaven.
3. He showed His mercy, Israel sustaining
17. 1. How often they would all rebel and leave Him,
2. And with their evil in the desert grieve Him!
- 21 5. And to His holy land He brought His own,
25. 1. Then did fierce flames their strong young men devour;
2. Their maidens had no bridal song or bower.

Psalm 79

1. 7. The saints whom they have slaughtered;
3. 1. Remember not the misdeeds of our fathers;
2. Hold not their guilt against us, LORD, but rather
7. True to Your promises,
8. Hear us in our distress
9. And pardon our transgressions.

Psalm 80

4. 5. And, covering many a mighty tree,

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Psalm 81

8.
 1. "Worship Me alone.
 2. Gods of heathen nations,
 3. Made of wood or stone,
 4. You shall never serve.
 5. They do not deserve
 6. Any adoration.

9.
 1. "I, the LORD, am He
 2. Who from Egypt freed you.
 3. Place your trust in Me;
 4. Open your mouth wide;
 5. With what I provide
 6. I will richly feed you.

11.
 2. I let them surrender.

Psalm 82

1.
 5. "How long yet will you disobey Me?
 6. You judge unjustly and dismay Me,
 7. For you show partiality
 8. To wicked men whose sins you see.

3.
 1. "I called you gods; you I exalted

Psalm 84

4.
 7. O God, our shield, from heaven above

5.
 4. Yes, nothing gives me joy so great.
 5. Only to stand there at the gate,
 6. The entrance to Your habitation,
 7. Is better than to dwell within

Psalm 85

4.
 3. Up from the ground fidelity sprouts forth;

Psalm 86

2.
 1. You are good, in grace abounding,
 2. Me with steadfast love surrounding.
 3. On Your mercy I rely;
 4. Listen to my troubled cry.
 5. You, O LORD, will hear my pleading.
 6. There's no god in might exceeding
 7. You, O God. How great You are,
 8. Great Your deeds beyond compare!

Psalm 87

2.
 2. Are spoken in melodious tones of you:
 3. "Egypt will I include, and Babel too,

3.
 1. "The Moor with the Philistine and the Tyrian
 2. Shall soon, O Zion, throng your holy gate.
 3. In songs of joy I'll hear her sons relate:
 4. 'These all were born within the walls of Zion.'"
4.
 1. God will Himself confirm it with His blessing,
 2. And on the roll of nations He will count
 3. All these as born on Zion's holy mount,
 4. In many tongues one God, one faith confessing.
5.
 1. Then shall God's name with holy adoration
 2. And joyful tones be praised by Israel's throng.
 3. Both harp and voice will blend in swelling song:
 4. "In Zion are the founts of my salvation."

Psalm 89

- 1
 4. Proclaim Your faithfulness, Your promise of salvation.
 6. For in the heav'ns You have established it forever.
4.
 4. And with Your mighty arm Your enemies You scattered
6.
 2. who know the festal shout and of Your mercies sing.
9.
 6. "My Father and my God, the Rock of my salvation!"

Psalm 90

1.
 1. For all Your people through the generations
 2. You, Lord, have been the haven of salvation.

Psalm 91

1.
 3. Beneath the shadow of His grace;

Psalm 96

5.
 1. To Him, the LORD, your off'rings render
7.
 1. Your joy display, O glorious heavens

Psalm 97

4.
 5. LORD God Most High, You are
 6. The greatest god by far.
 7. The earth is Yours alone;
 8. Exalted is Your throne.
 9. None can with You compare.
5.
 1. God with His love will bless
 2. Those who hate wickedness.
 3. From evil men deliver.

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Psalm 98

2. 3. The whole wide world beheld His glory;
4. They saw His righteousness prevail

4. 3. Let rivers clap their hands with rapture;

Psalm 99

4. 2. Later Samuel called on His as well.
4. He in tribulation heard their supplication.

Psalm 100

1. 4. Come unto Him with songs of praise.

2. 3. His people, who extol His ways,
4. The sheep that in His pasture graze.

Psalm 101

6. 3. And each new day those who still jeer and scoff
4. I will cut off.

Psalm 103

6. 3. And then will sear and wither in the wind;
4. It soon is gone, not leaving any traces.

7. 3. Will rest on those who fear Him all their days.
6. Uphold His cov'nant and His laws obey.

Psalm 104

2. 4. Waves rushed and fled at Your rebuke, Your thunder.
5. Hills then sprang up, while valleys sank and drowned,
6. And mighty oceans You with limits bound.

3. 3. You quench the thirst of all things living,
5. There by the streams nests every kind of bird;
8. Your works bless earth like overflowing fountains.

6. 7. It is for ships a place to make their way in,
8. And for Leviathan a place to play in.

Psalm 106

8. 2. And to a metal image prayed,
3. Exchanged for it the LORD's great splendour,

14. 5. Thus every future generation
6 Will credit him with righteousness.

17. 4. Poured out for them their children's blood.
5. They led those innocents to slaughter

Psalm 107

2. 1. Let His redeemed now say this –
2. Those whom the LORD set free –
3. For He their strength and stay is;
4. Gone is their enemy.
5. Let all then praise His name!
7. From east and west they came;

Psalm 108

4. 1. "My foes I with My taunting sting:
4. In Palestine I shout my fame."

Psalm 109

4. 1. Waifs be the sons he has begotten;
2. His wife be widowed and forgotten.
5. May creditors seize all he's won,
6. his work by strangers be undone.
5. 6. Always before the LORD remain.
10. 6. And my accusers wag their head.

Psalm 110

5. 1. The Lord is at Your right hand; He will shatter
3. Then all the nations He will judge and slaughter,

Psalm 114

1. 1. When Israel escaped from Egypt's reach,
2. All Jacob's house from people of strange speech,
4. 1. Tremble, O earth, before the Lord, and fear,
2. For Jacob's God in glory did appear

Psalm 115

2. 1. Our God in heav'n, enthroned midst, cherubim,
7. 3. May you be blessed from heaven
4. By Him who heav'n's and earth's foundations laid.
5. His are the heavens, but the earth He made

Psalm 116

1. 1. I love the LORD, the fount of life and grace;
2. He heard my voice, my cry and supplication,
3. Inclined His ear, gave strength and consolation.
4. While I have breath, I'll therefore seek His face.
2. 2. The terrors of the grave caused me to languish.
3. I suffered untold grief and bitter anguish;

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Psalm 118

4. 7. He, though He punished me severely,
6. 7. Hosanna, LORD! Grant us Your blessings.
8. LORD, prosper those who are Your own.

Psalm 119

4. 4. O let my heart be wholly Your possession.
9. 1. Though princes may together scheme and plot,
15. 4. Good are Your laws, acclaimed by all who fear You.
18. 5. I reach out for Your statutes and rejoice
21. 1. Your statutes are the theme of all my songs
31. 5. Though I'm a wineskin shrivelled in the smoke,
40. 1. Your word is as a lamp unto my feet,
45. 4. The wicked You will put to shame and humble.
5. I fear the righteous judgments You display;
6. The dread of You, LORD, makes my body tremble.
58. 4. As You have sworn, allow my life to flourish.

Psalm 121

1. 2. In all my grief and fear,
3. From where will help appear?
2. 2. For He is at your side
3. And will support provide.
3. 3. In a forsaken land.

Psalm 122

2. 2. Is built as a close-knit unity

Psalm 123

1. 1. To You in heav'n, our King so good and great,

Psalm 124

1. 1. Let Israel now say in thankfulness
2. That if the LORD had not our cause maintained
3. And if the LORD had not with us remained.,
4. When cruel men against us rose to strive,

2.
 1. Yes, when their wrath against us fiercely rose,
 2. Then would the tide have drowned us in its waves;
 3. The torrent would have swept us to our graves;
 4. The surging flood in proudly swelling roll
 5. Most surely would have overwhelmed us all.

3.
 1. Blest be the LORD, who made us not their prey;
 2. As from the fowler's net a bird may flee,
 3. So from their broken snare did we go free.
 4. Our only help is in the LORD's great name;
 5. He made the earth and all the heavenly frame.

Psalm 127

1.
 2. Its builders toil in useless pain;
 3. The city's keepers watch in vain
 4. Unless the LORD its cause espouse.

2.
 4. Why sweat and toil and heave your sighs?

3.
 1. Your children all are gifts from Him,
 2. His heritage your blest reward.
 3. Sons of his youth like arrows guard
 4. The man whose quiver's full of them,
 5. And when contending with his foe,
 6. He in the gate his power will show.

4. Entirely new stanza in new proposal.

Psalm 129

3.
 3. Make them like weeds that on the housetops grow,
 4. That, dry and withered, die before they flower.

4.
 2. Such worthless grass no binder cares to rescue.

Psalm 130

4.
 3. His plenteous salvation
 4. He'll send you from above.
 5. He will redeem His people,
 6. His chosen Israel,
 7. From all their sin and evil
 8. And so their gloom dispel.

Psalm 131

1.
 3. I shun great matters, and I flee
 4. From things too marvellous for me.

2.
 1. But I have set my soul at rest.
 2. As, sheltered at its mother's breast,
 3. A child may linger quietly,
 4. So is my soul at peace in me.

NOTES

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3. 2. The just will in His presence dwell.
3. 3. Trust in His mercy, Him adore
4. 4. From this time forth and evermore.

Psalm 132

6. 4. A son shall from your body spring
7. 4. I will to their sons, too, pass on

Psalm 133

2. 2. The dew that Zion's hills receive as blessing

Psalm 134

2. 3. Come, bless the LORD and in His house
4. 3. And prosper you from this day forth –
4. 4. Our God who made both heav'n and earth.

Psalm 135

1. 3. You that stand within His house,

Psalm 136

3. 1. He by wisdom framed the skies,
2. 2. Made the earth from ocean rise,

Psalm 139

1. 6. Lays bare my secret hopes and yearnings.
4. 5. The grave can from Your eyes not hide me,
6. 6. For even there You are beside me.
12. 5. I with a perfect hatred hate them!
6. 6. May woes and misery await them.

Psalm 140

5. 1. Let my foes' wishes not be granted;

Psalm 141

1. 1. LORD, hasten! Hear my supplication.
2. 1. Preserve me from deceit and folly
3. 1. Let not my heart to sin incite me,
5. 1. All evildoers – I detest them.
6. 1. Where earth is ploughed, where rocks are shattered,
2. 2. These barren fields are strewn with stones
7. 1. O LORD, I fix my gaze directly

Psalm 143

3. 5. And think of all Your works and ways.
6. 2. To You, my rock, I flee for cover.

Psalm 145

4. 5. All creatures turn their eyes to You with reason,
5. 2. He in His deeds His bounteous love displays
3. To all who call on Him the LORD is near;

Psalm 146

3. 2. Him who listens to his pleas,
3. Jacob's God, the LORD so faithful,
4. Who, made heav'n and earth, the seas,
5. And all creatures of the deep.
6. He forever faith will keep.
5. 3. But He will destroy the wicked.

Psalm 147

3. 5. In strength of steeds is not His pleasure,
6. Nor is men's fleetness what He treasures.
6. 8. And in His steadfast love rejoicing.

Psalm 148

2. 6. Praise Him, you monsters in the oceans,

Psalm 150

2. 2. With the trumpet's joyous blast.
3. 1. Come, let clashing cymbals ring
2. To the praise of God our King.
3. Clang loud cymbals and rejoice;
4. Praise Him with the joyful noise.

APPENDIX B

Summary of the Report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee

to the Standing Committee for the Publication of the Book of Praise for evaluating the Churches' comments on the *Augment to Hymnary*

INTRODUCTION

The Standing Committee for the Book of Praise (SCBP) appointed an *ad hoc* committee of members from the churches in Winnipeg to summarize and evaluate the feedback received from the churches on the *Augment to Hymnary*. Additionally, the *Augment ad hoc* committee was asked to determine the suitability and/or acceptability of the hymns by considering the comments from the churches in light of the adopted Principles and Guidelines. The *Augment ad hoc* committee made use of the comments provided by the churches to General Synod Smithers 2007, the responses from 44 churches to the SCBP since General Synod Smithers 2007, the questionnaires returned by the churches, and the responses from individuals forwarded by the churches to the SCBP.

Based on the reactions by the churches the *Augment ad hoc* committee notes that the *Augment* has received mixed reactions within the churches and among the churches as whole. Several churches were positive about the *Augment* and expressed the hope that a number of the hymns will find their way into our *Book of Praise*. They consider the majority of the proposed hymns to be acceptable for use in the worship services. Other churches consider the *Augment* not to be a significant improvement to the current selection of hymns in the *Book of Praise*. They feel that the *Augment* hymns do not significantly add to the quality of our worship of the Lord. There continues to be a concern that the addition of hymns will negatively affect the priority of singing of Psalms in the worship services. Many churches indicated that there seems to be a general consensus that the *Book of Praise* is very positive in its present form, and that there is really no need for additional hymns and further changes. Again other churches were somewhat disappointed with the hymns that were chosen, considering the many beautiful and Scriptural hymns that are available. The reactions to the tunes were mixed as well. Some found the tunes enjoyable; others found many of the hymns not particularly singable or not suitable for congregational singing. Several churches comment on archaic language in the proposed hymns. This seems to run counter to the desire of the Committee to update the Psalms. It would seem inherently inconsistent to adopt hymns that retain the use of archaic language.

In response to some of these comments, the *Augment ad hoc* committee considers:

1. previous Synods have addressed the concerns about increasing the number of hymns by limiting the total possible number of hymns to one hundred.

2. though the Psalms cover all of the subject material dealt with in the proposed hymns, they do so from the perspective of the old covenant. The hymns add something, in allowing us to sing directly about the works of our triune God, Christ's birth, Christ's death, Christ's resurrection, Christ's ascension, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, Christ's reign from the right hand of the Father, and His return on the clouds of heaven.

With regard to most of the comments from the churches, the *Augment ad hoc* committee feels the proposed hymns will need to be evaluated individually, to assess whether or not they should be adopted.

The *Augment ad hoc* committee presents the following recommendation: In order to serve the churches fairly, the *ad hoc* committee thought it wise to present two options. The two options reflect the churches' two different responses to the proposed *Augment to Hymnary*, as well as the two different positions within the *ad hoc* committee based on the churches' submissions.

Option 1:

1. To evaluate the 28 new proposed hymns on an individual basis to determine whether or not they should be included in the *Book of Praise*.
2. To publish any of the new proposed hymns adopted in melody-only settings.
3. To modernize the language of any of the proposed new hymns adopted, doing away with archaic wording and terminology where feasible.
4. To continue to limit the total possible number of hymns in our *Book of Praise* to one hundred.
5. To mandate the Standing Committee for the *Book of Praise* to receive proposals for additional hymns from the churches. Churches that desire to see a new hymn added to the *Book of Praise* are required to:
 - 5.1. Clearly show a deficiency in the current *Book of Praise* that warrants the inclusion of this hymn.
 - 5.2. Demonstrate that the new hymn clearly meets the "Guidelines for Selecting Songs" given on page 3 of the *Augment to Hymnary*. Particular attention should be paid to the lyrics, to ensure that they are thoroughly Biblical, and that they faithfully express the teachings of Scripture as summarized in the Reformed confessions.

Option 2:

To make the decision not to adopt any of the proposed hymns in the *Augment*.

Grounds:

1. The vast majority of hymns proposed do not find their origin in Scripture passages.
2. Many churches judge the *Augment to Hymnary* not to be a significant

improvement and not to add to the quality of our worship to the Lord.

- 3. Many churches express concerns that the hymns are not Scripturally accurate, or, at best, are unclear.
- 4. Many churches do not feel the need for more hymns, and express concerns that increasing the number of hymns will lead to less Psalm singing.
- 5. A number of churches and individuals express concerns about the deviation from the mandate and intention of early synods for the churches' song book and want the SCBP and Synod to revert to the original mandate for the selection of songs for the *Book of Praise*.

THE AD HOC COMMITTEE'S EVALUATION OF THE CHURCHES' COMMENTS ON THE AUGMENT HYMNS

Hymn 1 - We Come, O Christ, to You

Comments received from the churches:

- This song does not meet Guideline 1. It promotes one-sided worship of Jesus. It confuses the works of the Triune God, in essence ascribing all works to Christ.
- This hymn shows a good understanding of the triune nature of our God, and properly reflects the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, working together for our salvation. This hymn should be included because of its many biblical references (Act.17:28; 1Pet.1:19; Joh.14:16; Joh.10:10; Col.1:17 and Joh.8:58).
- This song does not meet the category, "We praise Thee, Father, Son and Holy Spirit," since it speaks only of Christ and His work. With seven hymns in the category "We praise Thee, Father, Son and Holy Spirit," another hymn is not needed.
- Stanza 1 "We come, O Christ, to you" - Various churches have difficulty with this phrase. We set Christ apart from the Father and the Spirit. We do not come to Christ directly, but we come to the Father through Christ, by the Holy Spirit. This phrase focuses on the action of our coming to Christ rather than God calling us to come.
- Stanza 1 "in You alone we live and move and have our being in Your love." - This is a quotation from Acts 17:28, but there this work is attributed to God, and not specifically to Christ as done in this hymn. Thus this song does not meet Guidelines 1 and 4.
- Stanza 2, "Your love has met Your law's demand" - The Scriptures refer to it as God's law and see Christ as the Mediator.
- Stanza 3, "You are the source of every skill." - Christ is not the source of every skill as the hymn extols, but the Holy Spirit. (Exodus 31:2-5; 35:30-35)
- Stanza 3 "the one eternal true" - Various churches have difficulty with referring to God as "the one eternal true." The word "true" is not a noun, and sounds odd in this context.
- Stanza 3 "sure answer to our every quest" - Not every request is a legitimate one, and God certainly does not answer sinful quests. While

Christ and His gospel are certainly a “sure answer” to every quest, man’s sinful heart will never seek Him (see Psalm 14, 53).

- Stanza 4 “In us each day Your life renew.” - This is not scriptural. Does Jesus renew His life in us, or does He renew us every day by His Holy Spirit?

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Re “We come, O Christ, to You.” - We may worship the individual members of the Trinity. Scripture gives examples where Jesus Christ our Lord receives and accepts the worship of man (Mat.28:9; Joh.20:28; Rev.1:17). It also teaches that Christ is worthy of our praise and adoration (Joh.5:21; Heb.1:6; Rev.5). In the Athanasian Creed we confess that “we worship one God in trinity and trinity in unity, without either confusing the persons or dividing the substance.” In and of itself this expression is not wrong. But in the context of the hymn, the three persons of the Trinity get confused, and all works are attributed to Christ.
- Re “by whom all things consist.” - Should be “through,” for reasons given. The intent of the hymn is to say that Christ is the source of all life. That is true, both in creation and in redemption.
- Re “in You alone we live and move and have our being in your love.” - Acts 17:28, from which this is derived, speaks of God the Father. It is not precise to attribute this to Christ.
- Re: “Your love has met Your law’s demands.” - It is not precise to refer to the law as Christ’s law. It is better to refer to “the” law, to maintain Christ’s place as Mediator.
- Re: “You are the source of every skill.” - This is not precise. The Holy Spirit is the one who equips us with gifts and skills.
- Re: “the one eternal True.” - “True” is an adjective, used as a noun. The expression is not very intelligible or edifying.
- Re: “sure answer to our every quest.” - Perhaps these words are not fully intelligible to all. “Quest” does not refer to “request,” but to “a search or pursuit made to find something.”
- Re: “In us each day Your life renew.” - It is more precise to say that Christ renews us by His Spirit.

Recommendations:

Suggested Amendments:

- Replace “by whom all things consist” with “through whom all things consist.”
- Replace “Your love has met Your law’s demands” with “Your love has met the law’s demands.”

Overall recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 2 - Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Comments received from the churches:

- Some churches expressed concerns about the five notes on one syllable, finding this unsuitable for our worship, and difficult to sing. Other churches consider the melody well known and easy to sing.

- This hymn consists of a whole row of incomplete sentences. This also means that the phrases can easily seem hollow, in that there is no progression or narrative line.
- The text is often unclear, leaving many questions about what is meant, the verbs and pronouns are not infrequently omitted: “Where [is] your victory, O grave?” and “[He] Fought the fight, the battle won.”
- This hymn is solely about Christ.
- This is a well-known hymn that has an awesome message of Christ’s resurrection, His victory over sin and death, and our hope and praise in this victory.
- The repetition of “Alleluia” is overdone and excessive.
- Stanza 1 “Christ the Lord is risen today.” - This is imprecise, since Christ has risen over two thousand years ago.
- Stanza 2 “Once He died, our souls to save.” - Christ died to save us body and soul (LD1).

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Various comments were made about incomplete sentences, and the text being unclear. Yet the message of the hymn is clear and easily intelligible. It is a song to praise our risen Lord.
- We may sing songs addressed to one person of the Trinity. Scripture gives examples where Jesus Christ our Lord receives and accepts the worship of man (Mat.28:9; Joh.20:28; Rev.1:17). It also teaches that Christ is worthy of our praise and adoration (Joh.5:21; Heb.1:6; Rev.5). See Hymns 29, 32, 35, 45, 50, 62 in BoP.
- The whole point of the hymn is to sing praise to Christ for His redeeming work. The angels are continually singing praises to God and to the Lamb (see Rev.5, 7, 19). Thus the “Alleluia” refrain is not endless, pointless, overdone, or excessive. It is fitting for us as saints to glorify God and give Him praise, just as the angels above are doing.
- Re “Christ the Lord is risen today.” - The point here is not that Christ actually arose today. Rather that He arose and continues in His risen state. In Mark 16:6 the aorist tense is used referring to an action completed in the past with continuation into the present. Christ is and remains our risen Lord.
- Re “Once He died our souls to save.” - Obviously Christ died to save us body and soul. The hymn intimates this by speaking of Christ’s victory over the grave. This hymn quotes 1 Corinthians 15:55, “O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?”, speaking about the resurrection of the body from the dead. As such we see that this hymn does clearly indicate the resurrection of the whole person, body and soul.

Recommendation: Hymn recommended

Hymn 3 - God Gave to Us this Day of Days

Comments received from the churches:

- A few of the churches found this hymn easy to sing; the majority did not. Some expressed that it did not convey the joy it should as a resurrection hymn.

- Some find this hymn Scriptural, in harmony with the confessions, and rich and deep in wording because it mentions our deliverance from sin and slavery. One church finds it lacking in the depth of Christ's work.
- Stanza 1 "God gave to us this day of days." - This phrase fails to make clear that the Day of the Lord, the Sunday, the day of rest and worship is spoken about in this hymn. Does it refer to the resurrection or to the Sunday?
- Stanza 2, "His body unto death He gave and then was buried in the grave." - The word "body" is too restrictive, since Christ gave Himself up for us, body and soul.
- Stanza 4, "Now we can sing with happiness for gone's the fearful wretchedness, thanks to..." - One church questions whether a wrong interpretation of Romans 7:24-25 is being sung in "gone's the fearful wretchedness."
- Stanza 4, "the sacrificed and resurrected Jesus Christ." - "Sacrificed" gives the impression that Christ was sacrificed by someone else. Scripture, however, reveals that Christ offered himself up (Isa.53:12; Heb.7:27).

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Re "God gave to us this day of days." - From the context it is clear that this refers to the Sunday, the Lord's day. For the very next line says, "on which we sing our songs of praise." The reason why the church worships on Sunday is that Christ arose on the first day of the week.
- Re "His body unto death He gave and then was buried in the grave." - This does not deny that Christ died for us body and soul, or that He committed His spirit into the hands of His Father. The point is that it was in His human nature, with His body, that He died and later rose.
- Re "Now we can sing with happiness for gone's the fearful wretchedness, thanks to..." - "Gone's the fearful wretchedness" does not need to apply to Romans 7:24-25. Generally, the wretchedness spoken about here would be understood to apply to our state of sin and misery, being cut off from God, deserving judgment. Christ has redeemed us from this. The word "fearful" doesn't really modify "wretchedness"; the word is also not contained in the Dutch version. Recommend change: "For gone will be our wretchedness".
- Re "The sacrificed and resurrected Lord." - Isaiah 53:7 notes that "he was led like a lamb to the slaughter". Isaiah 53:10 states that "it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer." 1 Corinthians 5:8 notes that "Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed." Hebrews 9:28 states, "so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people." Thus, while there are Scripture passages that speak about Christ offering Himself, or giving His life, there are also passages that speak about Him being sacrificed by the Father.

Recommendations:

Suggested Amendments: Replace "for gone's the fearful wretchedness" with "for gone will be our wretchedness"

Overall recommendation: Hymn recommended with amendment

Hymn 4 - Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

Comments received from the churches:

- Although some found this hymn okay, in general the churches do not find this hymn easy to sing, nor fitting for a joyful resurrection hymn.
- Stanza 1 "Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands." - These words appear to point to three days between Christ's death and resurrection, during which our Lord was in Sheol. Martin Luther is the author of this song. Lutherans and Roman Catholics believe that Christ went to Sheol to bring Old Testament believers from there to paradise.
- Stanza 1 "But now at God's right hand he stands." - Although there is a Scripture reference to Christ standing (Acts 7:55), that is unusual. In the Apostles' Creed we confess that He "sits at the right hand of God" (cf. Ps.110:1; Eph 1:20, 2:6; Col 3:1; Heb.1:3; 8:1; 10:11-12).
- Stanza 1 "and brings us life from heaven." - Christ does not bring it because we already have life, even eternal life.
- Stanza 2 "It was a strange and dreadful strife when life and death contended; the victory remained with life, the reign of death was ended." - likely refers to war between Christ and Satan in Sheol over the bodies of the Old Testament believers. This is contrary to our confession.
- Stanza 2 "when life and death contended; the victory remained with life." - these words are difficult to understand.
- Stanza 3 "on the accursed tree." - The tree itself is not cursed, but the one who hangs on it is (Gal.3:10; Heidelberg Catechism, LD4).
- Stanza 4, "So let us keep this holy day to which the Lord invites us." -Is it true that the Lord "invites" us to the Sunday? God commands us to worship Him on the day of rest.
- Stanza 4, "Christ is Himself the joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us; by His grace He does impart eternal sunshine to the heart." - Many churches find this phrase questionable. Christ is not the joy of all; Luke 2:34 teaches that the Lord Jesus is set for the fall of many. The idea that Christ is the sun that warms and lights us is not Scriptural. The phrase "eternal sunshine" is contradictory, for on the new earth the sun will no longer be there, and thus is not eternal. In this Guideline 7 is compromised.
- Stanza 5 - Is it correct to say that Christ has "purged away the old and wicked leaven."? There is still leaven in the church of Jesus Christ that needs to be done away with (1Cor.5:7).

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Re "Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands." - This first line of the hymn can of itself be interpreted in a correct manner. But considering that Luther was the author, it likely refers to his belief that Christ entered Sheol between the time of his death and resurrection, to bring the Old Testament believers from there to Paradise.
- Re "But now at God's right hand he stands." - We confess that Christ "sits" at the right hand of God. Imprecise language is used to make the words rhyme.

- Re “And brings us life from heaven.” - While Christ’s atoning work itself is complete, He still continues to apply the benefits of this to us from heaven.
- Re “Strange and dreadful strife” - likely refers to war between Christ and Satan in Sheol over the bodies of the Old Testament believers.
- Re “When life and death contended, the victory remained with life.” - Not fully intelligible or edifying.
- Re “On the accursed tree.” - Imprecise; Christ was accursed, not the tree.
- Re “So let us keep this holy day to which the Lord invites us.” - “Commands” doesn’t fit grammatically, or with the rhyming.
- Re “Christ is Himself the joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us; by His grace He does impart eternal sunshine to the heart.” - Some of this language is loose and imprecise, and as such is not edifying.
- Re “Purged away the old and wicked leaven.” - Imprecise language that is not edifying.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 5 - Christ is Risen

Comments received from the churches:

- Many churches consider this hymn unsuitable for congregational singing, as it was written for a children’s choir.
- Several churches did not regard this hymn expressive of our Reformed tradition. It does not have the stature of a hymn. The rhyming is a bit cliché, the rhythm somewhat monotonous, and the imagery low.
- One church recommends this hymn as a thoroughly scriptural hymn. In stanza 1, it speaks not only of Christ’s resurrection but also of what benefits it brings to us as believers (similar to Lord’s Day 16 & 17). It also speaks of our obligations (stanza 3)-thus very nicely brings out both sides of the covenant. The last stanza keeps us looking forward to the day of our Lord’s return, a very biblical, Christian perspective.
- Stanza 1, “burst His prison,” - Several churches find this expression unclear.
- Several churches question the beginning phrase in stanza 5, “At the dawning of the morning.” They express concern about this notion that Christ will return in the morning and have been unable to find a scriptural basis for this.

Considerations of the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Re “burst His prison” - This is not scriptural language, and as the churches’ comments show, the meaning of this phrase is unclear.
- Re “at the dawning of the morning.” - The Scriptures often speak about the struggles we face using the metaphors of day and night, light and darkness. E.g. Ps.30:5 “For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favour lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.”

Recommendation: Hymn recommended

Hymn 6 - Jesus Shall Reign

Comments received from the churches:

- Of the churches that commented on the music, the majority consider this a good melody.
- Many of the churches comment that this hymn is an inaccurate rendition of Psalm 72. They consider the wording to be too generic, too vague, lacking a proper basis in Scripture, and leaving out the clear antithetical elements of Psalm 72. Some of the churches also consider it unnecessary to have another hymn that speaks about the reign of Christ.
- Stanza 2 “prisoners leap to loose chains” - The phrase is illogical and strange. Is it something we have to do? In Psalm 72 it is the LORD who delivers the needy, poor and oppressed. In this hymn it is the prisoners themselves who loose their chains. Is it not the redeeming work of Christ that loosens us from the chains of sin?
- Stanza 3 “angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.” - Several churches have difficulty with this phrase as they do not find it in Scripture. At Christ’s first coming the angels were singing, but the Scriptures do not teach that the angels will be singing at His second coming.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Re “the prisoners leap to loose their chains” - Prisoners themselves cannot leap to loose their chains. Our salvation is based in Christ and in Him alone. At best, this phrase is unclear. Many could easily understand it in an Arminian way.
- Re “angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.” - It is scripturally imprecise to speak of “angels descending with songs again.”

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 7 - Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus

Comments received by the churches:

- Some of the churches express concern about the 10-note range and about the fact that it is not easy to sing with so many eighth notes in a row.
- Some consider that this hymn basically repeats what we already have in Hymns 33 and 34 (BoP). Others recommend this hymn because it has depth and content and the words are beautiful.
- Stanza 1 & 2 “since” - The word “since” introduces reasons or grounds for exhortations for us to do something. This makes the hymn quite complicated for some and difficult to understand and sing.
- Stanza 2 “without a stain.” - Hymn 33:5 (BoP) says, “Yet free from sin.” This is what Hebrews 4:15 indeed says. There is a difference between stain and sin. Stain is the result of sin, and refers to the guilt and pollution of sin.

- Stanza 4 “love’s example, hope’s attraction, faith’s beginning” - these are unfamiliar expressions, contrary to Guideline 6.
- Stanza 4 “mighty Advocate and Friend.” - Many churches interact with this phrase. There is acknowledgement that believers are called “friend” of God and “friends” of Christ. But Scripture does not speak of God or Christ being our “Friend.” Concern is expressed that this puts Jesus on the same level as us; that it takes away from the reverence we should show towards Christ. These objections are countered by other churches who point out that a friend is “a person with whom one has a bond of mutual affection.” Scripture show that our Saviour bears the qualities of a friend.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- While it is true that this hymn covers a 10-note range and may be difficult for some to sing, it is learnable.
- Re “Since” - The usage of the word “since” is quite intelligible; it should not create difficulties for the average church member singing this hymn.
- Re “without a stain.” - Obviously the word “stain” is used because it rhymes. The usage of this word is theologically sound. Jesus was free not just of sin, but even of the stain of sin (see Lord’s Day 14 Q&A36, which emphasizes that by His holy conception and birth Christ “is our Mediator, and with His innocence and perfect holiness covers... my sin, in which I was conceived and born.”
- Re “love’s example, hope’s attraction, faith’s beginning” - In a poetic way this hymn is expressing that Jesus our Lord is an example of the love we are to show (1Pet.2:21; 1Joh.3:16; 4:20-21); that it is our hope in Him that draws us to Him (Titus 2:13; 1Pet.1:3, 13); and that our faith finds its beginning and end in Him (Heb.12:2; Rev.21:6). Perhaps this understanding is not immediately clear to the singer of this hymn.
- Re “mighty Advocate and Friend.” - In many ways this hymn emphasizes the transcendence of Christ (His highly exalted position). Thus to mention His imminence (nearness) as “Friend” in the context of this hymn is not inappropriate. Even the phrase in which “Friend” is used describes Christ as “Mighty Advocate and Friend.” What is striking is that some of the churches which raised this point do not consider it weighty enough to recommend the elimination of this hymn, but rather propose keeping it.

Recommendation: Hymn recommended

Hymn 8 - The Spirit Came, As Promised

Comments received from the churches:

- The majority of the churches that commented on this hymn consider it to have a good melody and to be easy to sing. The final chord in the bass is a printing error. It should be D and F instead of F and A.
- In general, the churches consider this hymn to be thoroughly Scriptural and to have theological depth. One church recommends this alteration: “Based on Ephesians 5:18.”

- Stanza 3 “we should not grieve the Spirit by open sin or shame.” - We are not to grieve the Holy Spirit in any manner, by open sins, or those done secretly.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Regarding the music: There is a printing error: The final cord in the bass should be D and F instead of F and A.
- It is a good practice to identify on which passage of Scripture a hymn is based or from which passages of Scripture a hymn is derived. If references are given for this hymn, they should include not just Ephesians 5:18, but also other relevant passages.
- Re “we should not grieve the Spirit by open sin or shame.” - It is true that “we should not grieve the Spirit by any sin or shame.” Recommend changing “open” to “any.”

Recommendations:

Suggested Amendments

- Printing error in the final bass chord - it should be D and F instead of F and A.
- Recommend amending “...grieve the Spirit by open sin or shame” to “...grieve the Spirit by any sin or shame.”

Overall recommendation: Hymn recommended

Hymn 9 - For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Comments received from the churches:

- This hymn is quite general and simplistic and adds little that is new to our current hymns regarding this sacrament.
- Since the wording is in the past tense, this hymn would almost be better used after Lord’s Supper as a song of thanksgiving rather than as a song for preparation.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 10 - Until He Comes

Comments received from the churches:

- One church remarks that this hymn is not covenantal because it speaks more of what we do rather than what we receive.
- Two churches consider this hymn to be thoroughly Scriptural. In the first 3 stanzas it provides a clear summary of what is being done in the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, it also adds elements that are not present in Hymns 44 & 46: The refrain “until He comes” - brings out much more clearly than either Hy 44 or 46 the idea that we celebrate the Lord’s Supper in eager expectation of the coming celebration when our Lord returns. This hymn would be a helpful addition to the 2 hymns which speak of the Lord’s Supper. Since it will typically only be sung in

connection with the Lord's Supper and in place of either Hy 44 or 46, this song is not likely to take away from singing the Psalms.

- Two churches do not see the need for more hymns on the Lord's Supper.

Considerations by the Augment Ad Hoc Committee:

- This hymn does not so much speak about what we do but rather what Christ has done for us with His death on the cross.
- This hymn is scriptural and adds elements not present in Hymn 44.

Recommendation: Hymn recommended

Hymn 11 - We Praise You, Lord

Comments received from the churches:

- One church comments that baptism is a sign and seal of the covenant, but this is not even mentioned in the hymn; it doesn't show the real depth of baptism as the sign and seal of God's covenant.
- Another church notes that it is a weak hymn that cannot be said to be thoroughly biblical (lacks a balance of biblical doctrine on the covenant) nor does it do justice to the confession concerning our response to baptism as we have it in the Form for Baptism and in Lord's Day 26, QA70. The hymn is based on Romans 11: 16-18 but the text doesn't really come out in the song.
- Several churches consider the aspect of covenant missing, as Stanzas 2 & 3 do not mention the covenant obligations of the baptized child – this is an instance where what a hymn does not say or what it leaves out can tend to undermine the truth of God's Word. The promises are surely extended to the child but at the same time also the demands of the covenant are placed upon the child. A hymn on baptism should include both aspects otherwise it may (in time) skew people's perspective on what being a child of the covenant is all about.
- Several churches do not see the need for more hymns on baptism since there are many appropriate psalms.
- Stanza 2 "this dear child" - The phrase is sentimental, which contradicts Guideline 7.
- Stanza 2 "now bears the cross as sign." - Several churches do not consider this an accurate expression of the teaching of Scripture as summarized by our confessions.
- Stanza 3 "He loves this child we bring" - These are not necessarily true statements - e.g. Romans 9:13 "Jacob I love, but Esau I hated." If it means we bring this child to Christ, this is wrong since God has already adopted this child in the covenant with its believing parents. Who are the "we" - the parents or the entire congregation?

Considerations by the Augment Ad Hoc Committee:

- This hymn is not directly linked with baptism; the doctrine of the covenant does not explicitly come out. There are many more appropriate Psalms.
- Re "this dear child" - Scripture uses this type of language – e.g. Mark 10:13-16, Eph 5:1, 1 John 5:21.

- Re “now bears the cross as sign.” - Water is the sign of baptism, not the cross.
- Re “He loves this child we bring” - The Scriptures speak about God’s love in variety of ways. Stanza 3 could be understood in the sense of God’s electing love (Rom 9:13) which would be incorrect, so theologically this is imprecise.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 12 - Our Children, Lord, in Faith and Prayer

Comments received from the churches:

- Two churches consider the hymn a song of dedication rather than baptism. It neglects to speak about what God declares to us in baptism, and can lead to questions about presumptive regeneration.
- Several churches question the need for extra hymns for baptism as there are many Psalms which serve us well and singing this hymn would take away from singing the Psalms.
- Two churches consider the language archaic (Thee’s and Thou’s) and question this hymn being presented when we are modernizing the BoP.
- Two churches consider that much emphasis is on the child.
- Stanza 1 “Our children, Lord, in faith and prayer, we now present to thee” - Several churches object to the use of the word “present.”
- Stanza 1 “Let them thy covenant mercies share”- This may give the impression that children do not share God’s mercies yet. This is contrary to LD27 (HC) which says that infants before they are baptized already share in God’s mercies because they are born as members of his covenant and congregation and also different from what we pray after a child is baptized.
- Stanza 2 “To us and ours, O God of grace, the same compassion show.” - God, has already shown (past tense) his compassion to the baptized child and to us all, as the prayer after the administration of baptism makes clear.

Considerations by the Augment Ad Hoc Committee:

- Re “Our children, Lord, in faith and prayer, we now present to thee” - The word “present” is not Scriptural. QA74 – infants belong to God’s covenant and congregation and that is why we baptize them.
- Re “Let them thy covenant mercies share” - This phrase could be misunderstood.
- Re “To us and ours, O God of grace, the same compassion show.” - While it is true that God has already shown his compassion to the baptized child and to us all, we all continue to need God’s grace on an ongoing basis.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 13 - O God, Great Father, Lord and King

Comments received from the churches:

- One church considers it a beautiful hymn that speaks to us of the continuity of God's covenant with us and our children.
- Several churches consider that there are many Psalms which serve us well at times of baptism. They do not see the need for more hymns on baptism.
- Two churches consider too much emphasis placed on the child rather than on God.
- Stanza 1 "we bring" - Who is this referring to and is this what baptism is about?
- Stanza 1 "we dare your steadfast love to prove" - Most of the churches had difficulty with the word "dare," as it does not show proper reverence or thankfulness. The fact that we find it necessary to defend the use of this word indicates that the language is not sufficiently clear. The word contradicts Guideline 5 as the old usage of the word "dare" is not understood by most people.
- Stanza 3 "Those little ones you did receive." - Does it refer to the little ones which Christ received when he was on earth (Mk.10:16) or does it refer to a multiple baptism, that is, when more than one child is about to be baptized? It is all very vague.
- Stanza 4 "They now the outward sign receive" - Two churches consider the hymn as expressing an incomplete view of baptism, since it talks of the sign (outward washing) of baptism but not the seal.
- Stanza 4 "Your promised Holy Spirit give" - Several churches do not consider this to be in accordance with the Reformed teaching and belief. When baptized in the name of the Spirit, he assures them that he will dwell in them (Form for the Baptism of Infants).
- Stanza 5 "And bring them all to heaven at last" - Two churches considers this unclear as to occasion and not in line with our Reformed confessions.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- This hymn is covenantal - it is a prayer to God for the child and is in line with the prayers we pray both before and after baptism (Form for the Baptism of Infants, BoP).
- Re "we bring" - Generally this type of hymn would be sung after baptism, on this occasion we are singing not just about the child being baptized, but all children who have been baptized and we as parents bring our children forward to be baptized in obedience to the command to do so (Matt. 28: 19).
- Re "we dare your steadfast love to prove" - This phrase is problematic.
- Re "Those little ones you did receive." - The background of this hymn is likely a situation of multiple baptisms. That makes it somewhat less applicable to the normal situation we face in our churches.
- Re "Your promised Holy Spirit give" - This line can be understood in two ways: 1. that the Spirit has not yet been given, or 2. as a prayer, now that we've received the sign and seal, to fulfill it through your Holy Spirit.

- “And bring them all to heaven at last” - This is a prayer for all children - God has made promises and now the prayer is: bring these children to heaven. Refer to Matt 8:11 “in the kingdom of heaven”; Matt 10:32; Matt 18 “unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the kingdom of heaven”; 1 Peter 1:3, 4 “kept in heaven for you”.

Recommendation:

- Suggested Amendment: Stanza 4 “They now the sign and seal receive.”

Overall Recommendation: Hymn not recommended.

Note: not because the hymn itself is necessarily bad, but the general sentiment of the churches is that it is not necessary to have more hymns on baptism.

Hymn 14 - O Gracious Lord

Comments received from the churches:

- Most of the churches considered that hymns regarding marriage should not be included in our *Book of Praise*.
- One church considers that the hymn does not teach what Scripture teaches about marriage, particularly because it makes no mention of Christ and His church.
- One church considers the hymn to be thoroughly biblical (essentially a prayer for a married couple). In it we pray for God’s blessing over the couple (Hy 14:1,3; Hy 15:1) and we pray for their service to God (Hy 14:2, Hy 15:2,3). This is a balanced picture of life in the covenant and would be very helpful to encourage and instruct married couples. There is only one Psalm which deals directly with marriage (Psalm 45). There is no Psalm which serves as a prayer for the married couple in a direct sense (Psalm 134 is often used for that purpose but its original application is not to married couples). The hymn would have only limited usage in the worship service and would not be “competition” for Psalm singing. Although currently not the regular custom, it remains a fact that marriages can take place within the context of a worship service (Art 63, CO). Who knows if the day may come when that has to take place again? In any event, because of the possibility, it is fitting for the church to have a hymn or two on marriage.

Considerations by the Augment Ad Hoc Committee:

- Because marriages are not normally solemnized during a worship service the churches consider that there is no need for hymns on marriage.
- This hymn is a prayer for a blessing on this couple being married and is not a general marriage hymn.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended.

Hymn 15 - Lord, Today Bless this New Marriage

Comments received from the churches:

- Most of the churches considered that hymns regarding marriage should not be included in our *Book of Praise*.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Because marriages are not normally solemnized during a worship service the churches consider that there is no need for hymns on marriage.
- This hymn is a prayer for a blessing on this couple being married and is not a general marriage hymn.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended.

Hymn 16 - Jesus, with Your Church Abide

Comments received from the churches:

- Two churches do not consider the hymn to meet Guideline 5, which states that songs must faithfully express the teaching of Scripture as summarized by our Reformed confessions. It does not do justice to the way we confess that in prayer we should address the Father (cf. LD 45, 46).
- Two churches comment that compared to our Psalms (91, 92, 93 and others) and current hymns (40), this hymn does not add anything of value.
- One church comments that the hymn shifts between “our” and “her” (stanzas 1, 3 vs. stanza 2). In order to be consistent, it would have been better if stanza 2 were formulated in terms of “our” and “us” as well.
- Stanza 1 “be our Saviour” - One church comments that Christ is our Saviour by virtue of baptism.
- Stanza 4 “pardon us for fields unwon” - Several churches consider the phrase unclear and doctrinally questionable. This phrase suggests that we have the ability and ultimate responsibility to “win fields” for Christ, that is, to win converts for Christ (presuming the expression is derived from John 4:35 (RSV), “...see how the fields are already white for harvest.”)

Considerations by *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- There is an inconsistency between “our” and “her” in this hymn. The change came about in the shift from the Blue to the Grey Psalter Hymnal and appears to be motivated by gender neutrality. We consider it more appropriate to pray for the church referring to the church as “her”.
- Re “be our Saviour” - It is not a prayer that He now becomes our Saviour, but rather that He remains our Saviour. In LD 45 we are taught that “God will give His grace and Holy Spirit only to those who constantly and with heartfelt longing ask Him for these gifts and thank Him for them.” If this is deemed to still be open to misunderstanding, recommend changing the word “be” to “as”.
- “pardon us for fields unwon” - When the churches make the point that, while the church can be held responsible for any negligence in spreading

the gospel, it cannot be held responsible for “fields un-won,” they are correct. A church can faithfully proclaim the Gospel, while God still decides to harden the hearts of the hearers. This verse should be deleted.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 17 - Great is Thy Faithfulness

Comments received from the churches:

- Generally the churches find this hymn Scriptural and God-centered.
- Some of the churches express concern about the personal and subjective slant to the text. There are far better Psalms that speak Scripturally and more completely about God’s faithfulness. In our praising of the Almighty God it is not first and foremost about our feelings and emotions, although this may definitely play a role, but it is about the Lord and how He wants to be worshipped.
- The sentimentality of this hymn tends to be high, maybe taking away from the reverence we owe God.
- The hymn is somewhat one-sided in its praise of God’s faithfulness. What about His covenant judgments and His anger against sin?
- A few churches comment on the repetition of the refrain.
- Several churches consider the language archaic (Thee’s and Thou’s).

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Generally this hymn is based on Lamentations 3:22-23. The immediate context (Lam 22-26) of this passage does not speak about God’s judgements, threats and anger about sin.
- We agree that the language is archaic.

Recommendation: Hymn recommended

Hymn 18 - Christ Shall Have Dominion

Comments received from the churches:

- The churches consider the hymn to have a strong, majestic melody.
- Several churches consider the hymn redundant as it is another version of Psalm 72.
- Other churches consider the hymn not faithful to the content and form of the inspired text (Guideline 3) due to omissions of specific verses of Psalm 72.
- One church suggests the hymn would fit better in the category, “The Lord ascended up on high” as it speaks not so much of the Lord’s future but his present reign.
- Stanza 2 “all the weak and helpless shall His pity know.” - Several churches question these words. They consider that Scripture does not mention in any place that all will receive the Lord’s pity.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Psalm 72 is a prayer of David for blessing on his son Solomon. Augment 18 applies this directly to Christ and shows the messianic fulfillment in Him.
- The fact that a hymn does not include everything in the Biblical text does not make it unfaithful. Whoever wishes to sing the entire Psalm can make use of Ps 72 as we have it in the BoP.
- This hymn would probably fit better in the category “The Lord ascended up on high”.
- Re “all the weak and helpless shall His pity know.” - This refers to line 1, but it is open to misunderstanding. Some could interpret it to mean that God will help all weak and helpless people. The context is that He will help those who cry out to Him. We recommend changing “all” to “then” or “and” rather than “for”.

Recommendation:

Suggested Amendments: change “all” in Stanza 2 line 2 to “then” or “and”.

Overall recommendation: Hymn recommended

Hymn 19 - Day of Judgment, Day of WonderComments received from the churches:

- Most churches are positive about this hymn. Not many Hymns speak about God’s wrath; none of our current Hymns deals with Judgment Day. The content is thoroughly Scriptural. Hymn 50, 51 and 57 speak of Judgment Day, but a new element of the antithesis is highlighted in this Hymn - blessings for the faithful, judgment for the unfaithful.
- Stanza 1 “Hark, the trumpet’s fearful sound” – Several churches question the use of “fearful.” Are we to fear the sound of the trumpet, or is it a day of rejoicing for the believers?
- Stanza 1 “How the summons will the sinner’s heart confound” - For repentant sinners, there will be no confusion or terror.
- Stanza 2 “See the Judge, our nature wearing” - Wearing implies he simply put our nature over top of his divinity, and did not become a real man, like us in every respect, sin excepted. The language of LD 14 is that Christ “took upon” Himself our human nature.
- Stanza 2 “Own me in that day as Thine” - Several churches consider this improper. It contradicts the certainty expressed in Q&A 52 of the Catechism. We do not need to pray that Christ will own us at His return since He already owns us now. We believe that no one can snatch us out of His hand (John 10:28) and that nothing can separate us from His love (Rom. 8:35ff).
- Stanza 2 “you... shall say, This God is mine” - Several churches comment that this places the emphasis on man rather than on God. Christ said “You did not choose me, I chose you” (John 15:16). And at the end of time Christ will say “Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you.”

- Stanza 3 “At His call, the dead awaken, rise to life...” - Does this contradict Dan. 12:2 “Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt”.
- Stanza 3 “All the powers of nature, shaken / by His looks, prepare to flee.”- Unscriptural language, meaning of “powers of nature” is not clear. Peter speaks about the earth and the works in it being burned up (2 Pet. 3:10).
- Stanza 3 “Careless sinner, what will become of thee” - This phrase has the tone of a Revival appeal to sinners, rather than the way sinners are addressed and admonished in our worship services.
- Several churches remark on the archaic language.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- The Day of Judgment is not dealt with in such terms in the Psalms and while several existing Hymns do sing of Judgment Day, Augment 19 highlights the antithesis.
- Re “Hark, the trumpet’s fearful sound” - Many Scripture passages speak of God’s people trembling when they hear the sound of the trumpet of God (Exodus 19:16, 20:18; Joel 2:1; Matthew 24: 29-31; Hebrews 12: 18-29). Yet as a number of the churches point out, the last day will be a joyful moment for believers; as such we recommend changing “fearful” to “awesome” (as in Grey PH #614).
- Re “How the summons will the sinner’s heart confound” - To confound means to perplex or amaze, to confuse, to thrown into confusion or disorder. Matthew 24: 37, 38 and Luke 17: 26, 27 speak about how in the days before the flood people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage. They knew nothing of what would happen until the food came and took them away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Luke 21:25 speaks of nations who will be “in anguish” and vs. 26 of men fainting from “terror” but also of “perplexity” which matches the idea expressed by “confound”. Stanza 3 speaks more strongly about being shaken by His looks and preparing to flee, but the hardening of heart and terror is missing from this hymn.
- Re “See the Judge, our nature wearing” - The language of wearing is not necessarily unbiblical. Ps. 104:1 speaks of God “clothed with splendour and majesty”; Zech 6:13 speaks of the branch (Christ) being clothed with majesty; 1 Cor 15:54 and 2 Cor 5:2-4 speak of us being clothed with an imperishable and immortal nature with our heavenly dwelling. However, this phrase is not our confessional way of speaking about Christ’s taking on our human nature.
- Re “Own me in that day as Thine” - It is true that Christ already does own those who belong to Him, but considering our weakness and frailty it is not wrong to pray for what we already have. In various Psalms the people confessed their faith and trust in God and His salvation yet they still pray “save us, O Lord” Ps 106:47, 108:6; 118:5. In Mark 9:24 the boy’s father says to Jesus “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief.” LD45 QA116 “God will give His grace and Holy Spirit only to those who

constantly and with heartfelt longing ask Him for these gifts and thank Him for them.”

- Re “you... shall say, This God is mine” - In the context of the Hymn, the meaning of this phrase is clear. The next sentence speaks of the dependence on the Saviour; the exact text quoted by London (Matt. 25:34) appears in stanza 4 of this hymn. Similar language is found in other Psalms such as “My God, my God...” (Psalm 22:1) or “God, even our own God...” (Psalm 67:6 KJV). There are many places in Scripture where God’s people confess “You are my God” - Ps 31: 14; 63:1; 86:2; 118:28; 146; 143:10; Isaiah 25:1; Hosea 2:23.
- Re “At His call, the dead awaken, rise to life...” - “Rise to life”, in this context, means that all the dead, believer and unbeliever, will “come to life” as expressed in Rev. 20:4-5.
- Re “All the powers of nature, shaken / by His looks, prepare to flee.” - Several Scripture passages speak about the “powers of heaven” being shaken by the coming of the Lord (Matthew 24: 29, 30; Mark 13: 24-36; Luke 21: 25-27). We agree that the “powers of nature” has more of a connotation of forces of nature such as wind, floods, storms, earthquakes, volcanoes, etc. This phrase is thus open to misunderstanding. Perhaps Luke 21:26 “the heavenly bodies will be shaken” is the source of this phrase along with Hab. 3:6 “He stood, and shook the earth; he looked, and made the nations tremble”. Also the events of Rev. 6:12-17 are brought to mind as well as Rev. 16:18-20: “They called to the mountains and the rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne...” The next phrase, speaking of the careless sinner, would support the interpretation that those who are fleeing are the unbelievers, but to speak of powers of nature fleeing as the hymn does can only be described as an unfortunate mixing of metaphors. Suggest to fix with “all the evildoers, shaken / by His looks, prepare to flee”.
- Re “Careless sinner, what will then become of thee” - Scripture has warning passages that address the congregation not to trample on His grace. (Heb 2: 1-3; 6:4-6; 10:26-31; 12:14-17). Thus this phrase, in contrast with the next verse, warns us not to be careless sinners lest we fall under the judgement of God.
- Archaic language is not preferred but is not a strong reason to reject this hymn, considering that modern hymnals such as the Grey PH (1982) and the TH (1990) also have this hymn.

Recommendations:

Suggested Amendments

- “Fearful sound” is better rendered as “awesome sound”.
- Change “all the powers of nature, shaken / by His looks” with “all the evildoers, shaken / by His looks”.

Overall recommendation: Hymn not recommended.

Hymn 20 - The World of Old

Comments received from the churches:

- The tune is widely considered to be of inferior quality.
- Several churches note that this hymn was composed for children’s choirs and was never intended for congregational singing.
- Hymn 55 uses the same passage and more (Rev. 21:1-8) including the antithetical elements of punishment for those who are “vile and faithless”. Some elements of vs. 2 and 3 are left out of AH20. AH20 is redundant and unnecessary.
- In the refrain, the music incorrectly puts the emphasis on the second syllable of “ma-KING”.

Considerations of the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- Committee concurs with considerations of the churches that the tune is of inferior quality.
- Considering that we have Hymn 55 on the same passage the hymn is redundant and unnecessary.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended.

Hymn 21 - The Hope of Resurrection

Comments received from the churches:

- Several churches note that the tune is suitable for children’s choir and is not intended for worship services. The vast majority of churches find the tune problematic.
- Generally speaking the churches consider the words to be Scriptural.
- Stanza 2 “Our hope rests on our faith” - Several churches have a difficulty with this phrase. Our hope rests in Christ.
- Stanza 2 “those Christ laid to sleep” - not considered an accurate translation.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- The committee concurs that the tune is problematic.
- Re “Our hope rests on our faith” - *Augment ad hoc committee* agrees that this expression is inaccurate. The biblical order is that our faith rests on our hope (Col. 1:5, Titus 1:2).
- Re “those Christ laid to sleep” - The Jamieson-Faucet-Brown Commentary on I Thess 4:14 suggests this translation. Generally this phrase is translated as ‘those who have fallen asleep’. John 11:11; 1 Cor 11: 30; 15: 6, 18, 20; 1 Thess 4: 14, 15. Suggest a change from “those Christ laid to sleep” to “those who are asleep.”

Recommendation:

Suggested Amendment: change “those Christ laid to sleep” to “those who are asleep”.

Overall recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 22 - The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done

Comments received from the churches:

- Many churches have complaints about the melody and the refrain.
- Several churches note that this hymn deals entirely with Christ's death and resurrection and thus belongs in the category "Christ has Risen! Hallelujah!"
- Various churches note that this hymn adds very little to the current hymns in the category "Christ has Risen! Hallelujah!"
- Stanza 1 "The strife is o'er, the battle done" - Does the word "strife" do justice to the suffering, temptation and agony suffered by Christ in the garden of Gethsemane and on the cross?
- Stanza 2 "The powers of death have done their worst" - The word "worst" is considered to be too vague and imprecise.
- Stanza 2 line 2 "but Christ their legions has dispersed" - What does "their" refer to? It is more correct to say that Christ has defeated death.
- Stanza 3 line 1 "The three sad days are quickly sped;" - This is not found in Scripture.
- Stanza 4 lines 1, 2 "Lord, by the stripes that wounded Thee, from death's dread sting Thy servants free" - Several churches have difficulty with this phrase. It fails to do justice to the truth that we have been raised with Christ in His resurrection (not in His sufferings) and therefore share in His victory over death.

Considerations by the Augment Ad Hoc Committee:

- Many churches have complaints about the melody and the refrain. A better alternative to the tune would be the one by Mechior Vulpius used in the 1967 *Book of Praise* supplement (Gelobt sei Gott). See Grey Psalter Hymnal #397 where it is used for "Good Christians all, Rejoice and Sing".
- This Hymn is in the wrong section. It should be included in the category "Christ has risen! Hallelujah!"
- The committee agrees that this hymn adds very little to the current hymns in the category "Christ has risen! Hallelujah!"
- Re "The strife is o'er, the battle done" - The hymn is not about Christ's suffering, but about His resurrection and the victory in it.
- Re stanza 2 - In Ephesians 6:12 the apostle Paul makes clear that our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. "Their" refers to the "powers of death" which is a reference to these spiritual forces of evil. The reaction of the churches makes clear that this expression is unclear.
- Re "The three sad days are quickly sped;" - The disciples were much more than sad; their world had been turned upside down. Scripture often refers to the three days as the time Christ would be in the grave. E.g. "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matt. 12:40.

- Re “Lord, by the stripes that wounded Thee, from death’s dread sting Thy servants free” - The mixing of two Scripture passages leaves this open to various understandings; it is not clear.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 23 - O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart’s Desire

Comments received from the churches:

- Several churches note that the hymn uses old language, “Thee’s” and “Thou’s”.
- Stanza 1, line 3 “Creator of the world art Thou” - Several churches object to these words. The Scriptures and confessions do not call Christ “Creator”. They teach that God created all things through Him.
- Stanza 2 line 3 “cruel death” - This phrase focuses attention on the physical suffering of Christ rather than focussing on the Biblical truth that Christ in His sufferings appeased the wrath of God which was directed against us because of our sin.
- Stanza 3 line 3 “and Thou art on Thy Father’s throne” - Is this correct?

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- The tune could be transposed to F major (Grey Psalter Hymnal #485).
- Re “Creator of the world art Thou” - Normally the Scriptures associate the work of creation with the Father. However, the Son and the Spirit were also intimately involved in the work of creation. As such, it is not incorrect to call Christ “Creator”. Gen. 1:26 “And God said ‘Let us make man in our image, in our likeness...’” is a proof text for the Trinity. Whether the world was made by Christ or through Christ, it is clear that if Christ is not the Creator then He is a creature which clearly contradicts Scriptures and confessions. John 1:3 “...without him nothing was made that has been made” clearly shows that He is Creator of the world. Heb. 1:10 “He also says [about the Son, see vs.8], ‘In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hand.’”. The Latin original has “Creator.”
- Re “cruel death” - In Lord’s Day 15 we confess that “Christ bore in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race.” To suffer death by crucifixion was not only cursed by God, but was also tremendously cruel.
- Re “and Thou art on Thy Father’s throne” - Rev. 3:21 says “I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne” and supports the wording of this hymn.

Overall recommendation: Although acceptable, this is not a strong hymn.

Hymn 24 - Alleluia! Alleluia!

Comments received from the churches:

- Many churches consider this melody difficult to sing accurately as a congregation and perhaps more suited for a choir. Some churches found the melody jubilant and uplifting.

- Our current Hymn 57 sings about the Lord bringing the harvest home in a much better way. The content of the rest of this Hymn is adequately covered by Hy. 2-6, 19:3, 20:2 and 23:5, 6.
- The hymn belongs in the category “Christ has Risen! Hallelujah!”
- The power of the lyrics was very much appreciated. A solid hymn of faith.
- Stanza 1, lines 5-6: “He who on the cross an off’ring for the world’s salvation bled” - A priest is not usually said to “bleed” an offering. The verb is used primarily for its rhyme.
- Stanza 1 line 6: “...world’s salvation...” - Is this correct? Christ’s saving work was efficient only for the sins of the elect, not for the whole world.
- Stanza 2 line 2-3, 5-6: “harvest-field, which will all its full abundance at His second coming yield. Then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before him wave.” - Several churches object that the emphasis is on what believers will do, rather than on what Christ will do on the Last day: send his angels to bring in the harvest (Matt. 13:30).
- Stanza 2, line 7, 8: “...ripened by His glorious sunshine from the furrows of the grave” - Several churches consider that the LORD “ripens” His children for the “harvest” very much through (periods of) hardships and troubles which are the opposite of “sunshine.” It is not clear what is meant by this phrase.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- While some churches consider that this hymn belongs in the category “Christ Has Risen! Hallelujah!” it fits much better in the category “Come, Lord Jesus! Maranatha!” The focus of this hymn is on Christ gathering His harvest home.
- Re “He who on the cross an off’ring for the world’s salvation bled” - To make the sentence flow somewhat better, we suggest changing it to read “He who on the cross as off’ring for the world’s salvation bled”.
- Re “...world’s salvation...” - Those who object to this phrase read too much into it. It does not say that all the world will be saved but that Christ died for the sins of the world (John 1:29 “Look the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world”; John 3:16a “God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son”; Rom. 5:18 “Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men.”; LD 15 Q&A 37 first part “Christ bore in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race”). What is problematic about this phrase is not what it says but what it does not say. Nowhere does the hymn say that only those who believe in Christ will be saved (John 3:16b) or that only those who are called are justified (Rom. 8:30). The antithesis is absent here in sharp contrast to how it is present in Hymn 57:3.
- Re stanza 2 - What these lines are describing is the resurrection of believers on the last day. Obviously their resurrection is the work of Christ and not of themselves. However, this hymn describes the resurrection in a rather strange way.

Recommendations:

Suggested Amendments

- The author is Christopher Wordsworth rather than Christopher Woodsworth as published.
- Change "...on the cross an off'ring" to "...on the cross as off'ring"

Overall recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 25 - Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God

Comments received from the churches:

- Generally the churches consider this a good melody.
- Many of the churches feel it is redundant to have another version of Psalm 72.
- Others feel it can serve as a fitting doxology at the conclusion of worship services.

Recommendation: There are no objections to this hymn, but we question whether it is needed.

Hymn 26 - O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Comments received from the churches:

- Several churches regard this hymn too individualistic. It is more of a dialogue between Christians than a hymn of praise to God. Man is in the centre more than God.
- Other churches feel it is thoroughly Scriptural; a beautiful song of praise to God for His grace toward us. There is no hymn like it in our existing collection. It adds elements of NT revelation (e.g. the Name of Jesus, redeemed in His blood, his breaking of the power of reigning sin) which are a fitting complement to what the OT Psalms lead us to expect from the coming Messiah. The theme is clearly the power or triumph of God's grace, certainly something that a Reformed congregation should be able to endorse.
- Stanza 4 "His blood avails for me" - Some churches felt that this sentence does not make sense.

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- This hymn is not individualistic. Man is not in the centre more than God. The emphasis is on "...my great Redeemer's praise" and "...my God and King"... Even Lord's Day 1 HC uses the first person to emphasize that each individual shares in the blessings of Christ.
- Re "His blood avails for me" - The difficulty is no doubt with the word "avails". The Blue PH #383 has "availed" here. The word "avails" is rather archaic language.

Recommendation: Hymn recommended

Hymn 27 - May the Grace of Christ, Our Saviour

Comments received from the churches:

- Many churches express the fact that this hymn is not needed and adds very little to our hymn collection. Some of the churches note that this prayer can serve as a fitting song at the conclusion of worship services.
- Stanza 1, line 1: "May the grace of Christ, the Saviour" - Should be "Christ our Saviour" as in the title, the Blue PH #487, Trinity Hymnal 1990 #730, The Hymnal #77, etc.
- Stanza 1 "with the Holy Spirit's favour" - Scripture never mentions that we receive the Holy Spirit's "favour". 2 Cor. 13:14 speaks of "communion" or "fellowship" of the Holy Spirit rather than "favour".
- Stanza 2, line 3 "and possess, in sweet communion" - Several church object to the use of the word "sweet."
- Stanza 2, line 4: "joys which earth cannot afford" - Several churches object to word "afford."

Considerations by the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- This is a poor tune.
- Re "May the grace of Christ the Saviour" - We concur that the first line of the hymn should read "May the grace of Christ, our Saviour" as in the title.
- Re "with the Holy Spirit's favour" - The word "favour" is used to make this rhyme. 2 Cor 13:14 speaks about the communion or fellowship of the Holy Spirit being with us. If we are going to pray for the Lord's blessing it should be Scripturally accurate.
- Re "... each other and the Lord" - Lord's Day 21 Q&A 55 speaks about having communion with Christ and with each other.
- Re "and possess, in sweet communion" - The Scriptures speak about the fellowship offering in the old covenant and about a sweet smelling aroma going up to the Lord (Lev 3: 5). If it is true that this has a different connotation today, perhaps it better to replace the word "sweet" with "rich".
- Re "joys which earth cannot afford" - The word "afford" is rather archaic.

Recommendations:

Suggested Amendments

- The first line of the hymn should read "May the grace of Christ, our Saviour" as in the title.
- Change "sweet communion" to "rich communion".

Overall recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Hymn 28 - Glory Be to the Father

Comments received from the churches:

- Many of the churches consider that this hymn is not necessary considering what we have in Hymns 5 and 6 (BoP). Others regard it a beautiful doxology, with strong words.

Considerations of the *Augment Ad Hoc* Committee:

- This hymn could be sung as a response to the creed or as a doxology.
- Many of the churches consider that this hymn is not necessary considering what we have in Hymns 5 and 6 (BoP). Many of the URC churches sing this hymn every Sunday as a doxology.
- This doxology is an ancient liturgical text written, originally in Greek, in the second century. The initial part of the Gloria Patri (“Glory to the Father”) may be traced back to the Trinitarian baptismal formula recorded in Matthew 28:19. The second part, which begins with “as it was in the beginning,” was added by a synod in 529 as a response to the heresy of Arianism. The text reflects the orthodox teaching of the eternal unity and equality of the holy Trinity.
- Re: “World without end” is an expression from the King James Version of Eph. 3:21 “Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.” “World” does not appear in the Greek original although it can be understood to belong there by implication (Strong’s Greek dictionary). See also Isaiah 45:17.

Recommendation: Hymn not recommended

Attachment I

**This Attachment containing
the Proposed Revised Psalms and Hymns
for the *Book of Praise*
forms an integral part of this report.**

Reference Par. 8.3 and 11.1

PREFACE

The *Book of Praise: Anglo-Genevan Psalter* has an important function within the worship services of the Canadian Reformed Churches. The word “praise” in the title reminds us of the exhortation in the letter to the Hebrews: “... let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess His name” (13:15). Because of His grace and faithfulness, the LORD meets with the people of His covenant in the worship service. In response to His Word we offer up our sacrifices of praise in psalms and hymns. The creeds and confessions are also the fruit of lips that acknowledge God’s name.

Our *Book of Praise* can be divided into four main parts, each of which serves as a reminder of our Reformed heritage: the Psalms and Hymns, our doctrinal standards, the liturgical forms and prayers, and the Church Order and subscription forms.

Reformed churches have always attached great value to the Psalter as a collection of songs of God’s covenant. John Calvin wrote the following about congregational singing in his preface to the Geneva Psalter, 1543:

As for public prayers, there are two kinds: the one consists simply of speech, the other of song... And indeed, we know from experience that singing has great strength and power to move and to set on fire the hearts of men in order that they may call upon God and praise him with a more vehement and more ardent zeal. It is to be remembered always that this singing should not be light or frivolous, but that it ought to have weight and majesty, ... Now, what Augustine says is true, namely that no one can sing anything worthy of God which he has not received from him. Therefore, even after we have carefully searched everywhere, we shall not find better or more appropriate songs to this end than the Psalms of David, inspired by the Holy Spirit. And for this reason, when we sing them, we are assured that God puts the words in our mouth, as if he himself were singing through us to exalt his glory....

The first complete Genevan Psalter was published in 1562. Four years later the Genevan tunes were used by Petrus Dathenus in his Dutch versification of the Psalms. The Genevan Psalter has been associated with the churches of the Reformation ever since. When members of the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands (Liberated) came to North America after the Second World War and established the Canadian Reformed Churches, they brought with them their appreciation for the Genevan Psalter. As early as 1954, the first General Synod of our churches appointed a committee to study the possibility of producing such a Psalter in the English language. In 1972 the first complete *Book of Praise: Anglo-Genevan Psalter* appeared, and English metrical versions of all the Psalms could be sung for the first time to the authentic Genevan melodies of the sixteenth century. The present text is the result of a thorough revision of this Psalter as it was initiated by General Synod 2007 and completed for approval by General Synod 2010.

Although in Reformed liturgy the Psalms have a predominant place, our churches have not excluded the use of scriptural hymns. They, too, constitute a thank offering of praise when we sing of the facts of redemption by God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The doctrinal standards of our churches are included next. The ecclesiastical documents of the Dutch Reformed Churches were first translated into English by churches composed of English and Scottish refugees in the Netherlands. These translations were used in only slightly revised form by the Reformed Church in America and, later, also by the Christian Reformed Church. Whereas the Canadian Reformed Churches first made grateful use of these older translations, here the creeds and confessions are presented in contemporary English.

The liturgical forms and prayers make up the third main division. The forms for the administration of infant baptism and of the Lord's Supper as well as the form for the solemnization of marriage first appeared in the Dutch Psalter of Petrus Dathenus (1566). The forms for the administration of church discipline, the ordination of ministers, and the ordination of elders and deacons were added by the Synod of The Hague in 1586, and the form for the administration of adult baptism by the Synod of Dort in 1618-19. Whereas the Canadian Reformed Churches first used the version published in 1767 by the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of New York, the liturgical forms are published here in current English along with forms adopted more recently. The collection of prayers which follows the forms also dates from Reformation times; it, too, had its place in the Psalter of Dathenus. The English text of these prayers has been modernized. Although their use is not obligatory, they can be of great value in public and private worship.

The Church Order could be considered an appendix to the *Book of Praise*. This document dates back to the first synod of the Reformed Churches of the Netherlands, held in Emden in 1571, and was subsequently revised by the Synod of Dort, 1618-19. It appears here in the revised form adopted by General Synod Cloverdale, 1983, and amended by subsequent synods. As well, two subscription forms, adopted by General Synod Smithers, 2007, are included. At the very early synods, the brothers put their signatures under the confessions to signify their agreement with them. The Form of Subscription was adopted by the Synod of Dort. The forms as they appear here are translations and adaptations of the original Dort Form of Subscription.

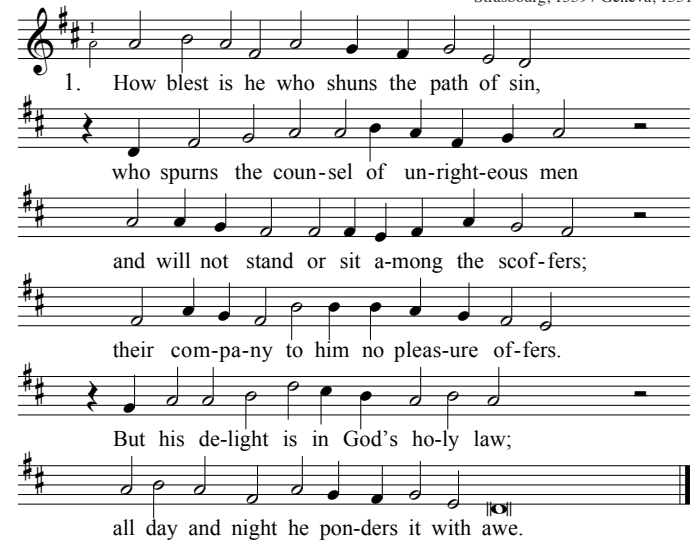
We are thankful that the *Book of Praise* continues to be a blessing to the Church of Christ. Above all, may our God be "enthroned on the praises of Israel" (Psalm 22:3) also through the use of this book. To Him alone be all glory, now and forever.

The Standing Committee for the
Publication of the *Book of Praise*
of the Canadian Reformed Churches

PSALMS

Book I
Psalms 1-41
PSALM 1

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551



1. How blest is he who shuns the path of sin,
who spurns the coun-sel of un-right-eous men
and will not stand or sit a-mong the scof-fers;
their com-pa-ny to him no pleas-ure of-fers.
But his de-light is in God's ho-ly law;
all day and night he pon-ders it with awe.

2. Whoever loves God's *law* with all his heart
and will not from the *way of truth* depart
is like a tree which, *planted by a river*,
stays lush and green with *leaves that will not wither*
and which in season yields abundant fruit.
So he will thrive, whatever his pursuit.
3. Not so the wicked! *For like chaff* are they –
mere chaff that gusts of *wind* will blow away.
When *judgment* comes, they'll stand condemned and humbled,
cast out from where the *righteous* are assembled.
The LORD will guard the *pathway* of the just;
The LORD will guard the *pathway* of the just;
The way of sinners leads to death and dust.

PSALM 2

Psalm 2

Strasbourg, 1539 / Lyons, 1548



1. Why do the rest-less na-tions mad-ly rage?
 What haugh-ty schemes are they in vain con-triv-ing?
 The kings and rul-ers of the earth en-gage
 in rash at-tempts to plot their emp-ty striv-ing.
 They stand pre-pared, they all con-spire to-gether
 a-gainst the LORD and His a-noint-ed King.
 "Let us," they say, "tear loose and break their fet-ters,
 cast off their chains, their shack-les from us fling."

2. Though proudly now they raise their battle cry,
 how vain is all their frenzied opposition!
 The LORD, who sits enthroned in heaven on high,
 laughs them to scorn: He holds them in derision.
 Then He will speak in wrath and indignation
 and all their host will He with terror fill:
 "I've set my King," so runs His proclamation,
 "Upon Mount Zion, on My holy hill."

3. O peoples, listen to the LORD's decree.
 To Me He made this public declaration:
 "Your Father I become this very day;
 You are My Son. To You I give the nations.
 Ask what You will: Your heritage I'll make them;
 their lands You will possess, both near and far,
 for with a rod of iron You shall break them,
 dash them to pieces, like a potter's jar."
4. Take heed, O rulers of the earth, and hear.
 Be wise, O kings, and let His edict warn you.
 Rejoice with trembling; serve the LORD with fear.
 Now kiss the Son, lest He in fury scorn you,
 lest in His wrath the LORD cause you to perish,
 for quickly kindled is His anger's blaze.
 But all who trust in Him the LORD will cherish;
 He will defend and bless them all their days.

PSALM 3

Psalm 3

A psalm of David. When he fled from his son Absalom.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551

1. How count - less are my foes!
O LORD, how man - y those
now ris - ing to ac - cuse me,
who point at me and shout,
“God will not help him out!”
They with their taunts a - buse me.
But You, O LORD, will be
a shield to cov - er me
when I am faint and wear - y,
for when You hear me sigh,
You lift my head up high;
You are my power and glo - ry.

2. I cry to *God*, and He
from *Zion* answers me;
I will not be forsaken.
In *Him* I put my trust:
I go to sleep and rest
until at dawn I waken.
By thousands I'm beset,
but *God* will not forget
to be my strength and tower.
Though foes in fierce array
encircle me as prey,
I do not fear their power.
3. Arise, O *God* of might,
and put my foes to flight.
Let all their host be scattered!
For *You* uphold my cause:
You strike them on their jaws
and leave their teeth all shattered.
The *LORD* will ever be
the one who sets us free
when enemies oppress us.
O *God* in whom we trust,
in *You* shall we find rest.
May *You* forever bless us.

PSALM 4

Psalm 4

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551



1. O right-eous God of my sal-va-tion,
be mer-ci-ful and hear my plea!
In times of trou-ble or op-pres-sion
You sent me help and con-so-la-tion.
Be gra-cious now and an-swer me!
How long, O men, will you bring sor-row
and turn my hon-our in-to shame?
How long yet will you love and fol-low
lies and de-lu-sions, vain and hol-low?
How long will you re-vile my name?

2. Know that the *LORD* in His good pleasure has set the *righteous* ones apart: He *claims them* as His *own*, His treasure. In *mercy great beyond all measure*, He takes my *misery* to heart. Do not let wrath breed *sin* and *violence*. *Restrain your anger* and be still; lie down to meditate in silence. Place in the *LORD* your sole reliance. Bring Him right offerings. Do His will.
3. So many sigh, “O who will ever show any good to us again?” O *LORD* whose mercy fails us never, bestow on us Your love and favour, and cause Your face on us to shine. More joy and gladness You have sent me than all the joy of those who feast on grain and wine in days of plenty. *LORD*, in the safety that You grant me, I sleep in peace, from cares released.

PSALM 5

Psalm 5

For the director of music. For flutes. A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542

1. O hear my words of lam-en-ta-tion;
LORD, pay at-ten-tion to my sighs.
My God and King, please heed my cries.
To You I turn in med-i-ta-tion.
Grant con-so-la-tion!

2. At sunrise hear my supplication;
O LORD, I seek Your help and grace.
At break of day I plead my case
and wait in eager expectation
for vindication.
3. O LORD, You are a God who never
in any evil takes delight.
The proud You banish from Your sight,
and every liar and deceiver
You doom forever.
4. When led into Your habitation
through Your abundant love and grace,
I will bow down before Your face
and plead in awe-filled adoration
for preservation.

5. O LORD, with Your support provide me;
my enemies are numberless.
Lead me in paths of righteousness.
Make straight Your way and safely guide me;
LORD, walk beside me.
6. Untruthful are the words they utter;
they in their hearts my ruin crave.
Their throats are like an open grave;
they carry on deceitful chatter
with tongues that flatter.
7. LORD, make them pay for their transgression;
through their own plotting, let them fall.
Their many sinful deeds recall;
drive them, O God, to their perdition.
Hear my petition.
8. Let those for help on You depending,
who seek the shelter of Your wings,
their songs of jubilation sing.
LORD, let the praise to You ascending
be never-ending.
9. O LORD, with Your protection cover
all those who love Your holy name,
that they with joy may spread Your fame.
You bless the just and with Your favour
shield them forever.

PSALM 6

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. According to sheminith.
A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542

1. Re-buke me, LORD, no long-er,
nor chas-ten me in an-ger.
In mer-cy hear my groans;
O LORD, see how I lan-guish
and heal my bit-ter an-guish,
for trou-bled are my bones.

2. My soul is troubled greatly.
O quickly come to aid me!
Why do You tarry, LORD?
Turn back and show Your favour;
me in Your love deliver,
according to Your word.
3. How can the dead adore You
or bring their thanks before You,
or praise Your holy name?
I'm weary with my moaning,
worn out with constant groaning
and overcome with shame.

Psalm 6

4. All night, instead of sleeping,
I drench my couch with weeping.
With grief my eyes grow weak
since foes with hate surround me
and without ceasing hound me;
my ruin they all seek.
5. Depart from me, transgressors!
Away, all you oppressors!
God has inclined His ear
and heard my supplication,
my plea for consolation.
The LORD with help is near.
6. He heard me when I pleaded;
my prayers the LORD has heeded.
My foes will be ashamed,
for sudden fear will shake them,
and panic overtake them.
Their doom has He proclaimed.

PSALM 7

Psalm 7

A shiggaion of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning Cush, a Benjamite.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551

1. You are my ref-uge; LORD, de-fend me
be-fore my foes like li-ons rend me
and drag me off, a help-less prey.
If I my friend with harm re-pay,
if I am guilt-y of trans-gres-sion
and have de-light-ed in op-pres-sion,
then let me by my foe be found,
and let him tread me to the ground.

2. Rise in Your wrath, O God of glory,
against my foes and all their fury.
My God, awake! Let them draw near,
that they before You may appear.
Ascend Your throne to judge the nations;
with justice rule their generations.
Judge me, O LORD, for I profess
integrity and righteousness.

3. Let all the evildoers perish.
The just, O LORD, support and cherish.
Let them in You their refuge find –
in You, who search both heart and mind.
God is my shield, my strong defender,
and He will righteous judgments render.
As upright judge, He every day
will to my foes His wrath display.
4. God's anger will be unrelenting
if one does wrong without repenting.
Then He His righteous wrath will show;
He'll whet His sword and bend His bow,
with skill at the offender aiming
His deadly arrows, barbed and flaming.
My foe great evil has conceived
but will not see his goals achieved.
5. With evil pregnant, he'll engender
a wicked brood of lies and slander.
But when for me he digs a pit,
he will himself fall into it.
The mischief that he is intending
will on his own head be descending.
God's justice I will glorify,
and I will praise the LORD Most High!

PSALM 8

For the director of music. According to gittith. A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551



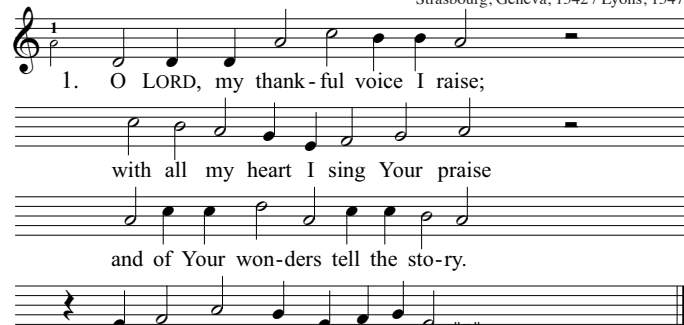
1. O LORD, our Lord, Yours be all ad-o-ra-tion.
How glo-rious is Your Name in all cre-a-tion!
You have dis-played Your maj-es-ty on high;
Your glo-ry reach-es far a-bove the sky.

2. From children's lips You *let Your praise be* sounded, and *on this praise a fortress You have* founded: Our *little ones* Your *strength and glory* show; *through* them You silence *the avenging foe*.
3. LORD, when my gaze upon *the heavens* lingers, on *moon and stars*, the *work of Your own fingers*, O *what is* man that *You should* think of him, *the son of man* that *You should* care for him?
4. You little lower *than divine* have made him and *so with glorious honour* have arrayed him. All *things You* gave to *him as* his domain, *that over* Your creation he might reign.
5. You have appointed *him as lord and* master of *bird and beast in forest, field, and* pasture; of *all the fish and creatures* of the sea. O LORD, how great is *Your name's* majesty!

PSALM 9

For the director of music. To the tune of "The Death of the Son."
A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1547



1. O LORD, my thank-ful voice I raise;
with all my heart I sing Your praise
and of Your won-ders tell the sto-ry.
O God Most High, in You I glo-ry.

2. See *how my enemies* retreat; they stumble, *perish* in defeat. LORD, *for my cause* have *You contended* and from Your *throne my right* defended.
3. The *nations' pride* have *You made* void, my wicked *foes have* You destroyed, their *name wiped* out, their *memory* banished. *Their cities, rooted* out, have vanished.
4. Forever reigns the LORD alone; for judgment *He set* up His throne. The *world He* judges in *uprightness*; *His truth and equity* delight us.
5. God *is a stronghold firm and* sure for all who *grief and* woe endure. Those *seeking Him* are *not forsaken*; *those trusting Him* will *not be* shaken.

Psalm 9

6. Praise God, en-throned on Zi-on's mount.
 To all the world His deeds re-count.
 He who a-veng-es blood is near us,
 and when we cry, our God will hear us.

7. Have *pity*, LORD, my *suffering* see,
 You who from *death's gate* rescue me,
 that *I, O God*, Your *praises* voicing,
 in *Zion's gates* may find rejoicing.
8. My *foes fell* in the *pit they* made,
 their feet caught *in the snares* they laid.
 By *their own guile* their *power is* broken;
 the LORD is *just*, and *He has* spoken.
9. The *wicked* to *Sheol* return –
 all those who *the Almighty* spurn.
 As *for the poor* and *the afflicted*,
 they will not *always be* neglected.
10. LORD, *let not* human *strength* prevail.
 Summon the *nations*, judge them all.
 Strike *them with* terror, *let them* tremble.
 Show them they're *mortal*, *make them* humble.

PSALM 10

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551

1. Why do You stand far off? O LORD, a-rise!
 Why do You hide Your-self in trou-bled days?
 Do You not hear it when the poor man cries?
 For on the poor the wick-ed sin-ner preys;
 with ar-ro-gance his heart is set a-blaze.
 Let him be caught in schemes of his own mak-ing
 with all who of his e-vil are par-tak-ing.

2. The wicked man boasts of his heart's desire,
 gives *greed his blessing*, for the LORD he spurns.
 In haughty pride the *wicked* scorns His ire;
 there *is no room for God* in his concerns.
 In *all his thoughts*, to *Him* he never turns.
 God's *holy laws* do not *restrain or curb* him.
 He *prosper*s, and his *foes dare not disturb* him.

3. He proud-ly thinks, "I shall for-ev-er stand,
for I shall nev-er with mis-for-tunes meet;
there's noth-ing that can stop what I have planned."
His mouth is filled with curs-ing and con-ceit;
be-neath his tongue lurk mis-chief and de-ceit.
In-i-qui-ty and ma-lice he will cher-ish,
and in his snares the in-no-cent will per-ish.

4. He sits in ambush *watching* for his prey
and *murders those not of his wiles aware*.
He searches out the *helpless* on their way.
He *is a lion lurking* in his lair.
He *lies in wait to catch them* in his snare.
Deep in his heart he *thinks*, "God does not see it;
why *fear His wrath*? There *is no need to flee it*."

5. Arise, O LORD! Lift up *Your* mighty hand.
Do not forget the poor. O God, be near!
The humble in their *helplessness* defend!
Why *does the wicked man still* scoff and sneer?
How can he keep on *thinking* without fear,
"God will ignore my *evil and oppression*;
He *will not* make me *pay for my transgression*"?
6. But You, O God, You *do see* grief and woes,
and You *do take the victims'* cause in hand.
To You they flee, for You support all those
who *on their own cannot their* foes withstand.
You *to the fatherless Your* help extend.
LORD, *break the arm of all who evil* cherish;
seek out their wickedness until they perish.
7. The LORD is King; *He reigns* for evermore.
The *heathen soon shall vanish* from His land.
O LORD, You hear the *pleading* of the poor
and You support them with *Your* mighty hand;
the *orphaned and afflicted* You defend,
that *earthborn man, aroused by hate and error*,
no more may strike the land with fear and terror.

PSALM 11

For the director of music. Of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551



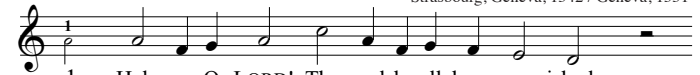
1. The LORD's my ref-uge! Why do you keep saying,
"Flee like a bird that to the moun-tain wings.
For look, the wick-ed bend their bows for slay-ing;
they fit their sharp-ened ar-rows to the strings
to shoot in se-cret those who right-ness cher-ish.
What can the right-eous who to jus-tice clings
still do if the foun-da-tions fall and per-ish?"

2. The LORD is on His throne in heaven's palace.
He sees the sons of Adam from that height;
His eyes inspect their virtues and their malice.
God hates those who in violence delight;
He sends them storms and brimstone fiercely burning.
The LORD is righteous. All who are upright
shall see His face and fill their deepest yearning.

PSALM 12

For the director of music. According to sheminith. A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551



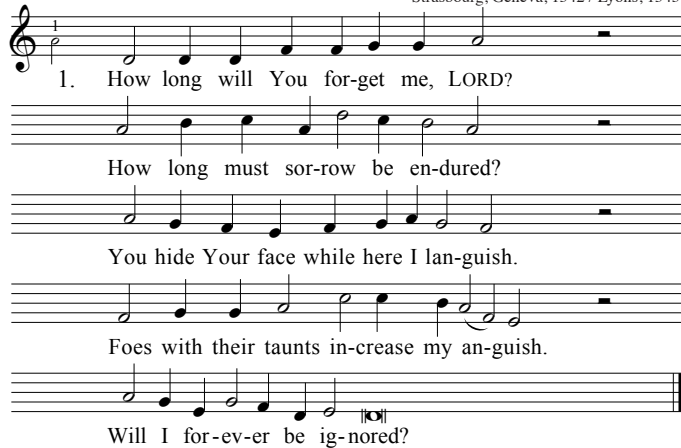
1. Help us, O LORD! The god-ly all have van-ish-ed;
gone are the faith-ful who Your judg-ments seek.
Men lie to one an-oth-er, truth is ban-ish-ed;
with flat-tering lips and dou-ble heart they speak.

2. O may the LORD cut off the lips that flatter,
and those who say, "Our tongue makes us succeed!"
Hear how in vanity they proudly chatter,
"Our lips are ours – what master do we need?"
3. "Because they all oppress the weak and needy,
I will arise and right My people's wrong;
I hear their groans and will destroy the greedy,
and grant My own the rest for which they long."
4. The words of promise which the LORD has spoken
Are purest silver seven times refined.
His covenant stands from age to age unbroken;
He is our God, in truth and faith enshrined.
5. O LORD, protect us from this generation;
forever save us from their ways of sin.
They strut about, and vileness in the nation
is highly praised among the sons of men.

PSALM 13

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1543



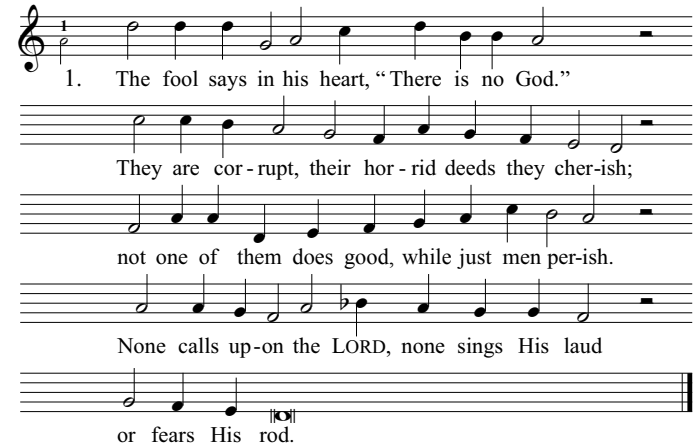
1. How long will You for-get me, LORD?
How long must sor-row be en-dured?
You hide Your face while here I lan-guish.
Foes with their taunts in-crease my an-guish.
Will I for-ev-er be ig-nored?

2. O *LORD my God, now look on me!*
Keep me from death. LORD, hear my plea
and to my eyes restore their lustre.
Save me from downfall and disaster,
or foes will gloat in victory.
3. Though *I was troubled and depressed,*
in *Your unfailing love* I trust;
my heart exults in *Your salvation.*
You, LORD, I praise with jubilation,
for in *Your goodness* I find rest.

PSALM 14

For the director of music. Of David.

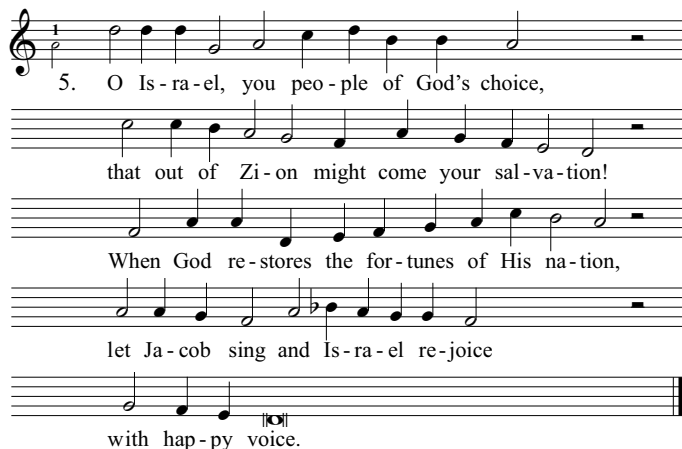
Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551



1. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."
They are cor-rupt, their hor-rid deeds they cher-ish;
not one of them does good, while just men per-ish.
None calls up-on the LORD, none sings His laud
or fears His rod.

2. The LORD looks down from *heaven's holy throne*
to see if anyone has understanding.
Not one seeks God, but wickedness intending,
the sons of men, to sin and evil prone,
His law disown.
3. Will *evildoers never understand?*
As they would eat their bread, they are devouring
my helpless people. God they are ignoring;
they do not pray, but evil they have planned
throughout the land.
4. See how they tremble, how they cringe with fear,
for God is with the just in love unbounded.
They wish to see the poor man's hope confounded,
but when he cries, however loud they jeer,
the LORD shall hear.

Psalm 14

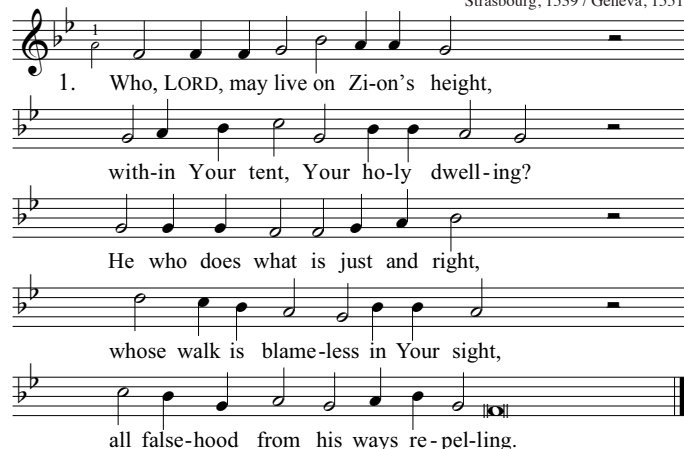


5. O Is-ra-el, you peo-ple of God's choice,
that out of Zi-on might come your sal-va-tion!
When God re-stores the for-tunes of His na-tion,
let Ja-cob sing and Is-ra-el re-joice
with hap-py voice.

PSALM 15

A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551



1. Who, LORD, may live on Zi-on's height,
with-in Your tent, Your ho-ly dwell-ing?
He who does what is just and right,
whose walk is blame-less in Your sight,
all false-hood from his ways re-pel-ling.

2. He *who keeps slander from his tongue,*
who *does no wrong to all those near him,*
nor *will on them discredit bring;*
who *scorns the vile,* while *honouring*
those *who obey the LORD and fear Him.*
3. He *who keeps oaths at any cost,*
who *seeks no interest for his lending,*
nor *takes a bribe to harm the just.*
He'll *stand unshaken, richly blessed*
with *grace and favour never-ending.*

PSALM 16

A miktam of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. God, keep me safe! In You I put my trust.
To You I said, "You are my faith-ful Sav-iour.
LORD, with Your pres-ence I am rich-ly blest.
A-part from You I can ex-pect no fa-vour."
I love Your saints; with them I am u-nit-ed,
and in their midst my soul will be de-light-ed.

Psalm 16

4. I praise the *LORD* and bless Him all the day,
for with His care and counsel He provides me;
even at night my heart shows me the way.
The LORD is near and He in safety guides me.
I worship Him in joyful adoration;
none can deprive me of His preservation.
5. Therefore I will rejoice with heart and soul;
my body rests secure in Your protection.
You will not leave me down in dark Sheol,
nor let Your Holy One there see corruption.
Your presence gives me joy in fullest measures;
Your right hand brings me everlasting pleasures.

2. All those who choose to serve another god
increase the sorrows that they bring upon them.
I will not pour their offerings of blood
or speak their idols' names: my lips will shun them.
But You, O LORD, I shall forsake You never:
my cup and portion You will be forever.
3. You will maintain my happy lot, O LORD;
the lines have fallen in most pleasant places.
The heritage that You to me award
is my delight, a gift that I hold precious.
Your measuring-rod has blessed me with Your favour,
marked out a place to be enjoyed forever.

PSALM 17

A prayer of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. LORD, hear me plead a right-*eous* cause;
with blame-less lips I come be-fore You
and with my bit-ter cries im-plore You
to res-cue one who loves Your laws.
LORD, si-lence eve-ry ac-cu-sa-tion
of those who in my harm de-light
and fix Your eyes on what is right.
To You I look for vin-di-ca-tion.

2. If in the *night* You probe my mind
and test my inner thoughts and feelings,
all that my heart may be concealing,
You will in me no evil find.
My mouth does not commit transgression.
As for the works of wicked men,
Your word has kept me far from sin,
from ways of violent oppression.

Psalm 17

3. Your paths I *took to travel by*,
and never did I slip or waver.
I call on You, I seek Your favour,
for You will answer from on high.
O Shield of those on You depending,
display the wonders of Your love.
LORD, hear my prayer from heaven above
and show Your mercy never-ending.
4. LORD, as the *apple of Your eye*
protect me, with Your care provide me.
Beneath Your wings, O Saviour, hide me:
My deadly foes in ambush lie.
They close their hearts to all compassion
and utter boastful vanity.
They track me down, surrounding me
to make me yield to their oppression.
5. They like a lion crave their prey.
Rise up, O LORD, rise up to show them
the sword You draw to overthrow them
and with Your hand snatch me away.
Save me from those whose only pleasure
is this life's portion, nothing more.
O gorge them with the wealth they store
and let their offspring share such treasure.
6. But I, when I awake, shall see
Your face in righteousness and glory.
LORD, with Your likeness then before me,
how rich and full my joy shall be.

PSALM 18

Psalm 18

For the director of music. Of David the servant of the LORD. He sang to the LORD
the words of this song when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies
and from the hand of Saul. He said:

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. I love You, LORD; You are my strength and pow-er.
My for-tress is the LORD, my rock and tow-er;
my strong de-liv-er-er to whom I flee,
my shield, my help-er, who will res-cue me;
my strong-hold and the horn of my sal-va-tion.
To Him I bring my praise and ad-o-ra-tion.
I call up-on the LORD; He hears my pleas,
and I am saved from all my en-e-mies.

2. The cords of death were tightly coiled around me;
the torrents of destruction nearly drowned me.
I lay in death's entangling cords ensnared;
the grave confronted me and I despaired.
I called on God, the LORD my God, to save me;
in my distress His mighty help He gave me.
He from His heavenly temple heard my cry;
it reached His ears: He answered from on high.

3. The earth then reeled, its pillars rocked and quavered;
the deep foundations of the mountains wavered.
They trembled when they saw God's wrath awake;
his blazing anger made them heave and quake.
Smoke rose up from His nostrils, black and frightening,
and from His mouth flashed scorching fire and lightning.
He tore the heavens in His anger's heat,
while clouds of darkness swirled around His feet.
4. On cherubim He rode, so bright and splendid;
on wings of wind He soared and He descended.
With darkness covered was His majesty;
clouds dark with water were His canopy.
Out of the brightness that advanced before Him
hailstones and fire broke through the clouds that bore Him.
His rolling thunder echoed through the sky,
the mighty roaring voice of God Most High.
5. As earth looked on in fearful awe and wonder,
great bolts of lightning split the skies asunder.
He shot His arrows, routed all His foes;
none dared the fury of His wrath oppose.
The ocean's deep, the bedrock of creation,
You, LORD, laid bare, exposing earth's foundation;
all trembled at Your might and stood aghast
at Your rebuke, Your nostrils' angry blast.
6. From heaven reaching down with His protection,
He pulled me from the waters of destruction.
He saved me from my fiercest enemy,
from those who hate me, foes too strong for me.
In my calamity the LORD was gracious
and brought me to a place serene and spacious.
He came to rescue me and set me free,
for He, the LORD, showed His delight in me.

7. When foes at-tacked me, I was safe-ly guard-ed;
 thus was I for my right-eous-ness re-ward-ed.
 Ac-cord-ing to the clean-ness of my hands,
 God grant-ed me His gra-cious rec-om-pense.
 I have not from His ho-ly laws de-part-ed;
 be-fore Him I was blame-less and pure-heart-ed.
 I have com-mit-ted no in-iq-ui-ty;
 with His re-wards the LORD has fa-voured me.

8. To all those *just and faithful in their dealings*,
 You, *LORD*, are just, Your *faithfulness* revealing.
 Those *who are pure and innocent* will see
 Your *innocence* and *perfect purity*.
 The *shrewd and cunning* You *outdo in cunning*
 as You *expose the evil they are planning*.
 You *save the humble*, for You *hear their cries*,
 but You *bring low those who have haughty eyes*.

9. The dark around *me into brightness* turning,
 You *light my lamp*, O *LORD*, and *keep it burning*.
 With *You* I face a *troop* and *crush them* all,
 and with *my God* I *scale the highest* wall.
 How *perfect* is His way, *how all-excelling!*
 His *word* has proven *flawless, never failing*.
 He *is for* those who in *Him* refuge take
 a *mighty shield*, a *fortress none can shake*.
10. Who but the *LORD is God*, so *great in splendour*?
 Who *is a rock* but *God*, my *strong defender*?
 He with *His* strength has *armed and girded* me;
 my way *He* has *prepared most perfectly*.
 With *Him* as *guide*, I *will not fall or stumble*;
 He *makes my feet* like *deer's feet*, *swift and nimble*;
 He *lets me* stand *secure on mountain heights*.
 There *I am* safe, *supported by His* might.
11. O *LORD*, You *for the day of battle* train me,
 and with *Your* help You *strengthen and sustain* me.
 My *arms* can even *bend the strongest* bow;
 all *who* attack me *I will overthrow*.
 You *granted* me the *shield of Your* salvation,
 and *Your* right hand *upheld my* place and station.
 Your *gentle care* has *made me strong* and great.
 I *did not* slip: my *path is broad and straight*.
12. I chased my *enemies* and *overthrew* them;
 I *did not* stop until I *could subdue* them.
 You *gave me* strength and *armed me for the* fight;
 You *made my* foes all *turn their backs* in flight.
 None *heard their* cries, their *pleas for preservation*;
 I *pounded* them in *their humiliation*
 fine as the *windblown dust* before my feet;
 I *cast them* out like *refuse of the* street.

13. You saved me when be-lea-guered by the na-tions;
 You made me rul-er of their pop-u-la-tions,
 and for-eign peo-ple, once to me un-known,
 now hon-our me and cringe be-fore my throne.
 When they but heard of me, they all o-beyed me,
 for You with ra-diant glo-ry have ar-rayed me.
 They left their strong-holds, o-ver-come with fear;
 all trem-bled as be-fore me they drew near.

14. The LORD, He *lives!* Praised be my rock forever!
 Exalted be my faithful God, my Saviour.
 He gives me vengeance, justice He pursues;
 He hostile nations under me subdues.
 O LORD, You honoured me when foes disgraced me;
 You far above my adversaries placed me.
 You freed Your servant from the tyrant's might;
 the fierce and lawless You have put to flight.

15. I will extol You, LORD, among the nations
 for all Your wondrous works of vindication.
 Your perfect righteousness I will proclaim
 by singing praises to Your holy name.
 Time after time God makes His king victorious,
 grants His anointed triumphs great and glorious.
 To David and his offspring He extends
 the loving faithfulness that never ends.

PSALM 19

Psalm 19

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

Geneva, 1542/1543

1. The spa-cious heavens de - clare
God's glo - ry eve - ry-where;
the skies pro-claim His might.
The knowl-edge they dis-play
day ech-oes forth to day
and night makes known to night.
They use no speech or word,
yet eve - ry-where is heard
the voice of all cre - a - tion.
The truth that it ex - pounds
through-out the world re - sounds
and reach-es eve-ry na-tion.

2. God *in the* firmament
pitched *for the* sun a tent,
the *canopy* of light.
It's *like a* joyful groom
who *from his* bridal room
leaps *forth with* great delight.
Like *one who* runs a race
with *strong and* eager pace,
it *speeds across the* heavens;
the *sun its* path completes,
and *from its* piercing heat
not *anything is* hidden.
3. God's *law is* sound and whole;
it *will* revive the soul,
for *it new* strength supplies.
His *testimony* sure,
trustworthy evermore,
will *make the* simple wise.
His *precepts* plainly show
how *right they* are, and so
the *heart they* cheer and brighten.
The *LORD's* commandments pure
shine *forth with* radiance clear
and *so the* eyes enlighten.
4. The *fear of* God is clean
and, *free from* sin and stain,
forever will endure.
His *judgments* all express
unfailing righteousness;
the *LORD's* decrees are sure.
They *far exceed* in worth
the *finest* gold on earth:
His *precious* testimony!
They *even* sweeter are
than *all that's* sweet and pure
in *combs that* drip with honey.

5. Your ser - vant, who has heard
the warn - ings of Your word,
to them pays heed, O LORD.
Those walk - ing in Your way,
who Your com - mands o - bey,
will win a great re - ward.
But, LORD, who can per - ceive
what er - rors one may have
un - witt - ing - ly com - mit - ted?
O cleanse me! Let me be
of se - cret fail - ings free,
of hid - den faults ac - quit - ted.

6. O *LORD*, from wilful ways
preserve *me* all my days:
the *rule* of sin prevent.
Then *I shall* blameless be,
from *grave offences* free,
and *wholly* innocent.
LORD, *hear me* as I pray:
Let *what* my tongue may say
and *what* my heart may ponder
be *pleasing* in Your sight,
Redeemer great in might,
my *Rock and my Defender*.

PSALM 20

Psalm 20

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. O may the LORD in days of trou- ble
from Zi- on hear your plea.
With His sup- port may you be a- ble
to gain the vic- to- ry.
May Ja- cob's God re- mem- ber ev- er
your of- fer- ings of spic- es
and from His dwel- ling look in fa- vour
on all your sac- ri- fic- es.

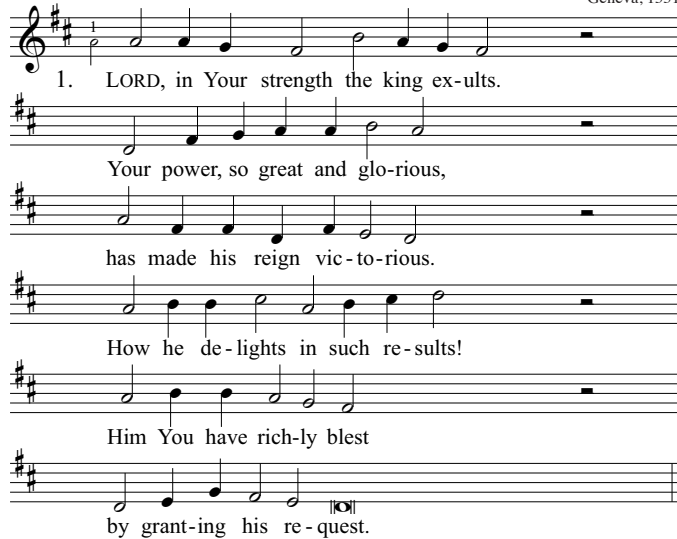
2. *May all your heart's desire be granted;
may God fulfil your plans.
May we with shouts of joy unstinted
your victory enhance.
Then we shall praise the LORD so glorious,
His holy name professing,
and let our banners fly victorious.
God crown your prayers with blessing.*

3. *I know now that the LORD's anointed
will with His help be blessed.
He hears the one He has appointed
and grants him his request.
Yes, from His heaven high and holy
His right hand strong and mighty
shall curb the proud, exalt the lowly,
and with great deeds delight me.*
4. *Some boast of chariots, some of horses,
but we boast in the name
of Him who rules all heaven's forces,
our God so great in fame.
They will collapse and fall before us,
but we shall rise undaunted.
LORD, save the king, make him victorious,
that so our prayers be granted.*

PSALM 21

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

Geneva, 1551



1. LORD, in Your strength the king ex-ul-uls.
Your power, so great and glo-rious,
has made his reign vic-to-rious.
How he de-lights in such re-sults!
Him You have rich-ly blest
by grant-ing his re-quest.

2. No favour You from him withhold;
with blessings You surround him.
With glory You have crowned him –
yes, with a crown of purest gold.
He asked for life, and see:
You gave it endlessly.
3. Great is his glorious majesty
through triumphs that You granted.
To him You have presented
gifts that endure eternally.
Joy in Your presence, LORD,
is his supreme reward.

Psalm 21

4. Our king trusts in the LORD alone,
who never will forsake him.
Nothing will ever shake him,
for God His love to him has shown.
He knows he can rely
on help from God Most High.
5. O king, your enemies are doomed.
Your hand will overpower them,
and fire will soon devour them,
for, by God's blazing wrath consumed,
those who oppress the just
will turn to ash and dust.
6. Their offspring, too, you will destroy
and from among the nations
blot out their generations.
Whatever schemes they may employ,
whatever evil deed,
your foes will not succeed.
7. When you, O king, your arrows aim,
those who for war assemble
will flee in fear and stumble.
LORD, be exalted in the fame
of Your victorious might.
We praise it day and night.

PSALM 22

For the director of music. To the tune of "The Doe of the Morning,"
A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1548



1. My God, O why have You for-sak-en me?
When I to You, O God, for ref-uge flee,
why do You grant no help and fail to see
my trib-u-la-tion?
I groan by day, but You are far from heed-ing
the mourn-ful cries that I have been re-peat-ing;
by night al-so You do not hear my plead-ing.
I find no rest.

2. Yet You, O Holy One, in glory dwell,
enthroned upon the praise of Israel.
In You our fathers put their trust as well
and were delivered.
For when they were by cares and woes afflicted,
they trusted You and so were well protected.
To You they cried and they were not neglected
or put to shame.

Psalm 22

3. But I, I *am a worm, and not a man.*
I *am despised and scorned* by everyone;
those *who my grief and misery* have seen
say as they mock me:
"He trusts in God, relying on His favour;
why does the LORD not help him as his Saviour?
If God delights in him, let Him deliver
and rescue him."
4. You drew me *from the womb* and gave me rest,
for You, LORD, soothed me *on my mother's breast*;
right *from my birth* I have on You been cast,
God my Defender.
You ever since the day my mother bore me
have been my God. In my distress assure me
that You are not far off but will restore me;
none else can help.
5. Fierce bulls, those that on Bashan's heights abound,
with dreadful might besiege me all around;
they open wide their mouths at me and sound
like roaring lions.
Poured out like water, all my strength is going;
my bones are out of joint. My fear is showing;
my heart, like wax within my body flowing,
all melts away.
6. Dried like a potsherd, all my strength is gone;
my tongue sticks to my palate as I moan,
and in the dust of death You lay me down.
Dogs here surround me.
I'm skin and bones, and gloating foes are staring;
they've pierced my hands and feet, no cruelty sparing,
and they divide the garments I was wearing
by casting lots.

7. But You, O LORD, be not far off, I pray.
 Come quick-ly to my aid this ver-y day,
 that from the dead-ly sword my life now may
 soon be de-liv-ered!
 Res-cue my soul from dogs that fierce-ly glow-er,
 from li-ons' mouths, in this my dark-est ho-ur.
 Save me from horns of ox-en great in pow-er,
 O LORD my Strength!

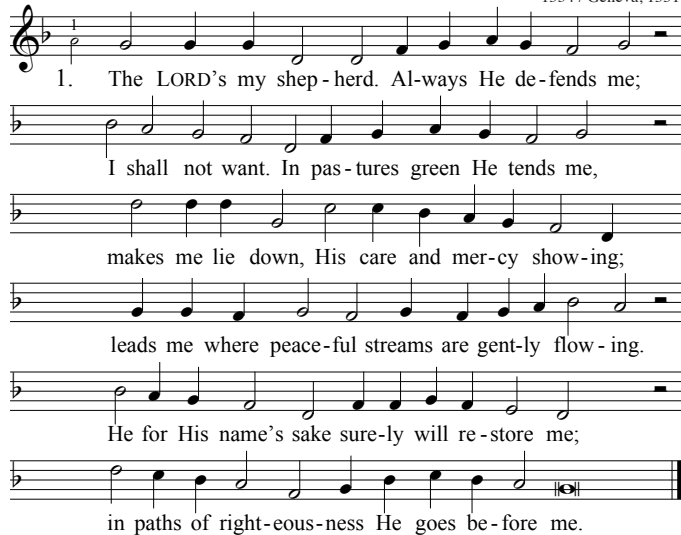
8. I to my *brothers of Your* name will tell
 and *praise You* in the *midst of* Israel.
 All *you who fear the LORD*, *praise Him* as well
 in *your assembly*.
 O *Jacob's* offspring, *honour and adore Him*.
 He *did not* scorn the *lowly* or *abhor him*.
 God *did not* keep *His face* *concealed* before him
 but heard his cries.

9. I'll sing my *praises where God's* people meet
 and *keep the vows that I* will there repeat.
 Praise *God, who gives the poor* enough to eat.
 Rejoice forever!
 All *nations* will remember to revere Him,
 and *all their families* will bow down and fear Him.
 He *issues His commands* and all will hear Him:
 The LORD is king.
10. All who are *rich* will fear *His* majesty;
 all *who go down to dust* will bow the knee –
 yes, *all whose own strength* cannot keep them free
 from *death and ruin*.
 Posterity through *every generation*
 will *serve Him* and proclaim *His* vindication;
 those *yet unborn* will hear of the *salvation*
 that He has won.

PSALM 23

A psalm of David.

1534 / Geneva, 1551



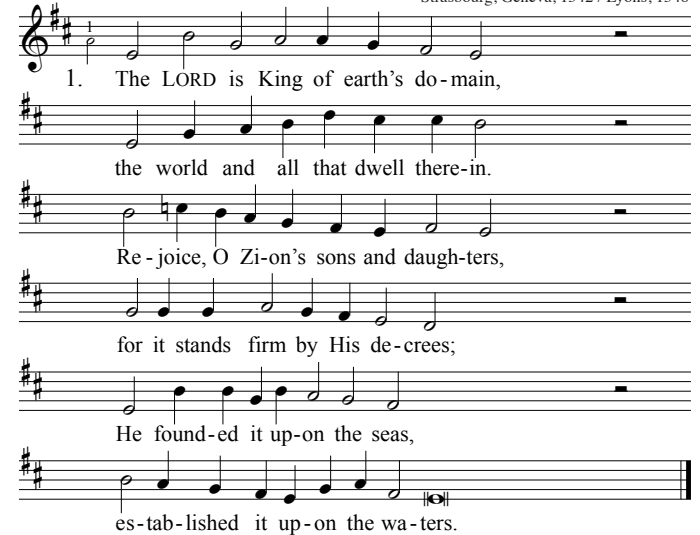
1. The LORD's my shep-herd. Al-ways He de-fends me;
I shall not want. In pas-tures green He tends me,
makes me lie down, His care and mer-cy show-ing;
leads me where peace-ful streams are gent-ly flow-ing.
He for His name's sake sure-ly will re-store me;
in paths of right-eous-ness He goes be-fore me.

2. Though *by its gloom and shadows overtaken*,
in death's dark valley *I am not forsaken*;
I fear no evil: You are there beside me.
Through all the depths of sorrow You will guide me.
You comfort me, O God of my salvation;
Your rod and staff, they are my consolation.
3. Your *bounteous table You prepare before me*,
and all my foes look *on while You restore me.*
My head You have with soothing oil anointed;
my cup runs over, for You have appointed
goodness and mercy to forsake me never,
and *in Your house, LORD, I will dwell forever.*

PSALM 24

Of David. A psalm.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1548



1. The LORD is King of earth's do-main,
the world and all that dwell there-in.
Re-joice, O Zi-on's sons and daugh-ters,
for it stands firm by His de-crees;
He found-ed it up-on the seas,
es-tab-lished it up-on the wa-ters.

2. Who shall ascend *the hill of God*,
stand *in His holy place*, and laud
the *LORD who lives and reigns forever*?
He *who withstands the wicked's lure*,
whose hands are clean, whose heart is pure,
who keeps his oaths and does not waver.
3. Rich blessings shall *be his reward*,
and *vindication from the LORD*,
who is the rock of his salvation.
Such are all those who seek His face.
O God of Jacob, God of grace,
from *You is all their expectation.*

Psalm 24



4. Lift up your heads, you arch and gate;
O an-cient doors, rise up and wait.
Let Him come in, the King all-glo-rious
Who is this King so great in fame?
The LORD Al-might-y is His name,
He who in bat-tle is vic-to-rious.

5. Lift up your heads, *you arch* and gate;
O ancient doors, rise up and wait.
Let *Him come in, the King* of glory.
Who is this King, in glory great?
The *LORD of hosts!* *Him* we await.
The *LORD, He is the King* of glory.

PSALM 25

Of David.

1543 / Geneva, 1551



1. LORD, for You my soul is long-ing;
O my God, in You I trust.
Do not let my foes dis-grace me;
stop the taunts of the un-just.
All whose hope is in Your name
You will hon-our with Your bless-ing,
trai-tors You will put to shame -
those with-out ex-cuse trans-gress-ing.

2. Show *your paths* to me, *Your* servant,
and *direct me* in Your ways.
Lead *me in Your truth* and teach me;
guide and *keep me* all my days.
LORD, I *know Your word* is true,
and *with eager expectation*
all day *long I hope* in You
as the *God of my salvation*.

3. LORD, re-mem-ber Your great mer-cy,
which has ev-er been of old.
Call to mind Your stead-fast prom-ise
and Your con-stant love un-fold.
LORD, for-give my sins of youth,
my re-bel-lion, my trans-gres-sion.
God of good-ness, grace, and truth,
think of me in Your com-pas-sion.

4. He, *the LORD*, is good and upright;
love and *mercy* He will show.
Sinners are by Him instructed
in the way that they should go.
He reveals the path of light
to the humble and the lowly,
guiding them in what is right,
teaching them His laws most holy.

5. All God's paths are love and mercy,
faithfulness that never ends,
for all those who keep His covenant
and who honour its demands.
As befits Your holy name,
LORD, forgive my evildoing;
great though be my sin and shame,
hear my prayer, Your love renewing.
6. Who, then, fears the LORD sincerely,
walking with Him day by day?
God will lead him safely onward,
guide him in the chosen way.
He will thrive, enjoy success;
with his children he will share it,
for his offspring God will bless
in the land they will inherit.
7. God confides in those who fear Him,
has to them His friendship shown.
To all those on Him depending
He will make His covenant known.
I my eyes on Him have set
and will trust Him without ceasing.
He will free me from the net,
from the snare my feet releasing.
8. Turn to me and show Your favour;
I am lonely and distressed.
From my troubles me deliver;
save me, for I am oppressed.
LORD, I plead for Your support
as I pine away and languish.
Heal the sorrows of my heart
and relieve my growing anguish.

Psalm 25



9. Look on me in Your com-pas-sion
and my mis-er-y re-lieve.
Wipe a-way all my trans-gres-sions;
all my sins, O LORD, for-give.
See how count-less are my foes
who ma-li-cious-ly be-set me.
Con-stant-ly their num-ber grows;
see how fierce-ly they all hate me.

10. Guard *my life!* Do not neglect me;
Let me *not be* put to shame.
May *integrity* protect me,
for my *hope is* in Your name.
Trusting in *Your power* supreme,
I await *my liberation*.
God, Your *Israel* redeem
from *distress and tribulation*.

PSALM 26

Of David.

Geneva, 1551



1. O vin-di-cate me, LORD!
De-ceipt I have ab-horred;
I've led a life of blame-less ways
and nev-er did I wa-ver.
I've al-ways sought Your fa-vour;
in You I've trust-ed all my days.

2. LORD, test my *heart and* mind;
examine me to find
how *much I* long to be upright.
Let me *not fall and* perish;
Your *steadfast love* I cherish
and in Your *truth* I take delight.
3. With fools I *do not* sit;
I *hate the* hypocrite
and *scorn all* evil company.
My *seat I've* never taken
with *those who* have forsaken
the *pathways of* integrity.

4. O LORD, I wash my hands
 to show my in-no-cence,
 and in Your courts I take my place.
 A-round Your al-tar, sing-ing,
 my voice with rap-ture ring-ing,
 I laud Your won-drous deeds of grace.

5. O LORD, I love Your house,
 the *place that You once chose*
 to be Your home in Israel.
 I stand in adoration,
 for in Your habitation
 Your majesty and glory dwell.
6. Do not sweep me away
 with those who kill and slay,
 those who against You have rebelled –
 men with corruption tainted,
 with wicked schemes acquainted,
 those whose right hands with bribes are filled.

7. But I will blameless be.
 In mercy ransom me!
 My feet stand firm on level ground;
 in the great congregation
 I'll join in celebration
 to praise the LORD with joyful sound.

PSALM 27

Psalm 27

Of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. God is my light, my ref-uge, my sal-va-tion.
 Whom shall I fear? The LORD comes to my aid.
 He is my strength in all my trib-u-la-tion.
 Of whom shall I then ev-er be a-fraid?
 When foes who seek my life close in on me,
 they all shall stum-ble and in an-guish flee;
 and though an ar-my should in war draw near,
 I will be con-fi-dent, I will not fear.

2. One thing have *I desired of God* as favour,
 that I may *always in His temple dwell*
 to view the *beauty of the LORD* my Saviour
 and in *His house to seek His holy will*.
 For *in the day of trouble* and of strife
 He *in His shelter will preserve my life*.
 Within *His tent He'll keep me* at His side;
 high on a *rock He safety will provide*.

3. My head shall *I lift up now with rejoicing*
 above the *hostile forces* round about,
 and in *His tent, my jubilation* voicing,
 my *sacrifice I'll bring with joyful shout*.
 I *will extol the steadfast* love of God,
 with *song and music His great mercy* laud.
 LORD, *hear me when I call and answer me*.
 Show me Your *favour; listen to my plea*.
4. "Come, seek *My face*." O LORD, *so You have spoken*,
 and in *response my heart says earnestly*:
 "Your face I'll *seek!*" My *vow will not be broken*.
 LORD, *hear me! Do not turn away from me*,
 nor *thrust Your servant angrily aside*,
 for *You have ever been my help and guide*.
 Do *not forsake me, listen to my cry*.
 On You, O *God my Saviour*, I rely.
5. My father and *my mother may forsake me*:
 The LORD is *faithful and His help is sure*.
 Teach me *Your way. O LORD and Saviour*, take me,
 lead me on *pathways level and secure*,
 for *evildoers lie in wait for me*.
 Hand *me not over to their tyranny*.
 False *witnesses against me still arise*;
 they breathe out *malice and abusive lies*.
6. How I would have *despaired in my affliction*
 if I had *not believed that in this life*
 the LORD would *show His goodness, His protection*;
 I would have *perished in my tears and strife*.
 Wait for the *LORD; be strong and undismayed*.
 The *LORD is faithful. Why then be afraid?*
 Take *courage, for His steadfast love is sure*.
 Wait for the *LORD. His mercy shall endure*.

PSALM 28

Of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. O LORD my Rock, please hear my cry-ing;
do not be deaf to all my sigh-ing.
I'll be, if left here un-de-fend-ed,
like those who've to the pit de-scend-ed.
I raise my hands to beg for grace
and lift them toward Your ho-ly place.

2. LORD, do not *drag me off* to perish
with *those who sin and evil* cherish;
let me not *share their condemnation*.
They are a *wicked generation*;
to *neighbours words of peace* they feign
while *in their hearts their misdeeds* reign.
3. Let those who *have in sin* delighted
for *all their evil* be requited.
Reward them *for each wicked* action;
repay them *duly with* destruction.
Since *they the works of God* ignore,
He'll *tear them down, build them no* more.

Psalm 28

4. Praised be the *God of my salvation*,
for *He has heard my supplication*.
He is my *strength, my shield* forever;
I trust in *Him: He fails me never*.
My *heart exults with joyful song*;
to *Him all thanks and praise* belong.
5. The LORD will *grant us preservation*;
He *as a fortress of salvation*
protects him *whom He has anointed*
and all those *as His heirs appointed*.
O *be their shepherd!* Safely guard
and *carry them forever*, LORD.

PSALM 29

A psalm of David.

Psalm 29

Geneva, 1551

1. Heaven-ly hosts, your hom-age bring
to the LORD, your might-y King!
His the power and glo-ry be;
bow be-fore His maj-es-ty.
O-ver wa-ters rolls His thun-der;
light-ning tears the clouds a-sun-der.
Hear God's voice re-sound in splen-dour;
trem-ble at His might and gran-deur.

2. Cedars *shatter*, forests fall,
mountains *shudder at His call*.
Like a calf *leaps Lebanon*,
like a wild-ox *Sirion*.
God's voice, *flames from heaven* flashing,
with the *roar of thunder* crashing,
shakes the *wilderness*, and broken
lie *its oaks when He has spoken*.

3. Thunders *roar and* lightnings glare;
God's voice *strips the forest* bare.
In *His temple courts* all cry:
"Glory to *the LORD on high!*"
He who *reigns as King forever*
sits *enthroned on flood and river*.
May the *LORD give strength and power*,
peace *upon His people* shower.

PSALM 30

Psalm 30

A psalm. A song. For the dedication of the temple. Of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. LORD, Yours all praise and glo-ry be.
Out of the depths You lift-ed me,
and it was You who kept my foes
from gloat-ing o-ver all my woes.
You spared me from death's des-o-la-tion,
for You, LORD, heard my sup-pli-ca-tion.

2. Sing to the *LORD*, you saints of His,
and praise Him for His *faithfulness*.
God's anger *quickly* fades away;
His love will for a lifetime stay.
Tears fill the *night*, but soon thereafter
the morning *dawns with joy and laughter*.
3. I said in my *prosperity*
that *none could shake or trouble* me.
But it was *You, LORD*, all along
who *made my mountain firm and strong*,
for when You *hid Your face*, I stumbled;
I was *dismayed, by troubles humbled*.

4. To You I cry for *mercy*, LORD.
What *profit* can my death afford?
If I go *down into the grave*,
can *dust proclaim* Your power to save?
LORD, hear me! *Show Your grace and favour*.
Come to my *help and be my Saviour*.
5. You turned my *mourning and distress*
to *joyful dance and happiness*,
stripped off my *sackcloth* of despair
and *gave me robes* of joy to wear.
O LORD my God, for *Your great favour*
I will give *thanks and praise* forever.

PSALM 31

Psalm 31

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. In You, LORD, I have tak-en re-fuge;
with You I am se-cure.
Let me no shame en-dure.
Come in Your right-eous-ness to save me.
In-cline Your ear to hear me
and with Your help stay near me.

2. O LORD, come quickly to my rescue
and be my rock and tower.
To save me, show Your power;
You are my rock and mighty fortress.
With safety You provide me
and for Your name's sake guide me.
3. Free me from traps for me intended;
O LORD, heed my request.
In You I put my trust.
Into Your hands I give my spirit;
I'm ransomed by Your favour,
LORD, God of truth, my Saviour!

4. I hate all those by whom vain idols
are worshipped and adored,
for I trust in the LORD.
I will be glad and sing Your praises,
my exultation voicing
while in Your love rejoicing.
5. You, seeing my distress and anguish,
have come to set me free,
did not surrender me
to enemies who show no mercy.
My feet, O LORD so gracious,
You've set in spacious places.
6. In my affliction, LORD, show pity.
My eyes are dimmed with grief;
my soul yearns for relief.
My life is spent in pain and sorrow.
See how my strength is failing,
for I am weak and ailing.
7. I am the scorn of all my haters.
My neighbours jest and jeer;
friends flee from me in fear.
I have become a broken vessel;
I'm like the dead, neglected,
forgotten and rejected.
8. I hear the whispering of many.
There's terror all around,
and wicked plots abound.
Against my life all are conspiring;
they with their schemes await me,
for bitterly they hate me.

9. But, LORD, I trust in You to save me;
 on You I will de-pend.
 My times are in Your hand;
 de-liv-er me from my pur-su-ers.
 Let me no long-er lan-guish
 in my dis-tress and an-guish.

10. Now *cause Your face to shine* upon me;
 let me *not* suffer shame,
 for I *call on Your name*.
 But *let all lying lips be silenced*;
 let *those whose pride* abounded
 go to the grave *dumbfounded*.
11. LORD, *how abundant is Your goodness*,
 which *is reserved* for all
 who *fear You and recall*
 what *You have done* for *those who serve You*,
 and *all who once oppressed them*
 will *see that You have blessed them*.

12. O LORD, *Your presence is their shelter*;
 there *the intrigues of men*
 will *target them in vain*.
 You *in Your dwelling hide and shield them*,
 far from *all strife and slander*,
 for *You are their defender*.
13. I *praise You, LORD, for all Your mercy*,
 the *wonders of Your love*.
 From *You I felt cut off*
 when *foes besieged me in a city*,
 but *You gave liberation*;
 You *heard my supplication*.
14. O *love the LORD, all you His people!*
 The *faithful He will spare*;
 the *proud He'll give their share*.
 Be *strong and let your hearts take courage*.
 His *own He will deliver*;
 He *will forsake you never*.

PSALM 32

Of David. A maskil.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551

1. Blest is the man whose tres-pass is for-giv-en,
whose sins are cov-ered in the sight of heav-en;
a-gainst whom You, O LORD, will gra-cious-ly
not count his guilt and his in-iq-ui-ty.
Blest he who with a heart con-trite and low-ly
con-fess-es all his sins, O LORD most ho-ly;
who does not se-cret-ly Your laws trans-gress,
whose spir-it har-bours no de-ceit-ful-ness.

2. When I kept silent, *sinful ways condoning,*
I pined away through my incessant groaning.
Your hand weighed down on me in my deceit;
my strength was sapped as by the summer's heat.
To You, O God of justice and compassion,
I then at last acknowledged my transgression.
I said, "My misdeeds I to You confess,"
and You forgave my guilt and sinfulness.

Psalm 32

3. Let all the godly *when they grieve or suffer*
to You their prayers and supplications offer.
When roaring floods of mighty waters rise,
they shall not reach him who on You relies.
O LORD, You are my shelter, You protect me.
You are my shield, whatever may afflict me.
Songs of deliverance echo all around;
You cheer my spirit with their joyful sound.
4. I will instruct you, *with my aid provide you,*
and in the way that you should go will guide you.
My counsel will be ever at your side,
and, keeping watch, I will with you abide.
Be not a fool, who has no understanding;
do not behave like horse or mule, depending
on bit and bridle to control their course;
they disobey unless restrained by force.
5. With many woes the *wicked are afflicted,*
but those who trust in God are well protected;
them will the LORD with steadfast love surround.
Those who revere Him are with mercy crowned.
Be glad, you righteous, in the LORD rejoicing;
exult in Him, your jubilation voicing.
All you of upright heart, with joyful shout
now let the praises of the LORD ring out.

PSALM 33

Psalm 33

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. Re-joice before the LORD, you right-eous,
and with a new song praise His name.
Praise is most fit-ting for the up-right;
with harp and lyre de-clare His fame.
For the LORD has spo-ken
words of truth un-bro-ken;
He is faith-ful still.
Right-eous-ness He treas-ures;
earth is with the meas-ures
of His good-ness filled.

2. *By His command He made the heavens, their stary host by His decree. He gathered in His storehouse chambers the waters of the deepest sea. Let the earth revere Him, and its peoples fear Him. God spoke, and 'twas done. He set all creation firm on its foundation. Praise Him, everyone!*
3. *God foils the scheming of the nations; He frustrates all the peoples' plans. The LORD is steadfast in His purpose; for evermore His counsel stands. Blest with His salvation is the happy nation where the LORD is God. Freed from all oppression, they are His possession. Spread His praise abroad!*
4. *The LORD looks down from heaven, His dwelling, and He observes the human race; the earth and all its population He sees from that exalted place. He knows every nation; all are His creation, and their hearts He moulds. It's the LORD who ever sees all their endeavour; He their works beholds.*

5. No king is saved by his great ar-my;
 by strength the might-y are not freed.
 A war horse gives no hope of vic-tory;
 in vain the war-rior trusts his steed.
 But the LORD our Sav-iour
 looks on those with fa-vour
 who His mer-cy trust,
 and when fam-ines grieve them
 He will nev-er leave them
 prey to death and dust.

6. *Our soul awaits the great Redeemer; our help and shield, Him we acclaim. In Him alone our heart rejoices, for we trust in His holy name. God of our salvation, hear our supplication; to Your word be true. Let Your love and favour rest on us forever, as we hope in You.*

PSALM 34

Of David. When he pretended to be insane before Abimelech,
who drove him away, and he left.

Geneva, 1551

1. The LORD I will ex-tol,
at all times bless His ho-ly Name.
I will not cease to sing His praise;
His good-ness I pro-claim.
I glo-ry in the LORD;
let the af-flict-ed hear my voice.
O mag-ni-fy the LORD with me!
With me in Him re-joice.

2. I sought the LORD in prayer;
He heard my plea and answered me.
From all my worries and my fears
the LORD has set me free.
Those who on Him rely
will never hang their heads in shame.
When this poor man cried out for help,
the LORD delivered him.

Psalm 34

3. The Angel of the LORD
always encamps around all those
who fear Him and exalt His name;
God saves them from their woes.
O come, then, taste and see
that He, the LORD, is good and just.
Blest is the man who turns to Him
and puts in Him his trust.
4. All you who are His saints,
revere the LORD and worship Him,
for those who fear Him have no want;
He richly blesses them.
Though lions may grow faint
and pangs of hunger may endure,
those seeking Him lack no good thing;
in Him they rest secure.
5. Come, children, hear my voice;
you I will teach to fear the LORD.
Who is the man desiring life,
its pleasures and rewards?
Keep then your tongue from wrong
and let your lips no falsehood speak.
Depart from evil and do good;
true peace and concord seek.
6. The LORD from heaven above
regards the righteous with His eyes,
and when they call on Him, His ears
are open to their cries.
But evildoers all
the anger of the LORD must face;
He cuts them off, and from the earth
their name He will erase.

7. The right-ous cry for help,
and God in mer-cy hears their pleas;
He gra-cious - ly de-liv-ers them
from all their mi-ser-ies.
The LORD is al-ways near;
the bro-ken-heart-ed He will heal.
Those crushed in spir-it He will save,
to them His love re-veal.

8. The *righteous* man may grieve;
he *many troubles* may endure.
The *LORD* will free him from *them* all;
His *help* is ever sure.
Why should he then despair?
God *keeps his bones* from *injury*;
not *one of them* will *come to harm*,
for *great and good* is He!

9. Their *countless* evil deeds
will *slay the wicked* in the end.
All *those who hate* the *righteous* ones
He *to their doom* will send.
The *LORD* *redeems the life*
of *those who serve and honour* Him;
all *who in Him* their *refuge* take
He *never* will condemn.

PSALM 35

Of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. Strive, LORD, with those who strive with me,
and fight my fight to set me free.
Take shield and buck-ler, rise in splen-dour;
come to my aid, be my de-fend-er.
Draw out the spear and bar the way
of those who seek me as their prey.
Speak now the re-as-sur-ing word
that You are my sal-va-tion, LORD.

2. Let *those be humbled in disgrace*
who *seek my life*, whose *threats I face*.
Let *those by whom I now am hounded*
retreat in shame and be confounded.
Foiled be the *mischief they intend*;
may they be *chaff before the wind*,
and *may the Angel of the LORD*
pursue them with His glittering sword.

Psalm 35

3. Their *path be slippery*, dark *with woe*,
the *Angel of the LORD their foe*.
They *without cause together* banded
to *hide a net for me* intended.
They tried to *trap me in a pit*;
may they *themselves fall into it*.
Let *ruin* seize them *unawares*;
may *they be caught in their own snares*.
4. Then *I will in the LORD rejoice*
and *praise Him with a thankful voice*.
With *songs and shouts of exultation*
I *will delight in His salvation*.
With all my *being I will cry*,
“Who is like *You, O LORD Most High* –
You *who deliver those in need*
from *their oppressor’s power and greed*?”
5. *Malicious witnesses arise*;
they *question me and utter lies*.
With *evil they for good repay me*.
I *am perplexed. They seek to slay me*.
Yet I was *grieved when they were sick*;
their sorrows *hurt me to the quick*.
I *went in sackcloth and would fast*;
I *bowed in prayer, my eyes downcast*.
6. My *heart was sad as for a friend*;
I *mourned, my mantle I would rend*
as *one who sorrows for a brother*
and *who with grief laments his mother*.
But when I *stumbled, they rejoiced*;
gathering around, their hate they voiced,
and *wretches whom I did not know*
mocked me and gloried in my woe.

7. Un - ceas - ing - ly they scoff and jeer;
 they gnash their teeth at me and sneer.
 O LORD, how long yet will this rab - ble
 a - buse me with their god - less bab - ble?
 O from these li - ons res - cue me!
 Then, prais - ing You who set me free,
 I'll in the great as - sem - bly bless
 Your mer - cy and Your faith - ful - ness.

8. Let *enemies* who scheme and lie
 not *smirk* at me and *wink* the eye,
 for *without reason* they accuse me.
 Those *who so wrongfully* abuse me
 do not speak *peace*, for they intend
 to harm the *quiet in the land*.
 I hear those loudmouths *falsely* claim:
 “We’ve seen that you have *cause for shame*.”

9. LORD, *You have heard* and seen *this* all;
 do *not be silent* as I call,
 nor *stand aloof*, O my Defender!
 Wake up, arise, and justice render!
 Contend for me, my God and Lord,
 and give my foes their due reward.
 O LORD my God, grant me redress
 according to Your righteousness.
10. Let *them not say*, “Yes, we have won.
 We’ve *swallowed* him; he is *undone!*”
 Those *who against me are assembled*
 be *shamed*, by their confusion humbled,
 and let all *victory* be denied
 to those puffed up with *boasting* pride.
 Let *all who gloat* at my expense
 be *clothed with shame* as recompense.
11. May *those rejoice* with shout and song
 who *for my vindication* long,
 and *may they praise* with happy voices
 the LORD, *who in my good* rejoices.
 Let them repeat how great He is
 and laud His *perfect* righteousness.
 Then *my tongue*, too, with word and song
 will *praise His justice* all day long.

PSALM 36

Psalm 36

For the director of music. Of David the servant of the LORD.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. Deep in my heart I know the voice
that lures the wick-ed to his choice
of sin and self-de-lu-sion.
With-out all fear of God is he,
and blind-ed by com-pla-cen-cy,
he dreads no re-tri-bu-tion.
The words he speaks are wick-ed lies;
he sneers at what is good and wise
in mal-ice un-re-lent-ing.
In bed at night he plots de-ceil.
On crook-ed paths he sets his feet,
from e-vil not re-pent-ing.

2. O LORD, Your faithfulness and love reach to the heights of heaven above. Your justice lasts forever; it is like mountains vast and steep; Your judgments all are ocean-deep. Both man and beast You favour. We in the shadow of Your wings to You, O LORD, for refuge cling; You will not let us perish. All whom You to Your feasts invite will drink from rivers of delight. Your precious love we cherish.
3. In Your light we see light, O LORD; You are the fount from which is poured life bountiful and precious. Let not Your caring love depart from those who are of upright heart; for evermore be gracious. O let me not by men of pride be trampled down or pushed aside and scornfully mistreated. See how God vindicates His own: There lie the wicked, overthrown and utterly defeated!

PSALM 37

Psalm 37

Of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1547 / Geneva, 1551

1. O do not fret be-cause of e-vil-do-ers
or en-vy those whose wick-ed deeds you see.
They'll fade like grass and lose their wealth and pow-er;
they like green plants will with-er pres-ent-ly.
Do good and trust in God, your rock and tow-er;
dwell in the land, en-joy se-cu-ri-ty.

2. The *LORD* will grant your heart's desire as favour when you make Him your joy and your delight. Commit your way to Him. The *LORD* will ever let vindication dawn for the upright. He richly will reward your just endeavour; your cause will like the noonday sun shine bright.
3. Rest in the *LORD* with patient expectation, and when the wicked prosper in their way, do not be envious of their wealth and station. Let anger never in your heart hold sway and do not be embittered by vexation. It only leads to trouble and dismay.

4. Those *hoping in the LORD* for vindication will as their heritage possess the land. But *evildoers*, to their consternation, will be cut off by God's almighty hand. Soon you will see their former habitation laid waste, reduced to nothing in the end.
5. The *humble* will possess the land forever and will enjoy great peace within their gates. The *wicked*, ready with their bow and quiver, may gnash their teeth at them in angry hate, but God looks down and laughs at their endeavour, for He has set the day of their defeat.
6. The *wicked* draw the broadsword of oppression and bend the bow to bring the needy down, to slay the upright by their bold aggression. But when the *LORD* comes, they'll be overthrown; He'll break their bows and drive them to perdition. Their swords will merely pierce themselves alone.
7. Far better are the just man's few possessions than all the wealth that *evildoers* hoard. Shattered will be the strong arm of oppression, but all the just find refuge in the *LORD*. He knows their days, and them He in compassion will with a lasting heritage reward.
8. They are not put to shame in days of trouble and will in famine have enough to eat. As for God's foes, the glory of the rebel will fade like meadows in the summer's heat and, vanishing like smoke of burning stubble, they all will perish, humbled in defeat.



9. The wick-ed bor-row, but with-out re-pay-ing;
as for the just, they give with o-pen hand.
Those whom God curs-es, He will be de-stroy-ing;
to those He bless-es He will give the land.
The LORD de-lights in those who with-out stray-ing
walk in His ways; on Him they can de-pend.

10. When in their steps they falter and are shaken,
the LORD Himself will grasp them by the hand.
Young *once*, now old, I've seen how God has taken
good care of those who on His help depend:
I've never known the just to be forsaken
or seen their children begging in the land.
11. They're always freely giving, freely lending;
blest are their children, praised by everyone.
Like them, do good, to those in need attending;
turn from all sin and paths of evil shun.
Then you will have as home through time unending
the pleasant land that God for you has won.

12. The righteous man to wisdom gives expression;
his tongue speaks only what is just and right.
Within his heart, God's law is his possession.
his walk will never wander from its light.
Though evil men have made his death their mission,
the LORD will come to save him from his plight.
13. The LORD will never fail to show His favour,
nor let the just by judges be condemned.
Walk in His way; hope in the LORD your Saviour.
He will exalt you, giving you the land,
and when the wicked are cut off for ever
you'll see the outcome of what He has planned.
14. I've seen a wicked man whose ruthless power
was firmly rooted like a native tree,
a tree whose top above all others towered.
But soon no trace of him was left to see;
although I tried to find this evildoer,
I searched in vain: forever gone was he!
15. Observe the upright and the just consider;
there is a future for the man of peace.
Transgressors will be wiped out altogether;
the line of their posterity will cease.
Then will the just rejoice with one another
in blessings that will evermore increase.
16. The just look to the LORD for their salvation;
He is their shelter in the time of stress,
the fortress where they seek their preservation
when by the wicked hounded and oppressed.
In Him they place their hope and expectation
and find a refuge in His faithfulness.

PSALM 38

A psalm of David. A petition.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551

1. LORD, re-buke me not in an-ger,
and no long-er
let Your wrath on me de-scend.
You have pierced me with Your ar-rows,
brought me sor-rows,
bowed me down with Your own hand.

2. You have *of all strength bereft* me;
health *has left* me,
and Your wrath is my despair.
My *iniquities distress* me
and *oppress* me;
they are *more than* I can bear.
3. All my *wounds are foul and reeking;*
ever *weakening,*
I am utterly bowed down.
Bitter *fruits of folly reaping,*
I *go weeping,*
for my *vigour is all gone.*

Psalm 38

4. I am *crushed and numb* with anguish
as *I languish,*
and in misery I groan.
LORD, to *You my mournful* crying
and *my sighing*
are not *hidden* or unknown.
5. How my *pounding heart is* straining;
strength *is waning,*
and my eyes are failing me.
I am *by my friends neglected*
and *rejected;*
kinsmen *see my plagues* and flee.
6. Those who *lie in wait* to snare me
will *not spare* me
all the mischief they devise.
Seeming *deaf and dumb* before them,
I *ignore* them
and I *offer* no replies.
7. You, O *LORD my God,* will hear me
and *be near* me;
You, O LORD, will *heed* my voice.
Though my *foot may slip* and waver,
show *Your favour;*
do not *let my foes* rejoice.
8. I am *prone to fall* or stumble,
and *I tremble,*
thinking of my grief and pain.
I *acknowledge my transgression*
in *confession,*
deeply *troubled* by my sin.

Psalm 38



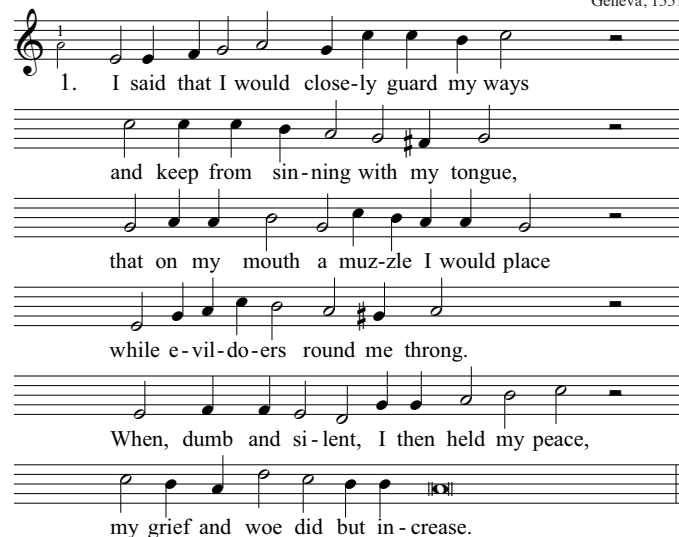
9. Count-less might-y foes be-rate me,
fierce-ly hate me;
with-out cause I am op-pressed.
Ill for good they al-ways ren-der;
me they slan-der
since I strive for what is best.

10. LORD, forsake me not but hear me
and stay near me;
be my help and shield, I pray.
Hasten to my aid, O Saviour;
show Your favour.
O my God, do not delay.

PSALM 39

For the director of music. For Jeduthun. A psalm of David.

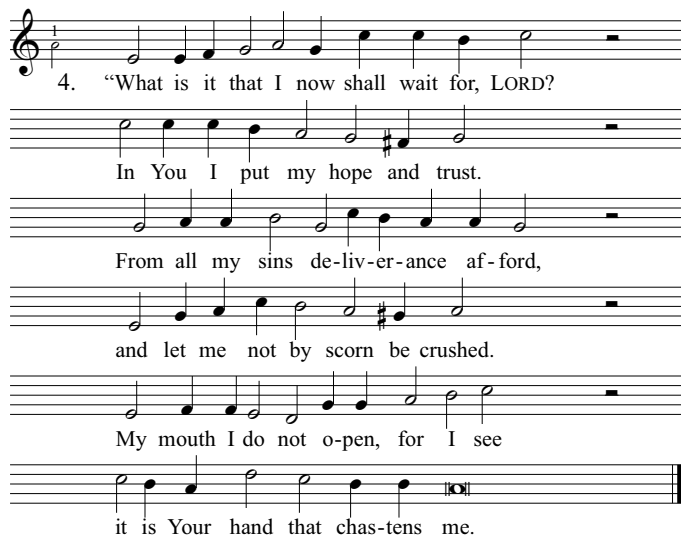
Geneva, 1551



1. I said that I would close-ly guard my ways
and keep from sin-ning with my tongue,
that on my mouth a muz-zle I would place
while e-vil-do-ers round me throng.
When, dumb and si-lent, I then held my peace,
my grief and woe did but in-crease.

2. My heart grew hot, within me set ablaze.
I cried, "LORD, let me know my end.
Reveal to me the measure of my days,
for as mere handbreadths You extend
my span of fleeting days, so frail and light.
It is as nothing in Your sight.
3. "Surely a man is nothing but a breath;
he as a shadow goes his way.
Surely in vain he struggles till his death;
he piles up riches while he may,
not knowing who will later gather them.
His striving will not profit him.

Psalm 39



4. "What is it that I now shall wait for, LORD?
In You I put my hope and trust.
From all my sins de-liv-er-ance af-ford,
and let me not by scorn be crushed.
My mouth I do not o-pen, for I see
it is Your hand that chas-tens me.

5. "Remove from me the chastisement I fear,
lest I should perish through Your wrath.
At Your rebukes, that which a man holds dear
will fade and shrivel like a moth.
For man is merely breath and vanity;
yes, like a puff of wind is he.

6. "LORD, hear my cry, give ear to my request;
do not my bitter tears ignore.
For I with You am but a passing guest,
as all my fathers were before.
O turn away from me Your watchful eye
and give me joy before I die."

PSALM 40

For the director of music. Of David. A psalm.

Geneva, 1551



1. I wait-ed and I wait-ed for the LORD.
Then from the pit He lift-ed me;
from clay and mire He set me free:
The LORD bent down to me, my cry He heard.
Up-on a rock He brought me.
A new song He then taught me;
I shout His praise a-broad.
Now man-y will draw near
to see all this and fear
and put their trust in God.

2. Blest is the man who makes the LORD his trust,
 who does not turn to men of pride,
 to those who in false gods con-fide,
 but clings to Him, our God so great and just.
 Your plans for us to pon-der,
 Your might-y deeds of won-der
 You, LORD, have mul-ti-plied.
 None can with You com-pare,
 nor all Your works de-clare,
 nor count them, though he tried.

3. No *sacrifice* did *You*, O LORD, require;
 but *You gave me an open ear*.
 I said, "*I've come; see, I am here*.
 O God, to *do Your will is my desire*.
 Now *take my life and mould it*.
 I've come: *the book foretold it*;
 it's *written in the scroll*.
 Your *will is my delight*;
 Your *law is day and night*
 within *my heart and soul*."

4. *Before the congregation I profess*
 the *love and truth You have revealed*.
 My *lips, O LORD, I have not sealed*;
 my heart has *not concealed Your righteousness*.
 For *everywhere I've spoken*
 of *faithfulness unbroken*,
 of *blessings from above*.
 The *great assembly heard*
 of *Your trustworthy word*
 and of *Your steadfast love*.

5. Do *not withhold Your mercy and Your grace*;
 preserve *me by Your steadfast love*
 and let *Your truth, shown from above*,
 uphold me *ever, LORD, before Your face*.
 For *troubles all surround me*;
 my *many misdeeds* hound me:
 I *can no longer see*.
 My *sins, I do confess*,
 are *almost numberless*;
 my *heart is failing me*.

6. Be pleased, O LORD, to save and res-cue me.
 Come to my help! O LORD, make haste!
 Let those be ut-ter-ly dis-graced
 who seek my life and cause my mis-er-y.
 May they en-dure frus-tra-tion
 and face hu-mil-i-a-tion.
 Hear how they jeer at me.
 May they in shame re-treat,
 ap-palled at their de-feat,
 crushed by their in-fa-my.

7. *May those who seek You in Your love rejoice; may they all say continually, "Great is the LORD in majesty," and sing His praise with joyful heart and voice. Though I am poor and needy, the LORD Himself will heed me; He will not turn away, for He will think of me and will my helper be. My God, do not delay!*

PSALM 41

Psalm 41

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

Geneva, 1551

1. How blest is he who cares a-bout the poor:
him will the LORD de-fend.
In times of trou-ble God keeps him se-cure;
blest is he in the land.
His en-e-mies de-mand his life in vain,
though he be near death's door.
God will sus-tain him on his bed of pain
and him to health re-store.

2. I said, "O LORD, be merciful to me;
heal me, for I have sinned."
See how my *enemies* maliciously
wait for my life to end.
Whoever visits *me* is not sincere,
for in his spite-filled heart
he spins false *tales, for everyone to hear*
as soon as he departs.

3. My *enemies*, with *hatred* fierce and *grim*,
all whisper in disdain,
"Some deadly *sickness* has its grip on him;
he will not rise again."
One of my dearest friends, who had my trust,
with whom I shared my bread,
lifts up his *heel against me*, like the rest,
and wishes I were dead.
4. But *You, O LORD*, be *merciful to me!*
Help me see justice done.
By this I *know that You* are pleased with me:
my haters have not won.
I will forever in *Your presence dwell,*
by You upheld again.
Blest be the *LORD, the God of Israel,*
from age to age! Amen.

Book II
Psalms 42-72

Psalm 42

PSALM 42

Geneva, 1551

1. As a deer will thirst in an-guish
for re-fresh-ing wa-ter brooks,
so for You, O God, I lan-guish;
so my soul for com-fort looks
to the liv-ing God a-bove.
How I thirst for His great love!
When shall I ap-pear be-fore Him
and with-in His courts a-dore Him?

2. Bitter tears of lamentation
are my food by night and day.
In my deep humiliation
“Where is now your God?” they say.
Then my soul in sorrow longs
for the days when festive throngs
walked with me, their praises voicing,
to God’s house with loud rejoicing.

3. O my soul, why are you grieving,
why disquieted in me?
Put your hope in God, believing
He will still your refuge be.
I again shall see His face
and extol Him for His grace.
He will show His help and favour,
for He is my God and Saviour.
4. I from lands beyond the Jordan
think of You in my distress
and will even from Mount Hermon
not forget Your faithfulness.
Deep re-echoes there to deep
as the waters plunge and leap.
Over me with thunderous roaring
all Your waves are wildly pouring.
5. But the LORD will send salvation
and by day His love maintain;
He will grant me preservation,
and I will rejoice again.
I will sing and pray at night
to the God of life and light.
He will in His mercy hear me
and for evermore be near me.
6. I will ask my Rock and fortress,
“Why have You forgotten me?
Why must I go on in sadness,
hounded by the enemy?”
Their rebukes and scoffing words
pierce my bones like pointed swords,
as they say in proud defiance,
“Where is God, your firm reliance?”


Psalm 42



7. O my soul, why are you griev-ing,
why dis-qui-et-ed in me?
Put your hope in God, be-liev-ing
He will still your re-fuge be.
I a-gain shall see His face
and ex-tol Him for His grace.
He will show His help and fa-vour,
for He is my God and Sav-iour.

PSALM 43

Geneva, 1551



1. O God, grant me Your vin-di-ca-tion.
Lord, plead my cause, de-fend-ing me
a-gainst a cruel, un-god-ly na-tion;
and from a crook-ed gen-er-a-tion
that loves de-ceipt and treach-er-y,
save me and set me free!

2. You are my *stronghold* from oppression.
O why then *have* You cast me off?
Why *let* my foes with their aggression
cause me such mourning and depression?
See how they all around me *scoff*
and at my sorrows laugh.
3. Send forth, O *God of my salvation*,
Your light and *truth* to be my guide
and *lead* me to my destination:
Your holy hill and *habitation*,
where I with You will safely *hide*
in *shelter* You provide.

Psalm 43



4. Then, at Your sa-cred al-tar stand-ing,
my hands to You in prayer I'll raise.
With harp and voice, in wor-ship blend-ing,
Your courts re-sound; while psalms, as-cend-ing
to You, my high-est joy, bring praise
for all Your won-drous ways.

5. My soul, why *are you sad* and grieving,
why so oppressed with anxious care?
Hope yet in God, His word believing;
for, *light and joy* from Him receiving,
I'll praise His name again and laud
my Saviour and my God.

PSALM 44

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A maskil.

Geneva, 1551



1. With our own ears, O God of glo-ry,
we've heard our fa-thers tell the sto-ry
of all Your deeds in days of old.
You drove out na-tions proud and bold.
You crushed them with Your might-y hand;
Your own You plant-ed, made them flour-ish.
Not by their sword they won the land,
nor did their arm make them vic-to-rious.

2. It was *Your hand*, Your *arm so mighty*,
Your *face that shines on us so brightly*,
for in Your *people* You delight.
You *are my King*, my God, whose might
no *foes of Jacob* can oppose.
You, great *Defender*, will not fail us;
through *You* we overwhelm our foes
and *trample* down all *who assail* us.

3. I do not trust in bow or brav-ery;
 my sword will from de-feat not save me,
 but You, Lord, to our res-cue came
 and put the en-e-my to shame.
 In God we glo-ry all day long,
 for we are thank-ful for Your fa-vour.
 We shall ex-alt You in our song
 and praise Your ho-ly name for-ev-er.

4. Yet *You have* cast off *and* abased us;
 our *foes in battle have* disgraced us.
 You with our *armies march no* more;
 shameful *defeat* we must endure.
 We've *all been* plundered by the foe;
 You left us *prey to* devastation.
 Like *sheep that to the* slaughter go,
 You *scattered us among* the nations.

5. O *God, no* longer *You uphold* us,
 and for a trifle *You have* sold us.
 Our neighbours *look at us and* mock,
 for *You've made us* their laughingstock.
 The *news of our* disgrace has spread:
 we are a *byword to* the nations.
 They *look at us and* shake their head,
 and *great is* our humiliation.
6. I *hear their* taunts and *see their* sneering;
 bent on *revenge, they keep on* jeering.
 All this has *brought us* bitter shame,
 though *we did not* forget *Your* name;
 we *did not* break *Your* covenant
 and from *Your path* we never wandered.
 You *crushed us in the* jackal's haunt,
 and *we to* darkness were surrendered.
7. Had *we the* name of *God* neglected,
 had *we to* foreign *gods* defected,
 You would have *seen it* long ago.
 All *secrets of* the heart *You* know.
 Yet for *Your* sake we *all day* long
 face death like *sheep soon* to be slaughtered.
 Our *enemies are* fierce and strong;
 we *have been* overwhelmed and scattered.
8. O *Lord, wake* up! Why *are You* sleeping?
 Come to *our* help, *Your* *promise* keeping.
 Why is it that *You* *hide* *Your* face?
 Have *You* *forgotten* our *disgrace*?
 We *lie* defeated in the dust.
 Rise up and *help us!* *Do not* slumber.
 Redeem us, *You* in whom we trust!
 Your *steadfast* love, O *God, remember!*

PSALM 45

For the director of music. To the tune of "Lilies."
Of the Sons of Korah. A maskil. A wedding song.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. With no-ble themes my heart and mouth are ring-ing,
and to the hon-our of the king I'm sing-ing.
In-to a hymn of praise my thoughts are strung,
and read-y like a scribe's pen is my tongue.
You are more hand-some than all men a-round you;
O king, with last-ing glo-ry God has crowned you.
Poured on your lips is grace be-yond com-pare;
so God has fa-voured you for ev-er-more.

2. O mighty one, our *hero and defender*,
gird on your sword, ride forth in *pomp and splendour*;
as you rejoice in *triumph and success*,
advance the *cause of truth and righteousness*.
Let your right hand teach you *dread deeds of power*.
Your sharpened arrows make the nations cower;
they pierce the hearts of *foes who love deceit*,
and so the peoples *fall beneath your feet*.

Psalm 45

3. Your *throne, like God's own throne, will stand forever*;
your *sceptre's righteousness will never waver*.
Justice you love and *evil you detest*.
Therefore you have *beyond your peers been blest*,
with *oil of joy by God, your God, anointed*.
With *myrrh and spices all your robes are scented*.
From *palaces adorned with ivory*
stringed *instruments please you with melody*.
4. The *queen, arrayed in Ophir's gold, is seated*
at your *right hand, by noble women greeted*.
Hear me, O daughter! As a royal spouse,
forget your *people and your father's house*.
Then will the king *desire your beauty's splendour*.
He is your lord; to him your *homage render*.
To you shall Tyre, your *favour coveting*,
the richest gifts of *gold and jewels bring*.
5. Within her chamber, *glorious is the princess*;
her *radiant beauty draws adoring glances*.
She is arrayed for *dazzling pageantry*,
adorned with gold and rich embroidery.
She is led forth in *glory and resplendence*,
with *throngs of royal maidens in attendance*.
With *joy and gladness they all shout and sing*,
proceeding to the *palace of the king*.
6. You will have many sons, O king most gracious;
they will be born to *take your fathers' places*.
You'll make them rulers over all the land;
your *kingdom will continue without end*.
Your name I will make known to all the nations,
to be remembered through the *generations*.
In *celebration they will sing your praise*
forever and forever, all their days.

PSALM 46

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah.
According to alamoth. A song

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. God is our strength, our shield and tow-er;
He will de-fend us by His pow-er.
In times of trou-ble He is near;
with Him as help, we will not fear.
Though earth may shake in great com-mo-tion
and moun-tains plunge in-to the o-cean,
though roar-ing seas make moun-tains quake,
His peo-ple He will not for-sake.

2. *There is a river always bringing
to God's own city joy and singing.
Within her are the holy courts
where God Most High His grace imparts.
He in her midst His place has taken;
therefore she never will be shaken.
The LORD will to her help appear
when He at break of day draws near.*

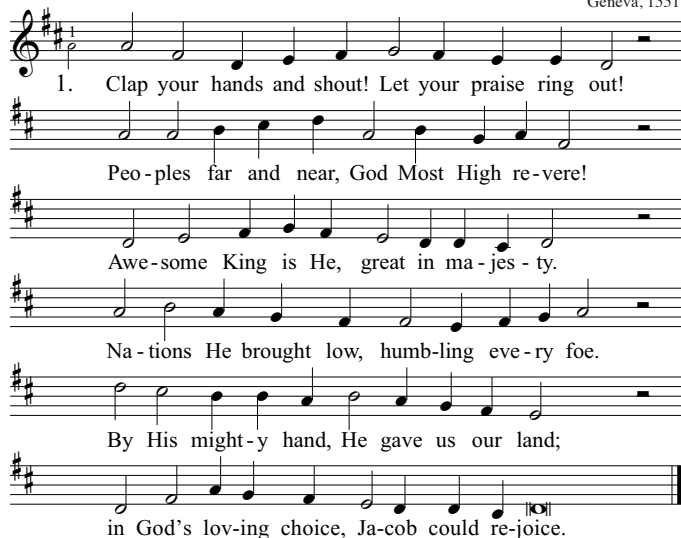
Psalm 46

3. *The nations rage, the kingdoms tumble;
our foes in terror shake and tremble.
God's voice in thunder echoes forth;
His blazing anger melts the earth.
The LORD Almighty, great and glorious,
is on our side and goes before us.
He is our fortress, firm and sure;
with Jacob's God we are secure.*
4. *Come, see God's works: the desolations
that He has brought upon the nations.
He everywhere makes warfare cease
and blesses all the world with peace.
The bow He breaks, the spear He shatters;
the shields He burns, and foes He scatters.
See all the wonders He has done,
the victories His hand has won.*
5. *"Be still and know, all you who hear Me,
that I am God, that you must fear Me.
As your exalted King I reign,
and all the earth is My domain."
The LORD Almighty, great and glorious,
is on our side and goes before us.
He is our fortress, firm and sure;
with Jacob's God we are secure.*

PSALM 47

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

Geneva, 1551



1. Clap your hands and shout! Let your praise ring out!
Peo-ples far and near, God Most High re-vere!
Awe-some King is He, great in ma-jes-ty.
Na-tions He brought low, humb-ling eve-ry foe.
By His might-y hand, He gave us our land;
in God's lov-ing choice, Ja-cob could re-joyce.

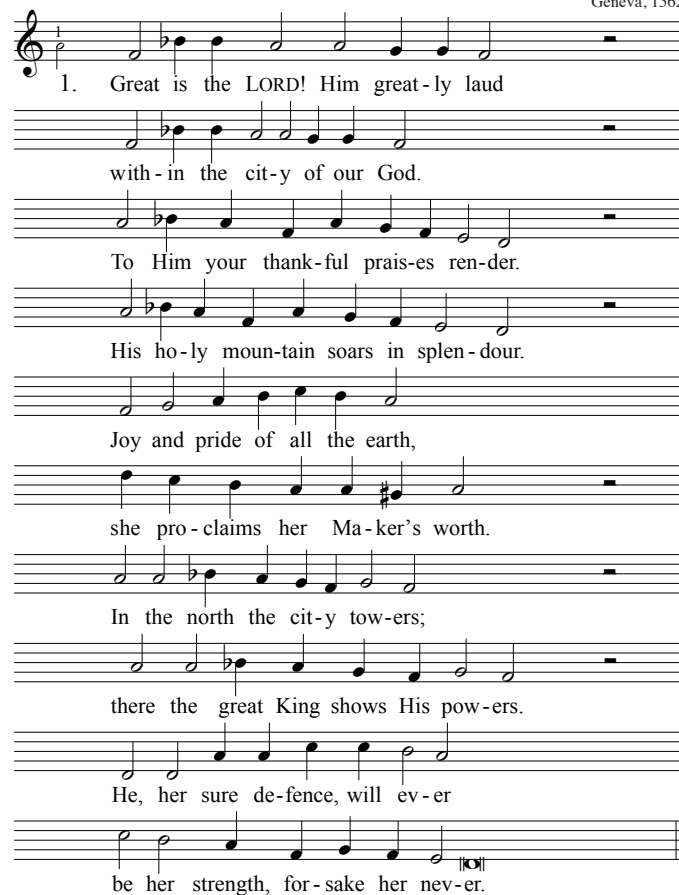
2. God went *up on high* with a joyful cry,
and the *trumpet's sound* echoed all around.
Now with *loud acclaim* magnify His name.
Play the *harp and sing*, praise *the LORD our King*.
He rules *all the earth*. Shout *His glory* forth!
Let your *praise abound*. Let *the music* sound!

3. Glorious is *God's reign*, great is *His domain*.
He rules *all the lands*, issues *His commands*,
and their *princes all gather at His call*.
As *His people* they *Abraham's God* obey,
for He *from His throne* claims them as *His own*.
Let Him *be adored* as *our sovereign Lord*!

PSALM 48

A song. A psalm of the Sons of Korah.

Geneva, 1562



1. Great is the LORD! Him great-ly laud
with-in the cit-y of our God.
To Him your thank-ful prais-es ren-der.
His ho-ly moun-tain soars in splen-dour.
Joy and pride of all the earth,
she pro-claims her Ma-ker's worth.
In the north the cit-y tow-ers;
there the great King shows His pow-ers.
He, her sure de-fence, will ev-er
be her strength, for- sake her nev-er.

2. Her foes joined forc-es to ad-vance
 and led their troops with con-fi-dence,
 but when those kings her walls sur-round-ed,
 they stood a-ghast and were a-sound-ed.
 Stunned and shak-en by the sight,
 they in pan-ic took to flight;
 seized by pain, they quaked and trem- bled –
 pains that la-bour pangs re-sem- bled –
 as when, by an east wind bat-tered,
 ships of Tar-shish all are scat-tered.

3. *As we have heard, so have we seen here in the city, God's domain, which He establishes forever; the LORD of hosts forsakes it never. In Your temple we give thought to the peace Your hand has brought, and Your steadfast love we ponder. Your great name, O God of wonder, and Your praise, Your exaltation, reach the earth's remotest nation.*

4. *God's love and righteousness abound. Let Zion's mount with joy resound; let Judah's daughters be rejoicing, the praises of His judgments voicing. Walk round Zion's citadels, count her towers and crenelles, see her walls, her strong foundations; tell the coming generations: Such is God, our God, forever; He, our guide, will leave us never.*

PSALM 49

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

Geneva, 1562

1. Come, hear my words, you peo- ples eve-ry-where,
and be at - ten - tive to what I de - clare.
All you who dwell through - out the earth, draw near;
let high and low, and rich and poor, give ear.
My mouth to you great wis - dom will im - part,
for thought - ful and dis - cern - ing is my heart.
My ear now to a par - a - ble in - clin - ing,
I with the harp will show my rid - dle's mean - ing.

2. In evil days why should my courage fail,
though wicked men against me may prevail –
those who in their possessions place their trust,
who with their own great riches are impressed?
None for his brother's life can pay the price,
nor give to God a ransom to suffice.
From death's decay man's wealth can save him never,
and it will not let him live on forever.

Psalm 49

3. He surely *sees that even* wise men die,
that *foolish* men cannot death's power defy.
The grave's dark pit will *ever be* their home,
their dwelling for all ages yet to come.
Although to great estates they give their name,
they leave their wealth for other men to claim.
For man, despite the riches he may cherish,
cannot abide but, like the beasts, will perish.
4. Such is the fate of proud and foolish men,
the end of those who praise them for their sin.
Into Sheol like sheep they headlong run;
their shepherd, Death, stands by to urge them on.
They all go down directly to the grave;
from death's corruption no one them can save.
But God will pay my ransom and not leave me,
for He into His glory will receive me.
5. When any man grows rich, be not afraid,
nor let his glory render you dismayed.
He will not take it with him when he dies;
on his possessions he in vain relies.
Though he may here enjoy the praise of men,
he will not see the light of life again.
For man, despite the riches he may cherish,
cannot abide but, like the beasts, will perish.

PSALM 50

A psalm of Asaph.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

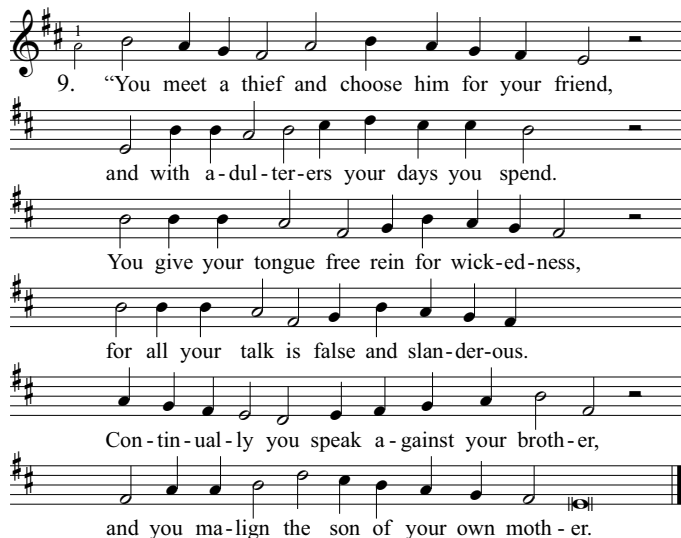
1. The Might-y One, the LORD, pro-claims His word;
God speaks, and eve-ry-where His voice is heard.
He from the ris-ing to the set-ting sun
calls all the earth and sum-mons eve-ry-one.
Out of His Zi-on God shines forth in splen-dour;
men to her per-fect beau-ty hom-age ren-der.

2. Our God will not keep silent. *See, He comes!*
Fire goes before Him and all things consumes;
fiercely a tempest round about Him swirls.
His summons He at His creation hurls;
the heavens above and earth below shall hear Him:
He comes to judge His people. *May all fear Him!*
3. Hear the command God issues from His throne:
“Go out and gather those who are My own,
who made a solemn covenant with Me,
by sacrifice pledging their loyalty.”
His justice is proclaimed throughout the heavens.
God is the judge; by Him is judgment given.

Psalm 50

4. “My people, I will speak, so listen well.
I testify against you, Israel.
I am your God, the God whom you exalt.
With all your sacrifice I find no fault;
daily you bring burnt offerings before Me
and with your worship honour and adore Me.
5. “I do not need your goats or your young bulls;
I will not take them from your pens and stalls.
Mine are the cattle on a thousand hills,
mine every beast that in the forest dwells.
All birds, all animals in field and pasture
belong to Me, their maker and their master.
6. “If I were hungry, why should you be told?
For mine are earth and sea and all they hold.
Shall I then drink the blood or eat the flesh
of any goats or bulls that you possess?
Would this be what you think I am demanding?
Why should I need all this, on you depending?”
7. “Bring the Most High your sacrifice of praise;
fulfil your vows and thank Him for His grace.
Then in the day of trouble, call on Me,
and I will rise in answer to Your plea;
I will deliver you, My hand will save you,
and you will praise Me for the help I gave you.”
8. To sinners who do not hold Him in awe
God says, “What right have you to quote my law
and to recite the words so dear to Me?
You mouth those covenant words so shamelessly
but hate it when I of your sin remind you;
My warning words You always cast behind you.

Psalm 50



9. "You meet a thief and choose him for your friend,
and with a-dul-ter-ers your days you spend.
You give your tongue free rein for wick-ed-ness,
for all your talk is false and slan-der-ous.
Con-tin-ual-ly you speak a- gainst your broth-er,
and you ma-lign the son of your own moth-er.

10. "These *things* you've done, and *when I yet kept* still
you *thought I* was like you and all was well,
but *now I* shall accuse you to your face
and so confront you with your vile disgrace.
Mark this, you who forget all that God gave you,
or *I will* rend you and let no one save you.

11. "Great is My mercy. Happy he will be
who with his sacrifices honours Me,
who in true thankfulness before Me bows
and worships Me as he fulfils his vows,
who walks the path of righteous dedication.
Him I will show My wonders of salvation."

PSALM 51

For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him
after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551



1. O gra-cious God, be mer-ci-ful to me,
and in Your love, Your in-fi-nite com-pas-sion,
blot out my sins, re-move all my trans-gres-sions.
O God, have mer-cy. Lis-ten to my plea!
From eve-ry taint of e-vil wash me clean,
and from my guilt and mi-ser-y re-lieve me.
For I am deep-ly con-sci-ous of my sin,
and all day long my mis-deeds haunt and grieve me.

2. God, You have I offended, You alone.
In mercy hear my sorrowful confession.
How evil in Your sight is my transgression!
You rightfully condemn what I have done;
just is, O God, the sentence I received.
I have from birth been guilty, ever sinning;
for in iniquity was I conceived,
tainted with sin right from my life's beginning.

3. You teach me all the wis-dom I must know,
for You want truth to dwell and rule with-in me.
Purge me with hys-sop. Wash and ful-ly clean me
till I am whit-er than the whit-est snow.
Let me hear shouts of hap-pi-ness and joy,
and let the bones You crushed leap up in danc-es.
From my trans-gres-sions turn Your face a-way.
Blot out my guilt, e-rase all my of-fenc-es.

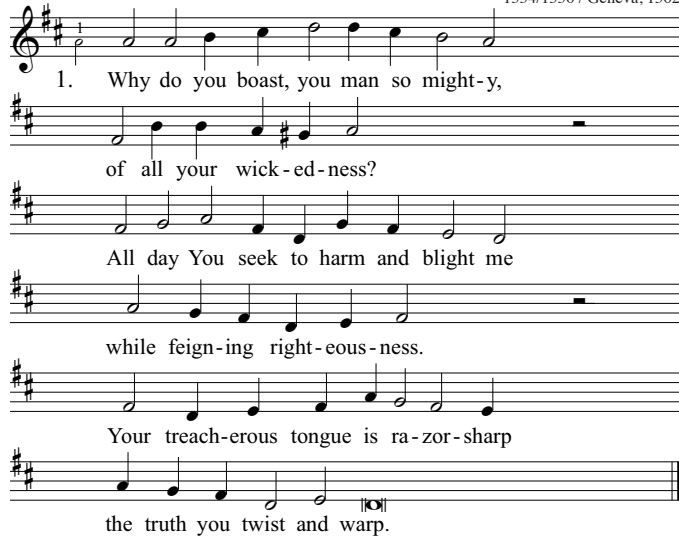
4. Create in me a pure, clean heart, I pray;
renew a steadfast spirit deep within me.
Give me new life to strengthen and sustain me;
God, from Your presence cast me not away.
Show me Your mercy. Do not take from me
Your Holy Spirit, but again, O Saviour,
let me the joy of Your salvation see,
and make me willing to obey You ever.

5. Then to transgressors I will teach Your ways,
and sinners will return to seek Your favour.
O God, from guilt of bloodshed me deliver;
then shall my tongue Your saving justice praise.
I will aloud Your righteousness proclaim;
You are, O God, the God of my salvation.
Lord, open then my lips to praise Your name
and let me sing my songs of jubilation.
6. Lord, You do not in sacrifice delight,
or else I would with offerings try to please You.
How could I ever with my gifts appease You?
Burnt offerings find no favour in Your sight.
One gift alone is pleasing in God's eyes:
the contrite heart of one who has repented.
A broken spirit You will not despise
when humbly as a sacrifice presented.
7. In Your good pleasure, bless Jerusalem;
cause her to thrive, and shield her with Your power.
Build Zion's walls, O God; uphold her towers,
safeguard her citadels and strengthen them.
Then You in sacrifices will delight,
in gifts of those whom You in Zion shelter;
burnt offerings will be pleasing in Your sight.
Then will young bulls be offered on Your altar.

PSALM 52

For the director of music. A maskil of David. When Doeg the Edomite had gone to Saul and told him: "David has gone to the house of Ahimelech."

1554/1556 / Geneva, 1562



1. Why do you boast, you man so might-y,
of all your wick-ed-ness?
All day You seek to harm and blight me
while feign-ing right-eous-ness.
Your treach-erous tongue is ra-zor-sharp
the truth you twist and warp.

2. Evil *you love far more than merit and falsehood more than truth.*
Sweet sounds your *voice to all who hear it,*
but *though your tongue is smooth,*
you *love those words that will destroy;*
deception is your joy.
3. Surely *God will break you forever and tear you from your tent.*
He will *uproot all your endeavour;*
your *cloak of lies He'll rend.*
He'll *snatch you from your dwelling place;*
your *name He will erase.*

Psalms 52

4. Awed by *what was most unexpected,*
the *just will laugh and say,*
“This is the *man who once rejected*
God as *his strength and stay.*
Look, *he on his great wealth relied*
but *perished in his pride.*”
5. Like the *olive tree I will flourish*
within *the house of God.*
He will not *let the upright perish.*
His *praise I'll shout abroad,*
for *His unfailing love is sure*
and *ever will endure.*
6. O LORD, *I will praise You forever;*
in *You I hope and trust.*
It's all *Your doing, God my Saviour;*
You *give me peace and rest.*
I *will among the saints proclaim*
the *goodness of Your name!*

PSALM 53

Psalm 53

For the director of music. According to mahalath. A maskil of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551

1. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."
They are cor-rupt, their hor-rid deeds they cher-ish;
not one of them does good, while just men per-ish.
None calls up-on the LORD, none sings His laud
or fears His rod.

2. The *LORD* looks down from *heaven's holy throne*
to see if anyone has understanding.
Not one seeks God, but wickedness intending,
the sons of men, to sin and evil prone,
His law disown.
3. Will evildoers never understand?
As they would eat their bread, they are devouring
my helpless people. God they are ignoring;
they do not pray, but evil they have planned
throughout the land.
4. See how they trembled, overwhelmed with fear;
they panicked and their terror was unbounded.
Their bones God scattered; they were left confounded,
for He despised them. Foes may boast and jeer,
but God does hear.

5. O *Israel*, you people of God's choice,
that out of Zion might come your salvation!
When God restores the fortunes of His nation,
let Jacob sing and Israel rejoice
with happy voice.

PSALM 54

Psalm 54

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A maskil of David.
When the Ziphites had gone to Saul and said, "Is not David hiding among us?"

Geneva, 1562



1. Save me, O God, by Your great name,
and by Your pow-er vin-di-cate me.
I am be-set by those who hate me;
God, hear my prayer: Your help I claim.
Men who do not keep You in sight
at-tack me, seek-ing my de-struc-tion.
Come to my aid with Your pro-tec-tion;
save me from those who plot and fight.

2. *God is my help though foes are strong;
He will not let their sword come near me
but will sustain my life and hear me
and graciously my days prolong.
Let wickedness recoil on all
who wrong me by their constant slander.
O faithful God, be my defender
and let them to their ruin fall.*

3. *I praise Your name, for it is good;
LORD, You have saved me from my suffering.
To You I bring my freewill offering,
my sacrifice of gratitude.
You are the One who set me free
from all the troubles that distressed me.
I look on those who once oppressed me
and feast my eyes on victory.*

PSALM 55

Psalm 55

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A maskil of David.

Geneva, 1562

1. God, lis-ten to my ur-gent plead-ing,
in mer-cy my pe-ti-tion heed-ing;
do not ig-nore my sup-pli-ca-tions!
For trou-bled is my eve-ry thought;
I have no peace and am dis-traught,
worn out by all my trib-u-la-tions.

2. The *wicked* constantly *oppress* me;
they *with their* taunts and *stares* distress me.
Their *anger* causes *me* to languish
in *troubles* and *adversity*.
Death's *terror* has its *grip* on me;
my *heart* is filled with *fear* and *anguish*.
3. If *I* but like a *dove* were able
to *spread* my wings and *flee* all trouble,
so to *find* rest and *be* protected,
how *quickly* I would *fly* away
and in a far-off *desert* stay,
no more by raging *storms* afflicted.

4. Lord, *treat the* wicked *without* pity;
confuse *their* speech, for *in the* city
I *witness* riots and *aggression*.
There *they* let crime and *vice* abound
while *on its* walls they *prowl* around;
its *public square* teems *with transgression*.
5. If *any* foe would *taunt* and *scorn* me,
I *could* endure it. *Let him* spurn me.
It is *not* that an *adversary*
treats *me* with *insolence* and *pride*,
for *then from* him I *still could* hide
and I *would* be prepared and *wary*.
6. No, *it is* you who *have* betrayed me,
who *with your* malice *have* repaid me
for *fellowship* and *sweet communion*,
who *walked* with me *when in* God's house
we *sang our* praise and *paid our* vows –
you, my *best friend*, my *close companion*!
7. May *those who* sin and *evil* cherish
meet *sudden* death and *quickly* perish,
alive into the *grave* descending.
I *know* that God will *save me* soon,
and I *will* evening, *morning*, noon
cry *out to* Him, on *Him* depending.
8. In *battle* He'll *redeem* and shield me,
to *my* attackers *never* yield me.
My *God*, *enthroned* on *high* forever,
will *come* to strike them *with His* rod –
those *men who* have no *fear of* God,
who *love their* sin, *repenting* never.

Psalm 55

9. My for-mer friend is now a trai-tor,
 a sleek-tongued cov-enant vi-o-la-tor,
 and all his talk is smooth as but-ter,
 yet war is in his heart and mind;
 his words are swords, though soft and kind.
 Feigned is what-ev-er he may ut-ter.

10. Cast *on the LORD* the *cares that* grieve you;
 He *will sustain* you, *never* leave you.
 The *righteous* He *upholds forever*
 but *flings into the deepest* pit
 the *man of blood*, the *hypocrite*.
 In *You I* trust, O *God* my Saviour!

PSALM 56

For the director of music. To the tune of "A Dove on Distant Oaks." Of David. A miktam.
 When the Philistines had seized him in Gath.

Geneva, 1562

1. Be gra-cious, O my God, to whom I flee.
 I am op-pressed, strong is my en-e-my,
 and all day long as-sail-ants ha-rass me;
 they fight a-gainst me proud-ly.
 When I'm a-fraid, when fears of death en-shroud me,
 I trust in God, who nev-er dis-a-vowed me.
 His word I praise; He has with grace en-dowed me.
 What can man do to me?

2. My *words they* keep on twisting all day long;
unceasingly they seek to do me wrong.
 They *band together in an evil* throng
 to *watch my steps and* hound me.
Intent on my destruction, *they surround* me.
 In *wrath cast down the peoples* who confound me;
repay them for their crime, *defeat them* soundly,
 O *God, my Helper* strong.

3. My trou-bles and my woes You count and see.
 Put all my tears, O God to whom I flee,
 in-to Your bot-tle and re-mem-ber me
 when wick-ed men de-ceive me.
 Are all my sor-rows, all the ills that grieve me,
 not in Your book, and will You not re-lieve me?
 My en-e-mies will all turn back and leave me
 the day You hear my plea.

4. For *this* I know, *that* God is at my side;
 in *Him*, whose word I praise, I will confide;
 He heard my voice when in my fears I cried.
 The LORD is my defender.
 In God I trust, to Him my praise I render.
 I will not fear, I trust His mercies tender.
 My foes will flee when He appears in splendour.
 Why then fear human pride?

5. I must perform to You, O God, my vow.
 Before Your throne with grateful gifts I bow;
 thank-offerings I will bring before You now,
 for You from death have saved me
 and in the book of life You have engraved me.
 God has upheld me, foes could not enslave me,
 so that I in the light of life He gave me
 may walk before Him now.

PSALM 57

Psalm 57

For the director of music. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." Of David. A miktam.
When he had fled from Saul into the cave.

1554/1556 / Geneva, 1562



1. Be mer-ci-ful, be mer-ci-ful to me;
O God, with You I find se-cu-ri-ty.
The shad-ow of Your wings is my pro-tec-tion;
un-til the storms pass by, to God I flee –
to God Most High, who charts my life's di-rec-tion.

2. He'll send from heaven and save me as before,
frustrating those who *hound me evermore*.
His *steadfast* love will *comfort me in sorrows*
though I lie down amid the lions' roar,
beset by foes whose *teeth are spears and arrows*.
3. O God, exalt Yourself *above the skies*!
Let *over all the earth Your glory* rise.
My *soul was grieved*, for *where my way I wended*
they set a snare, but *to their great surprise*
they *fell into the pit for me intended*.
4. O God, my heart is *steadfast: I will sing*
and, *making music, praise my glorious King*.
Awake, my soul! All slumber be forsaken.
Awake, O harp and lyre! Your praises bring.
Come, *join with me: the dawn I will awaken!*

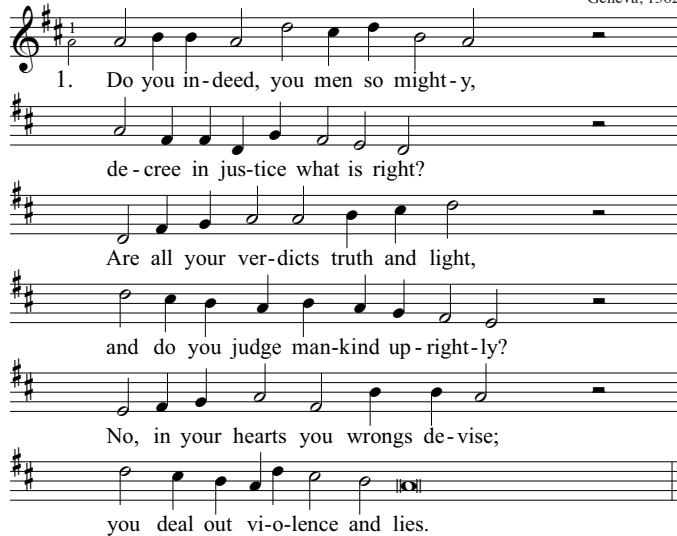
5. Among the nations *I will sing Your praise*
and *will proclaim the wonders of Your ways*.
For *to the clouds extends Your love unfailing*;
Your faithfulness outdistances our gaze.
Through *all the earth Your glory be prevailing!*

PSALM 58

Psalm 58

For the director of music. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." Of David. A miktam.

Geneva, 1562



1. Do you in-deed, you men so might-y,
de-cree in jus-tice what is right?
Are all your ver-dicts truth and light,
and do you judge man-kind up-right-ly?
No, in your hearts you wrongs de-vise;
you deal out vi-o-lence and lies.

2. Right from their birth the wicked wander,
right from the womb they go astray;
deceit and falsehood mark their way.
Like serpents' venom is their slander;
they're deaf like snakes that block their ears
lest they the charmer's voice should hear.
3. God, break the teeth of those that slaughter;
repay them with their victims' pangs;
tear out their savage lion fangs.
O let them vanish like the waters
that over rocks and gravel pass;
cause them to wither like the grass.

4. Let them to ruin be surrendered
like snails that turn to slime and die;
as to untimely births, deny
to them the gift of sunlight's splendour.
Let them like thorns be cleared away;
destroy them, LORD, without delay.
5. Then will the righteous with rejoicing
look on when God His vengeance shows;
they'll bathe their feet in blood of foes.
Then men will say, their gladness voicing,
"The righteous their reward will see:
There is a God of equity."

PSALM 59

Psalm 59

For the director of music. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." Of David. A miktam.
When Saul had sent men to watch David's house in order to kill him.

Geneva, 1562

1. God, from my en-e-mies pro-tect me,
from those who rise up to af-lict me.
Come to de-liv-er me a-gain
and save me from blood-thirst-y men.
They lie in wait and will not spare me;
fierce men are plot-ting to en-snare me.
Yet for no sin of mine or fault
are they pre-par-ing their as-sault.

2. LORD God Almighty, rise to save me
and do not let my foes enslave me.
You are the God of Israel,
our stronghold and our citadel.
Come, rouse Yourself and judge the nations
who taunt You with their provocations.
Spare none of those who treacherously
plot evil and iniquity.

3. Like packs of savage dogs that howling
through all the city streets are prowling,
my enemies each night return
to taunt me with their bitter scorn.
Their tongues are swords; their mouths are spewing
the venom of their evildoing,
for, "Who can hear all this?" they say
and boldly go their haughty way.
4. But, LORD, You laugh at all those nations
and mock their wicked aspirations.
O God my Strength, for You I long;
You are my fortress, firm and strong.
My loving God will come to meet me,
and with His promised help will greet me,
soon letting me in triumph see
the downfall of my enemy.
5. Do not yet kill those who reject You,
or else my people will forget You.
O God of might and great renown,
come, scatter them and bring them down.
Let them be humbled, crushed and broken,
for all the sins their mouths have spoken.
Let those who on deceit relied
be caught and trapped in their own pride.
6. For all their lying and their cursing
and for the hatred they are nursing,
O God, consume them, I implore,
consume them till they are no more.
Show them Your anger, let them cower
before Your justice and Your power.
Then it will everywhere be known
that God rules Jacob, He alone.

Psalm 59



7. Each eve-ning they, like dogs that howl-ing
through street and mar-ket-place are prowl-ing,
come back and look a-bout for prey
as here and there they roam and stray.
Their rav-enous hun-ger knows no pit-y,
and scav-eng-ing through-out the cit-y,
they bark and bel-low, loud and shrill,
and growl un-less they get their fill.

8. You will at daybreak hear me singing,
to You, O God, my praises bringing,
for I will glory in Your might
and in Your steadfast love delight.
You are my strength, my rock and tower,
my refuge in the darkest hour.
Your praise I sing and shout abroad,
O mighty Fortress, loving God!

PSALM 60

For the director of music. To the tune of "The Lily of the Covenant." A miktam of David.
For teaching. When he fought Aram Naharaim and Aram Zobah, and when Joab returned
and struck down twelve thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt.

Geneva, 1562



1. O God, You have re-ject-ed us
and left Your peo-ple pow-er-less.
Too long we've seen Your an-ger burn.
Re-store us now! To us re-turn!
You've made our land con-vulse and shake;
we've seen it crack and split and quake.
Now cause its breach-es to be mend-ed;
no long-er leave us un-de-fend-ed.

2. God, You have made Your people see
times of extreme adversity.
Our life became one harsh ordeal;
You gave us wine that made us reel.
But You have raised a banner high
for those who on Your help rely.
Now show Your might and save Your nation;
to those You love, grant liberation.



3. Our might-y King, the God of grace,
has spo-ken in His ho-ly place:
"All Suc-coth's vale and She-chem's land
I will di-vide as I have planned.
All Gi-le-ad be-longs to Me;
Ma-nas-seh is My prop-er - ty.
My hel-met: E-phraim, strong de - fend - er.
My scep-tre: Ju-dah, firm com-mand-er."

4. God *shamed His foes* with words *that sting*:
"At *Edom* I My sandal fling;
I *Moab* as My washbowl claim
and in *Philistia* shout my fame."
God, *who but You* can *be our* guide
to *Edom*, so well *fortified*?
But *You* have cast us *off* in anger
and *with our* armies *march* no longer.

5. To *us again* Your favour show;
grant *us Your aid* against the foe.
Uphold *us as none* other can,
for *worthless* is the help of man.
Our *God* will crush *the enemy*;
with *Him*, we'll gain the victory.
Our *proud oppressors He* will humble,
tread *on their necks* and *make them* tremble.

PSALM 61

Psalm 61

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. Of David.

Geneva, 1562

1. Lis-ten to my cry and hear me;
God, be near me.
In Your mer-cy heed my prayers.
When I call from far-off plac-es,
God, be gra-cious,
for my heart is faint with cares.

2. Lord, with Your support provide me;
safely guide me
to the *rock for me too high*.
You, my *refuge and my tower*,
showed Your power
when my enemies *drew nigh*.
3. Keep me in Your tent forever.
Leave me never!
God of *grace*, to You I cling.
Shield me with Your love and favour,
O my Saviour,
in the *shelter* of Your wings.

4. When I made my vows, You heard me;
You reward me
with the *heritage of those*
Who on *bended knee* adore You
and before You
in Your *steadfast* love repose.
5. Show Your love: the king's life lengthen
and him strengthen.
May his *reign go on and on*.
Richly *bless all his endeavour*;
let him ever
sit before You on his throne.
6. Be, O God of might and splendour,
his defender,
and Your *steadfast love display*.
Then will I, Your name professing,
for Your blessing
thank You with my vows each day.

PSALM 62

Psalm 62

For the director of music. For Jeduthun. A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1548



1. In God a-lone my soul finds rest,
for in His faith-ful-ness I trust;
from Him a-lone comes my sal-va-tion.
He is the rock that will not quake,
and none can this my strong-hold shake
or move me from its firm foun-da-tion.

2. Say, how much longer will you dare
attack a man as though he were
a broken fence, about to totter?
You love deceit and plan his fall;
though with your mouth you wish him well,
you in your heart your curses mutter.
3. Find rest, my soul, in God alone.
Him only I depend upon
for all my hope and my salvation.
He is the rock that will not quake,
and none can this my stronghold shake
or move me from its firm foundation.

4. On God rests my deliverance,
and He my honour will advance;
He is my mighty rock, my shelter.
O people, trust in God alone;
to Him make all your troubles known.
With His support you will not falter.
5. Mere breath are those of low estate,
and a delusion are the great.
They rise when in the scales you weigh them.
Together they are but a breath –
mere mortals, prey to doom and death.
Their sudden downfall will dismay them.
6. Put no false hope and confidence
in robbery and violence;
do not take pride in theft and plunder.
Although your riches may increase,
they will not give you rest and peace.
Why set your heart on earthly splendour?
7. God once has spoken, I have heard
the two-fold never-failing word
that You, God, are my strong defender,
that steadfast love is Yours, O Lord,
for all receive their just reward
when on their deeds You judgment render.

PSALM 63

Psalm 63

A psalm of David. When he was in the Desert of Judah.

Geneva, 1551

1. You are my God, I seek Your face.
O God, for You I thirst and lan-guish;
for You my flesh grows faint with an-guish
here in this dry and wear-y place.
When I stood in Your sanc-tu-ar-y,
where You are wor-shipped and a-dored,
I there be-held Your great-ness, Lord,
and mar-velled at Your power and glo-ry.

2. Your steadfast *love is better* far
than *life itself*, O God my Saviour.
Your *faithfulness* will *never* waver;
my *lips* Your praises will declare.
With joyful *singing* I will bless You
and *all my life* Your love proclaim.
With *hands uplifted* in Your name,
I will in *thankful prayer* address You.

3. You fill my *soul with rich delight*
as *with the joys of lavish feasting*,
and as *I meditate while resting*,
I *think of You* throughout the night.
I cling to *You, my strong deliverer*,
and *in the shadow of Your wings*
my *joyful praise* I shout and sing,
for Your right *hand upholds me* ever.
4. When foes Your *servant seek* to slay,
in yawning pits will *earth* receive them.
The *sharpened sword* will *soverly* grieve them;
they will become the *jackal's* prey.
But then the *king in God* will glory
with *all who swear by His great name*,
for *liars He* will put to shame
and silence *every adversary*.

PSALM 64

Psalm 64

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542

1. Heed my com-plaint, O God, and hear me.
Save me from all my en - e - mies;
hide me from their con - spir - a - cies,
from nois - y mobs that make me wear - y.
O God, be near me!

2. Their *tongues the sharpest swords resemble;*
a *deadly dart is every word*
as *boldly, by no fear deterred,*
they *strike the blameless and the humble*
to *make them stumble.*
3. They *hatch their schemes for my destruction*
and *cunningly conceal their snare.*
“No *one will see it,*” they declare
and *with their smug self-satisfaction*
boast *of their action.*
4. But *God will shoot them with His arrow,*
and *their own tongues will bring them shame.*
Many *will shake their heads at them;*
their *downfall will be quick and thorough,*
much *to their sorrow.*

5. Then *all will fear our great defender;*
they *will God's mighty deeds proclaim*
and, *praising His exalted name,*
will *stand in awe as they all ponder*
His *works of wonder.*
6. Come, *praise the LORD for His salvation!*
Let *all the just in Him delight;*
let *them seek refuge in His might*
and *thank Him for their preservation*
with *jubilation.*

PSALM 65

Psalm 65

For the director of music. A psalm of David. A song.

1543 / Lyons, 1548

1. Zi-on, O God, in You re-joic-es
and greets You with her songs;
Your courts re-sound with cheer-ful voic-es.
All praise to You be-longs!
To You who hear our sup-pli-ca-tion
we come to pay our vow.
All peo-ple will in a-dor-a-tion
be-fore You hum-bly bow.

2. When *we are* grieved by *our transgressions* and *overwhelmed* by sins,
You *blot them out* in *Your compassion* and *give us* peace again.
How *blest are those whom You have* chosen,
whom *You in love embrace*;
within *Your courts, in You* reposing,
they *have a dwelling* place.

3. O *God, You* in *Your habitation* will *all Your* saints provide
with *every blessing of salvation*
till *all are satisfied*.
By *awesome deeds, so just and mighty*,
You *save us from our foe*;
to *those who walk with You* uprightly
Your *justice You* will show.
4. You *are the* hope of *distant* nations;
You *by Your* strength and power
placed *mountains* on their *firm foundations*
and *stilled* the ocean's roar.
Those *who make far-off lands* their dwelling
all *tremble at the* sight;
both *dawn and dusk, in praise* excelling,
with *joy acclaim* Your might.
5. O *God, You* show the *earth* Your favour,
the *bounty* of Your hand,
for *filled with water is* Your river,
enriching all the land.
You *soften furrows with* Your showers
and *bless the sprouting* grain.
How *great, O God, Your love and* power
throughout *all Your* domain!
6. You *crown the* year, O *Fount of* blessing,
with *gifts to* cheer the land;
Your *goodness* fills the *earth, expressing*
the *wonders of* Your hand.
The *hills rejoice. The meadows* teeming
with *flocks that skip and* spring,
the *golden grain, in valleys* gleaming –
they *shout for joy and* sing!

PSALM 66

Psalm 66

For the director of music. A song. A psalm.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. Let all the earth with loud re-joic-ing
the great-ness of our God ac-claim.
With shouts of praise let all a-dore Him,
sing to the glo-ry of His name.
Let all then say, "How awe-in-spir-ing
are all Your works, how great Your power;
be-fore Your strength, O God al-might-y,
Your en-e-mies all cringe and cower.

2. "All peoples, bowing down before You, sing praises to Your glorious name; to You, O God, they all pay homage, with hymns of joy declare Your fame." O come and see with reverent wonder the awesome deeds that God has done, His mighty works among the nations, the victories His hand has won.

3. His strength to Israel revealing,
He turned the sea to arid land.
When they on foot passed through the river,
the waters heeded His command.
We sang His praise, in Him rejoicing
who by His might rules without end;
His eyes keep watch on every nation.
Let rebels not His power withstand.
4. Come, bless our God with joyful voices.
All nations, let His praise resound,
for He has kept our feet from stumbling;
in Him we have a refuge found.
Your people You, O God, have tested
as ore is in the furnace tried;
we in the fire of Your refining
have been, like silver, purified.
5. Into the net, O God, You brought us,
laid heavy burdens on our backs.
Foes drove right over us in chariots;
You humbled us by their attacks.
We went through fire, we went through water,
but You then showed Your power and grace,
for You delivered us, Your people,
and brought us to a spacious place.
6. Your holy temple I shall enter
and there my thanks to You express;
I shall fulfil the vows I promised
in days of trouble and distress.
Burnt sacrifices I shall offer,
with choicest fatlings pay my vows;
with smoke of rams, with goats and bullocks
I shall adore You in Your house.

Psalm 66



7. Come and be to my words at-ten-tive,
all you who God in truth re-vere.
Let me de-clare how He has helped me,
how in my trou-bles He drew near.
I cried to Him in my af-flic-tion,
and He in mer-cy heard my voice;
my tongue with songs of praise ex-tolled Him.
In His com-pas-sion I re-joice.

8. *If I had cherished any evil,
the Lord would not have heeded me.
I know that God indeed has heard me;
He has attended to my plea.
Forever blest be God my Saviour,
who has not turned away my prayer,
nor has withheld from me His mercy,
His never-failing love and care.*

PSALM 67

For the director of music. With stringed instruments. A psalm. A song.

1543 / Geneva, 1551



1. May God be mer-ci-ful and bless us,
and cause His face on us to shine;
may He to us be e-ver gra-cious,
il-lu-mine us with light di-vine.
May He to all na-tions
show His rev-e-la-tion
and His ways un-fold.
Great is God our Sav-iour.
May all see His fa-vour
and His power be-hold.

2. Let all the peo-ples come be-fore You
 to sing their prais-es to Your name.
 Let all the hea-then tribes a-dore You,
 with joy Your might-y deeds pro-claim,
 for You judge the na-tions,
 rule their pop-u-la-tions;
 You they have as guide.
 You as their de-fend-er
 to all peo-ples rend-er
 jus-tice far and wide.

3. *Let all the earth, O God our Saviour,
 Your love and faithfulness extol.
 The land has yielded through Your favour
 its harvest rich and bountiful.
 God is good and gracious;
 He will richly bless us –
 He, our God and King.
 Let all peoples fear Him,
 all the earth revere Him,
 of His glory sing.*

PSALM 68

Psalm 68

For the director of music. Of David. A psalm. A song.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. God shall a-rise and by His might
 put all His en-e-mies to flight;
 His tri-umph will be glo-rious.
 When those who hate Him, scat-tered, flee
 be-fore His power and maj-es-ty,
 our God will be vic-to-rious.
 For just as wind blows smoke a-way,
 He will dis-purse the proud ar-ray
 of those who e-vil cher-ish.
 Like wax that melts be-fore the fire,
 they will be van-quished by God's ire;
 the wick-ed all will per-ish.

2. Now *let the just with joyful voice in God's victorious might rejoice; let them exult before Him!*
O sing to God, His praise proclaim, and with your psalms extol His name; in joyful song adore Him.
Lift up your voice and sing aloud to Him who rides upon the clouds high in the spacious heavens.
The LORD – that is His glorious name. Rejoice in Him with loud acclaim; to Him be glory given.
3. He, *father to the fatherless, defence of widows in distress, is in His habitation.*
God in the goodness of His grace gives lonely ones a dwelling place; He grants them consolation.
He leads the captive out to see the joys of new-found liberty, for bounteous is God's mercy.
But who against Him dare rebel must evermore with famine dwell in deserts dry and thirsty.
4. O God, when You went on ahead and through the barren desert led the flock You had assembled,
 You caused the earth to quake and cower;
 O God of Israel, great in power, before You, Sinai trembled.
 You with abundant rain, O LORD, your weary heritage restored
 and, as You had decided,
 You let your people settle there;
 You blessed them with Your lavish care
 and for the poor provided.

5. When God but spoke His might-y word,
 great was the host whose shouts were heard
 as they pro-claimed their ti-dings:
 "The kings are flee-ing in de-spair!
 Our wom-en in the plun-der share,
 the spoils of war di-vid-ing!
 To those who stayed at home they bring
 as gift a dove with sil-vered wings
 and bright-ly gild-ed feath-ers."
 Be-fore the LORD the kings all fled
 like drift-ing snow on Zal-mon spread
 by blasts of storm-y weath-er.

6. *O Bashan's mountain, massive height,
 far higher than all peaks in sight,
 so great in rugged grandeur!
 O you whose tops are seen from far,
 whose peaks so high and numerous are,
 majestic in their splendour!
 Why do you still with envy look
 at Zion's mount, which God once took
 and made His throne's location?
 There He for evermore will dwell;
 the LORD once made this humble hill
 His glorious habitation.*
7. *God's chariots, mighty to behold,
 are twice ten thousand thousandfold;
 the mountains quaked and trembled.
 From Sinai, God victoriously
 came down into His sanctuary;
 in Zion all assembled.
 When You, O Lord, went up again
 You led Your captives in Your train
 with tribute in abundance;
 gifts, too, from those who rebels were –
 that You, LORD God, for evermore,
 might dwell there in splendence.*
8. *Blest be the Lord, who on our way
 provides for us, and day by day
 upholds us by His power.
 God of Salvation is His name;
 this glorious name shall we proclaim.
 He is our shield and tower.
 Our God, the LORD, is strong to save
 from mortal danger, from the grave
 and every cruel oppression.
 But God will crush the heads of foes,
 the hairy crown of him who goes
 in ways of foul transgression.*

9. The Lord has spo-ken: "My own hand
will bring your foes from far-off lands;
from Ba-shan I will guide them.
From the re-mo-test shores and seas
I will re-trieve Your en-e-mies,
though o-cean depths should hide them,
for I your tri-umph will com-plete,
that you with joy may bathe your feet
in blood of con-quer-ed na-tions
and see your dogs lap up their share
as for My peo-ple I pre-pare
My right-eous vin-di-ca-tion."

10. The solemn throngs are gathered here;
to God my King do they draw near.
They come with sounding cymbals,
the singers first, the minstrels last,
and in among them, filing past,
the maidens play their timbrels.
In this great congregation's throng
let God be praised in joyful song,
O Jacob's generation!
There Benjamin, the smallest clan,
leads Naphtali and Zebulun,
Judah and all the nation!
11. Lord, let Your awesome strength be known,
the glorious power on which Your own
have in the past depended.
Because You have Your temple here,
kings in Jerusalem appear
with gifts for You intended.
Rebuke the beasts among the reeds,
both bulls and calves, those filled with greed,
all who in war take pleasure.
Let envoys come from Egypt's land;
to God let Ethiopia's hand
stretch out to give its treasure.
12. Praise God and shout His glory forth,
O kings and kingdoms of the earth!
In joyful song adore Him.
Praise Him who rides the ancient sky,
who thunders forth His battle cry;
let all bow down before Him.
Proclaim His power and spread His fame,
for great in Israel is His name;
His might is in the heavens.
O awesome God, You from Your throne
with power and glory bless Your own.
To You all praise be given!

PSALM 69

Psalm 69

For the director of music. To the tune of "Lilies." Of David.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551

1. Save me, O God! The wa-ters rise and leap:
 up to my neck the roar-ing floods sur-round me.
 There is no foot-hold, dead-ly dan-gers hound me.
 I've come in- to the wa-ters of the deep.
 I am en-gulfed by floods for me too great;
 my throat is parched, I'm wea-ry with my cry-ing.
 My eyes grow dim as for my God I wait.
 Come to my res-cue, LORD, and heed my sigh-ing.

2. More *numerous* than the *hairs* upon my head
 are *those who* without *any cause* reject me,
 those *enemies* who *constantly* afflict me
 and *whose malicious treachery* I dread.
 Must *I* restore now *what* I did not steal?
 I *know* I've done the *things* You have forbidden.
 O God, my folly I did not conceal;
 from You my wrongs and *misdeeds* are not hidden.

3. May *those who* put in You their hope and trust
 not *through my* doing be *disgraced* and slandered.
 May *they*, O LORD, not *be to shame* surrendered
 because I've been *unfaithful* or unjust.
 O God of *Israel*, taunts and shame I've borne,
 and for Your sake I am to friend and brother
 a *stranger* whom they *disavow* and scorn,
 an *alien* to the *sons of* my own mother.
4. LORD, for Your house am I consumed with zeal;
 taunts *meant for* You have *now on me* descended.
 I *weep and fast*. By *none* I am defended;
 deep are the shame and *sorrow* that I feel.
 I *put on* sackcloth, for my grief is great,
 but *people* laugh at me and *keep on* sneering.
 I am the talk of *idlers* at the gate,
 the *song of* drunkards *revelling and* jeering.
5. But *though they* mock, O LORD, to You I pray;
 at Your own time, O God my *Helper*, hear me.
 In Your great love and *faithfulness* be near me,
 and in the mire let me not sink away.
 Deliver me from *waters* dark and deep,
 from *those who* hate me. God, show me Your favour
 and draw me from the *current's* mighty sweep.
 Let *death* not close its mouth on me, O Saviour.
6. Out of the goodness of Your steadfast love,
 LORD, turn to me, with Your great mercy bless me.
 Do not conceal Your face when *foes* oppress me;
 in *all my* troubles, *hear me* from above.
 Make *haste to* answer me, do not delay.
 Come, rescue me, redeem Your *faithful* servant.
 Save me from those who *seek me* as their prey,
 who *hate me* with a *hatred* fierce and fervent.

7. You know of all the scorn and shame I bear;
 LORD, You have seen how en-e-mies dis-grace me,
 how with their con-stant in-sults they a-base me.
 Taunts broke my heart, and deep is my de-spair.
 I looked for pit-y, but I found de-ceit,
 for com-fort-ers, but I saw them de-sert me.
 They gave me bit-ter gall as food to eat
 and vin-e-gar as drink when I was thirst-y.

8. At their own table let my foes be trapped,
 ensnared when for their feasting they assemble.
 Their eyes be darkened so that they will stumble;
 from shaking limbs let all their strength be sapped.
 Pour out Your fury, let it not abate,
 and by Your wrath let them be overtaken.
 Let their encampments be left desolate;
 let all their tents be utterly forsaken.

9. They persecute those wounded by Your hand,
 and talk of those whose pains and sorrows please them.
 Charge them with crime on crime; do not release them,
 nor let them freed from guilt before You stand.
 LORD, from the book of life blot out their names;
 let none of them be in Your scroll recorded.
 Do not include them with those free from blame;
 let good and evil justly be rewarded.
10. I am in pain, great is my misery;
 O God, protect me, sending Your salvation.
 Then I will praise Your name with jubilation
 and give You thanks. To You all glory be.
 More than an ox or bull as sacrifice,
 my song of praise will please my God and Saviour.
 His captive people He will not despise;
 He hears the needy, showing them His favour.
11. Let heaven and earth praise Him with grateful songs,
 the seas and all that stirs in them adore Him;
 let all creation shout with joy before Him:
 God will save Zion. Praise to Him belongs.
 All Judah's cities will the LORD rebuild.
 There will His servants be, in praise excelling.
 With their descendants will the land be filled;
 there those who love Him all will find a dwelling.

PSALM 70

For the director of music. Of David. A petition.

Geneva, 1551



1. Be pleased to save me, God, I pray;
O LORD, to my de-liv-erance has-ten
and with con-fu-sion all those chas-ten
who seek to take my life a-way.
May those who plan my ru-in-a-tion
be hum-bled and in pan-ic flee.
May those who jeer and laugh at me
re-treat in shame and con-ster-na-tion.

2. But may all *those who seek Your face, who love and cherish Your salvation, be glad and sing with jubilation, "Exalted be the God of grace."* But I am *poor and weak as ever; come quickly, God, and rescue me, for You alone can set me free. Do not delay, O LORD my Saviour.*

PSALM 71

Geneva, 1551



1. In You, LORD, I have tak-en ref-uge;
I trust in Your great name.
Do not put me to shame,
but in Your right-eous-ness and mer-cy
in-cline Your ear and hear me;
with sav-ing help be near me.

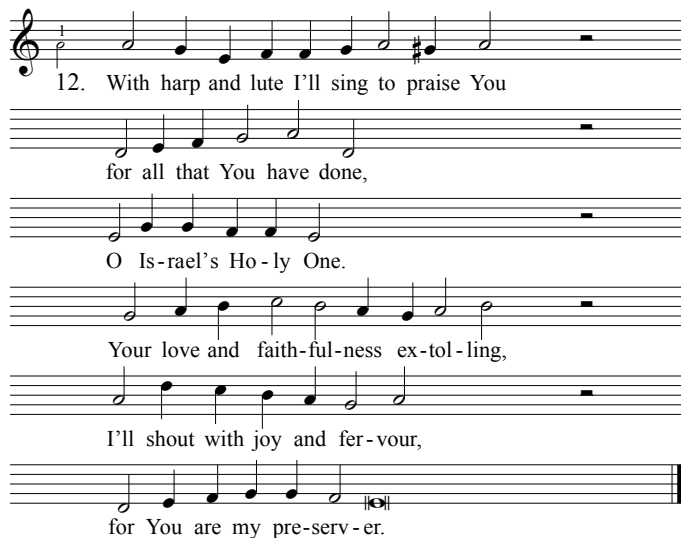
2. LORD, *be to me a rock and fortress, and issue Your command to save me from the hand of those who savagely attack me. Protect me from their power; God, be my strength and tower.*
3. *Since I was young, in You I've trusted; on You I've leaned from birth. From when You brought me forth and from my mother's womb You took me, You've blessed me with Your favour. I'll sing Your praise forever.*

4. I as a por-tent am re-gard-ed,
a sign for all to see.
But You, LORD, are to me
my strong and stead-fast rock of ref-uge,
my pow-er-ful de-fend-er.
All day I praise Your splen-dour.

5. In my old age, do not forsake me
when all my strength is spent.
LORD, see my foes' intent:
together they conspire to kill me.
They say, "God does not see him,
and there is none to free him."
6. Do not stand far away but help me.
O God, my God, make haste!
May all those be disgraced
who seek my harm and who accuse me.
May they all be confounded,
by scorn and shame surrounded.

7. But I will hope in You forever
and praise You more and more.
With You I am secure.
LORD, in Your righteousness I glory.
When enemies oppressed me,
You with Your justice blessed me.
8. LORD, I will tell of Your salvation
and with my joyful song
will praise it all day long.
It far exceeds my understanding.
Your righteous deeds I treasure;
they are beyond all measure.
9. You from my youth, O God, have taught me;
I to this day proclaim
Your wondrous works, Your fame.
Now that I'm old and grey, stay near me
and do not leave me ever;
O God, forsake me never.
10. To all the coming generations
I will with great delight
proclaim Your power and might.
Your righteousness is all-excelling;
it reaches highest heaven.
To You all praise be given.
11. Great are Your deeds in might and splendour.
God, who with You compares?
You've brought me bitter cares,
but from earth's deepest pits You'll raise me
to ever greater glory.
Your comfort will restore me.

Psalm 71



12. With harp and lute I'll sing to praise You
for all that You have done,
O Is-rael's Ho-ly One.
Your love and faith-ful-ness ex-tol-ling,
I'll shout with joy and fer-vour,
for You are my pre-serv-er.

13. *My lips and tongue will praise Your goodness;
I will with heart and soul
Your righteous deeds extol.
You humbled those who sought my ruin;
Your praise I will be voicing,
all day in You rejoicing.*

PSALM 72

Of Solomon.

1543 / Lyons, 1548



1. O God, give to the king Your jus-tice,
His son Your right-eous-ness.
You are the God in whom our trust is;
Your hand a-lone can bless.
May he, the roy-al son, be reign-ing
with judg-ments true and sure,
to all Your peo-ple right or-dain-ing,
Your jus-tice to the poor.

2. *May for the people hill and mountain
bring forth the peace they seek,
and justice, gushing like a fountain,
restore the faint and weak.
May he defend the poor and needy;
may he their children save,
and crush oppressors, proud and greedy,
who for their downfall crave.*

3. May he, so high a-bove the na-tions,
live while the sun en-dures -
he who through-out all gen-er-a-tions
our joy and peace en-sures;
and may he be like rain that drench-es
the mead-ows parched and pale,
like show-ers whose a-bun-dance quench-es
the thirst of hill and vale.

4. May *in his days* the *righteous* flourish
and *peace on earth* be found;
may *for all those who justice* cherish
his *righteousness* abound.
Long *may he live and rule our nation*
while *sun and moon* endure;
may *he in every generation*
their *peace and joy* ensure.

5. For *evermore* may *his dominion*
from *sea to sea* extend,
and *from the River to the regions*
of *earth's remotest end*.
May *Sheba with its gifts* adore him,
and *may from east to west*
his foes all come to bow before him,
his haters lick the dust.
6. May *princes, moved by awe and wonder,*
then *travel miles on miles,*
that *they may him the tribute* render
of *Tarshish and the isles*.
May *Sheba with its gifts* adore him,
and *Seba treasures* bring.
May *rulers all fall down before him*
and *serve him as their king*.
7. The *helpless poor* he *will deliver*
and *hear them* when they call,
for *he, as great and gracious* giver,
has *pity* on them all.
He *saves them from oppressors* greedy
and *hears their anguished cries;*
the *blood of all the poor and needy*
is *precious in his eyes*.
8. Long *may he live!* May *all present him*
with *Sheba's finest gold;*
as *tribute* may the *nations* grant him
most *precious* gifts untold.
May *people join in celebration*
to *praise him without end*.
For *him let prayers of invocation*
to *heaven's throne* ascend.

Psalm 72



9. Through-out the land may grain be grow-ing
from plains to moun-tain tops;
like Le-ba-non, may fields be glow-ing
with boun-teous gold-en crops.
May in the cit-ies peo-ple flow-er
like hill-sides in the spring.
May all the earth ac-claim his pow-er
and of his glo-ry sing.

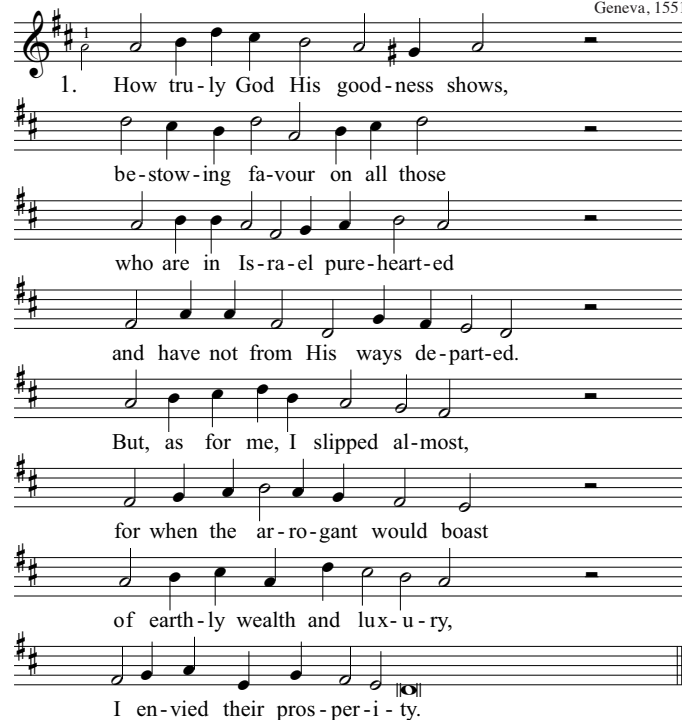
10. The *king* whose name we are professing shall *like the sun* endure.
In *him* all nations find their blessing;
their *peace* will be secure.
Blest be the *LORD*, for He so glorious alone does wondrous things.
O God, in all the earth our chorus with “Amen, Amen” rings.

Book III Psalms 73-89

PSALM 73

A psalm of Asaph.

Geneva, 1551



1. How tru-ly God His good-ness shows,
be-stow-ing fa-vour on all those
who are in Is-ra-el pure-heart-ed
and have not from His ways de-part-ed.
But, as for me, I slipped al-most,
for when the ar-ro-gant would boast
of earth-ly wealth and lux-u-ry,
I en-vied their pros-per-i-ty.

2. No *suffering* lies in store for them;
they *all* are sleek and *sound* of limb.
They *do not* share our *pain* and anguish;
no *troubles* ever make them languish.
Pride is their *necklace*, and they dare
make violence *the robe* they wear.
Their *hearts* with *follies* overflow,
and in their *minds* illusions grow.

3. They speak with scorn and haugh-ti-ness;
 they scoff, and threat-en to op-press.
 Their mouth lays claim to heav-en's re-gions;
 their tongue de-mands the earth's al-le-giance.
 So peo-ple turn to praise these men,
 and they can find no fault with them.
 "God does not see it," they de-clare.
 "The Most High does not know or care."

4. Such *are the wicked* – they're secure;
 their *wealth* increases evermore.
 Surely *in vain* I've *been pure-hearted*
 and *have not* from God's laws departed,
 and *I in vain* have washed my hands
 in *purity and innocence*.
 For *all day long* I suffer here,
 and *with new grief* each dawn draws near.

5. If *I had spoken* this way too,
 I *surely* would have *been untrue*
 to *all the present generation*,
 the *children* of Your *holy* nation.
 I *tried to probe* the mystery
 but *found it was too much* for me
 till, *entering God's holy place*,
 I *saw the destiny* they face.
6. O *Lord*, You *surely* set *them* all
 on *slippery* ground to *make them* fall.
 You *cause the arrogant* to stumble;
 they *headlong* to their *ruin* tumble.
 How *suddenly* destroyed are they,
 by *terrors* wholly *swept* away!
 As *one who wakes from dreams*, You rise
 and *them as fantasies* despise.
7. When *envy* caused me great *distress*
 and *filled my heart* with *bitterness*,
 I *in my folly* would ignore You;
 I *was a brutish beast* before You.
 Yet *You will hold me* by my hand
 and *keep me with You* to the end.
 Your *counsel* guides me in my ways,
 and *You will me* to glory raise.
8. Whom *do I have* in heaven *but* You?
 You, *God of grace*, my *faith* renew:
 I *seek no earthly wealth* or splendour;
 to *envy* I will *not* surrender.
 Although my *flesh and heart* may fail,
 God is my strength: *I shall* prevail,
 for *He whose steadfast* love is sure
 will *be my portion* evermore.

Psalm 73

9. Those who from You have gone a-stray
shall per-ish in their e-vil way.
You will de-stroy all who, false-heart-ed,
from Your com-mand-ments have de-part-ed.
But as for me, in God I trust,
for with His pres-ence I am blest.
My re-fuge is the LORD a-lone;
I will pro-claim all He has done.

PSALM 74

A maskil of Asaph.

Geneva, 1562

1. O God, why have You cast us all a-way?
O why have we for-ev-er been re-ject-ed?
Why do You leave Your sheep all un-pro-ject-ed
and let Your an-ger smoke from day to day?

2. Remember Your own *people*, those You love,
Your *heritage*, Your *chosen congregation*,
by You redeemed and saved from condemnation
in Your good pleasure, shown from heaven above.
3. Do not forget Mount Zion, where You dwelt;
draw near to its *perpetual* desolations.
See the destruction which the hostile nations
brought on the place where once Your people knelt.
4. O God, Your foes with loud and angry roars
right in Your temple raised their heathen banners,
destroyed Your house with hatchets and with hammers,
and smashed the carvings that were there before.
5. Your holy shrine they boldly burned and razed,
defiled the dwelling of Your name so glorious.
They boasted that their *might would be* victorious
and set on fire each place where God was praised.

6. We see no signs; we have no proph-ets left,
not e-ven one by whom Your word is spo-ken.
Is then the bond with You for-ev-er bro-ken?
How long shall we of com-fort be be-reft?

7. How long, O God, will *enemies* yet scoff?
Will *the reviling of Your name* cease never?
Will You hold back Your *strong right hand* forever?
Withdraw it from Your *bosom*. Cut them off!
8. Yet You, O God, my *King from days of old*,
throughout the earth worked *wonders of salvation*.
The *sea* You split wide open for Your nation
and *broke the heads of dragons fierce and bold*.
9. The *heads of proud Leviathan* You crushed,
its *flesh as food on desert beasts* bestowing.
You, *LORD*, *broke open fountains ever-flowing*
and *dried up streams where mighty waters* rushed.
10. Yours is the day, Yours also is the night;
sun, *moon*, and stars have You set in the heavens.
To all the earth You *boundaries* have given;
the *seasons* You established by Your might.

11. Remember, LORD, the *scoffing of Your* foes;
hear how *Your name* is taunted by the wicked!
Yield not Your dove to *beast of field and thicket*;
do not forget Your *children in their* woes.
12. Look to the *covenant!* Hold it in regard,
for *terror* reigns in all the land's dark places.
Let the *downtrodden not endure disgraces*,
and may the *needy praise Your name, O LORD*.
13. Rise up, O God, rise and defend Your cause.
Ignore the *taunting of Your foes* no longer;
do not forget their *shouts of raging anger*,
the *uproar* which continues without pause.

PSALM 75

For the director of music. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy."
A psalm of Asaph. A song.

Geneva, 1562

1. We, O God, will sing Your praise
and our thank - ful - ness pro - claim.
Very near us is Your name!
Just and glo - rious are Your ways;
peo - ple praise You eve - ry - where
and Your won - drous works de - clare.

2. "When the *proper* time draws near,
I My judgment will reveal.
Then the *earth may shake and reel*
and all people quake with fear,
but its *pillars I uphold*,
I who *fashioned* it of old.
3. "To those *filled with pride* I say,
'Let Me no more *hear your boast*.'
I tell *them and all their host*
to *forsake their wicked way*:
'Do not *proudly lift your horn*;
neither *speak with haughty scorn*.'"

Psalm 75

4. Helpers *will not* from the east
and not from the west appear
to exalt and to revere
him whom God makes last and least.
He, the *Judge of great renown*,
will lift up and will bring down.
5. From the *chalice* in His hand
God Himself pours out His wrath,
heady wine that foams with froth.
All the wicked in the land
this most bitter cup of pain
to the very dregs must drain.
6. As for me, my praise I shout;
I give thanks to Jacob's God.
Him I will forever laud;
I will let my joy ring out.
All the wicked I will scorn,
but God will exalt our horn.

PSALM 76

For the director of music. With stringed instruments.
A psalm of Asaph. A song.

Geneva, 1551

1. God has in Ju-dah spread His fame;
great is in Is-ra-el His name.
In Sa-lem stands His tent of praise;
in Zi-on is His dwell-ing place.
There shield and sword no long-er rat-tle:
He broke the weap-ons used in bat-tle.

2. O God, more *glorious is Your* might
than *awe-inspiring mountain* heights.
Men bold and *warlike*, stripped of spoil,
sank *into sleep* and ceased *their* toil.
None of the *valiant and stouthearted*
could lift a *hand*; *their plans* were *thwarted*.
3. O Jacob's *God*, at *Your* rebuke
our *enemies* were *terror-struck*;
stunned lay both *horse and* charioteer.
You, *You alone*, evoke *such* fear.
Who does not *stand in* trepidation
before *Your wrath and indignation*?

Psalm 76

4. In fearful *silence*, all the earth
heard *how Your* verdict *thundered* forth
when You, O *God*, in judgment rose
to *save the humble* from *their* foes.
All merely *human wrath and* fury
will but *increase Your* praise and *glory*.
5. Come, honour *and revere the* LORD;
make *vows to* God and *keep your* word.
Let all the *nations* tribute bring
and *fear Him* as almighty King,
for He cuts *off the breath of* princes
and sweeps away *their proud* pretences.

PSALM 77

For the director of music. For Jeduthun.
Of Asaph. A psalm.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. I cry out, that God may hear me
and with help be ev-er near me.
To the Lord I cry a-loud,
by a weight of trou-bles bowed.
I stretch out my hand to reach Him;
day and night my prayers be-seech Him.
To my God my grief I told;
I re-fuse to be con-soled.

2. I remember God with weeping.
He has kept my eyes from sleeping,
and my spirit is so weak
that I'm too distraught to speak.
Through the night my thoughts in sadness
turn to former days of gladness,
to my songs of years gone by,
and I in my sorrow sigh:

Psalm 77

3. "Will the Lord spurn us forever
and withhold from us His favour?
Will His love and mercy fail?
Will His promise not prevail?
Will He not forgive transgression
but, forgetting His compassion,
let His burning wrath replace
His unfailing love and grace?"
4. Then I said, "This is what hurts me:
that the Most High God deserts me,
that I am from Him estranged
now that His right hand has changed."
Yet I will recall and ponder
all His awesome works of wonder,
meditating with delight
on His deeds so great in might.
5. All Your ways, O strong Defender,
are most holy, great in splendour.
What god is there anywhere
who can with our God compare?
You worked wonders of salvation,
showed Your power among the nations.
Your strong arm redeemed and freed
Jacob's sons and Joseph's seed.
6. Mighty waters writhed and trembled,
for they saw You and were humbled;
fear convulsed the hidden deep,
made the roaring billows leap.
Clouds poured rain, with thunder crashing,
and Your arrows kept on flashing.
With the lightning bolts You hurled,
You lit up and shook the world.

Psalm 77



7. Through the sea, where waves were toss-ing,
You laid bare a path for cross-ing.
Might-y wa-ters fled in awe,
yet Your foot-prints no man saw.
Your own peo-ple You there guid-ed,
shep-herds for Your flock pro-vid-ed.
Mo-ses, Aa-ron, by their hand
led them to the prom-ised land.

PSALM 78

A maskil of Asaph.

Geneva, 1551



1. Give ear, my peo-ple, lis-ten as I teach you
and let the words of my in-struc-tion reach you.
The wis-dom that on God's de-crees is found-ed
will be to you in par-a-bles ex-pound-ed.
Their hid-den truths I will for you un-fold -
the things our fa-thers taught us from of old.

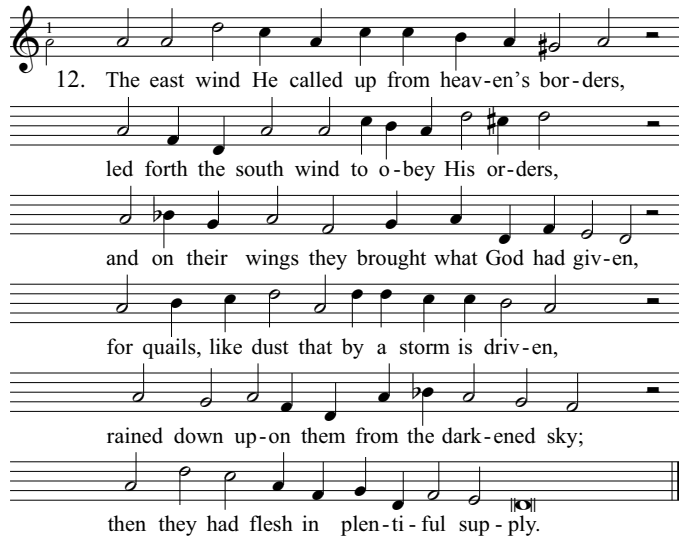
2. These we'll pass on, *not from their children* hide them,
that *those accounts of bygone days* may guide them,
and *we will* tell the *coming generation*
how *God has dealt with Israel, His nation* -
the wondrous *works the LORD* for them has done,
the glory *that His mighty hand* has won.
3. To Israel *He gave His revelation,*
His law as Jacob's ever-firm foundation,
and *all our fathers He, the LORD, commanded*
to *make it known to those from them descended,*
that also *they might pass it on in turn*
and teach *His law to children* not yet born.



4. Then they would put their trust in God their Sav-iour
and not for-get His deeds of love and fa-vour,
nor come to share their fath-ers' con-dem-na-tion,
that stub-born and re-bel-lious gen-er-a-tion
whose spir-its were not faith-ful to the LORD,
by whom God was re-ject-ed and ig-nored.

5. The Ephraimites with bows for war assembled,
yet they in battle all turned back and trembled.
They did not keep God's covenant but denied Him,
despised His law and shamelessly defied Him,
forgot what He had done for them alone,
the miracles that He to them had shown.
6. God worked great marvels, and their fathers saw them;
in Egypt's land, in Zoän, wonders awed them.
There He the waves for Israel divided
and through the sea His chosen people guided.
He made the water stand up like a heap;
His mighty hand restrained the roaring deep.

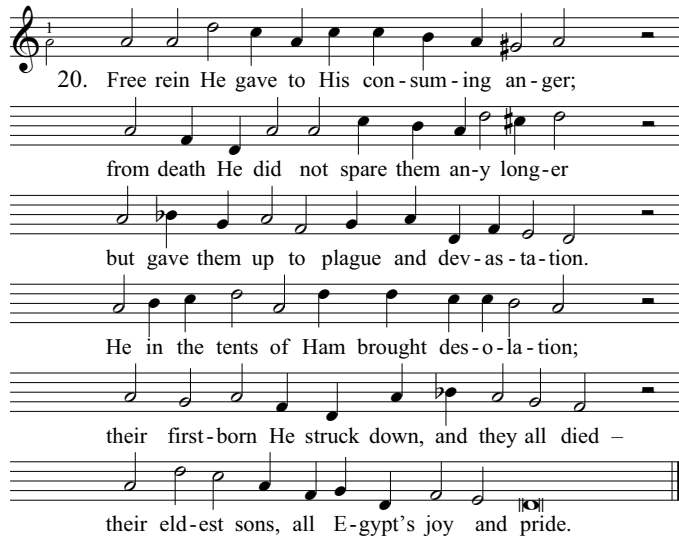
7. By day He gave a cloud to lead and guide them;
with fiery light did He all night provide them.
Drink as abundant as the seas He gave them;
He split the rocks, and springs welled up to save them.
From barren crags He made fresh fountains burst,
and rivers flowed to quench His people's thirst.
8. God in the desert gave them His protection,
yet they rebelled; His mercy met rejection.
In sin and disobedience they persisted,
and God Most High they boldly tried and tested.
In stubborn pride, defiantly they raved,
demanding from His hand the food they craved.
9. They slighted God and said, "Will He be able
to spread us in the wilderness a table?
He struck the rock, we saw the fountains gushing
and streams of water through the desert rushing,
but can He also give His people bread
and bring us meat so that we will be fed?"
10. Therefore the LORD, who heard their provocation,
was full of wrath against His chosen nation.
His fiery rage against all Israel mounted;
His anger rose, for never they recounted
what He had done to help them in their plight;
they did not trust His saving power and might.
11. Yet to the skies God's orders then were given;
He opened wide the very doors of heaven.
God showed His mercy, Israel sustaining
with plenteous manna down upon them raining.
The food of angels gave He them for bread,
and with the grain of heaven they were fed.



12. The east wind He called up from heav-en's bor-ders,
led forth the south wind to o-bey His or-ders,
and on their wings they brought what God had giv-en,
for quails, like dust that by a storm is driv-en,
rained down up-on them from the dark-ened sky;
then they had flesh in plen-ti-ful sup-ply.

13. They ate and *were well filled with what they wanted*; what *they had craved*, that *He had freely granted*. They *gorged themselves*, and *while they celebrated*, with *food still in their mouth and greed unsated*, God's anger *rose against them*, and they died; He slew their *strongest men*, their *flower* and pride.
14. But still they *sinned and did not cease to grieve Him*; despite *His wonders they would not believe Him*. Their *days He ended*, and *like fog they vanished*; with *sudden death and terror they were punished*. But when He *slew them*, they would once again return to *Him*, *repenting* of their sin.

15. Then they *remembered God, their Rock and Saviour*, the *Most High God* who with *redeeming favour* had *brought them* from the *land that had enslaved them*. They *flattered Him*, yet *thought that He would save them*. Though with their *lips they might fine words express*, they scorned His *covenant in their faithlessness*.
16. Yet He in *pity and in lovingkindness* forgave *them* their *iniquity and blindness*, did *not destroy them when His wrath was burning*, but *He restrained the anger they kept earning*, remembering *that they were but mortal men*, a passing *breeze that will not come again*.
17. How often *they would all rebel and leave Him!* How *often they would in the desert grieve Him!* They *kept on testing Him, His love denying*, the *Holy One of Israel defying*, and they forgot *the glorious day when He redeemed His people from their enemy*.
18. Through wondrous *deeds He Israel delivered*; He *turned to blood all Egypt's mighty rivers*. By *swarms of flies its people were tormented*, and *with a plague of frogs they were confronted*. Their crops He *to the hungry locust gave*; their fields were *left with nothing they could save*.
19. With hail and *sleet their vines and trees He shattered*; their *cattle He with bolts of lightning scattered*. He *loosed on them His wrath and indignation*, brought *them distress and widespread devastation*. Destroying *angels He among them sent*, who brought great *ruin everywhere they went*.

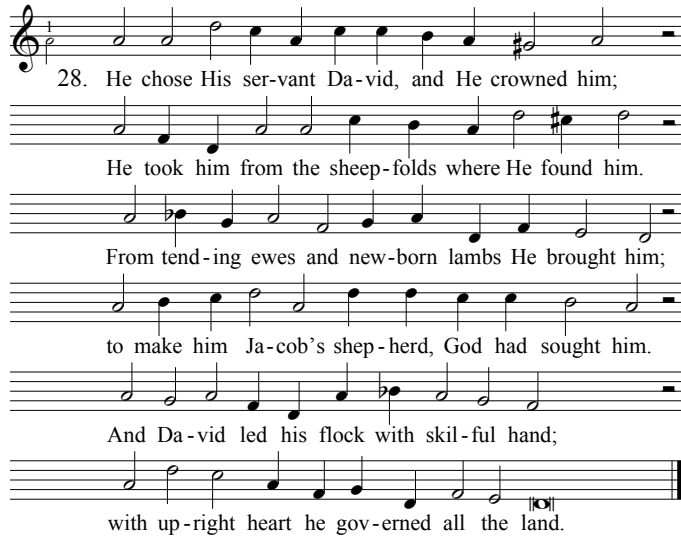


20. Free rein He gave to His con-sum-ing an-ger;
 from death He did not spare them an-y long-er
 but gave them up to plague and dev-as-ta-tion.
 He in the tents of Ham brought des-o-la-tion;
 their first-born He struck down, and they all died –
 their eld-est sons, all E-gypt's joy and pride.

21. Then like a *shepherd* He His people guided,
 and in the desert they in Him confided.
 He led His flock, and without fear they followed,
 for all their foes the raging sea had swallowed.
 Thus to His holy land He brought His own,
 to hills and dales which His right hand had won.
22. Before them He drove out the heathen nations,
 apportioned to the tribes their habitations,
 and in their tents they safely found a dwelling.
 Yet they, against the Most High God rebelling,
 cast off His laws and Him no longer served,
 and, like their fathers, from His ways they swerved.

23. They like a *faulty bow*, all warped and twisting,
 provoked God's anger when, in sin persisting,
 they with their heathen worship made Him jealous;
 in serving worthless idols they were zealous.
 Great was God's wrath when He saw them rebel.
 He utterly rejected Israel.
24. From Shiloh's tent, His dwelling, He departed,
 forsook those who were faithless and false-hearted.
 He to the clutches of the foe surrendered
 His holy ark, the symbol of His splendour.
 In anger that His word had been ignored,
 He gave His people over to the sword.
25. Their young men were consumed as flames drew near them;
 their maidens had no wedding songs to cheer them.
 Their priests fell by the sword of heathen nations;
 their widows could not voice their lamentations.
 The land was ravaged by the godless foe,
 and all endured great misery and woe.
26. He then turned back to those He had forsaken;
 as from deep slumber did the Lord awaken,
 just like a warrior who with wine is heated.
 He struck His foes until they all retreated,
 and as they fled, He at their backs took aim;
 He put them all to everlasting shame.
27. The tents of Joseph's offspring He rejected,
 nor was His house in Ephraim erected.
 But He chose Judah's tribe in His good pleasure –
 Mount Zion, which He loved, His pride and treasure.
 He built His temple like the heavenly heights,
 firm like the earth, enduring by His might.

Psalm 78



28. He chose His ser-vant Da-vid, and He crowned him;
He took him from the sheep-folds where He found him.
From tend-ing ewes and new-born lambs He brought him;
to make him Ja-cob's shep-herd, God had sought him.
And Da-vid led his flock with skil-ful hand;
with up-right heart he gov-erned all the land.

PSALM 79

A psalm of Asaph.

1543 / Geneva, 1551



1. Your land, O God, the na-tions have in-vad-ed;
by hea-then hordes Your her-it-age was raid-ed.
Look how they have, with-out re-straint or pit-y,
de-filed Your tem-ple and de-stroyed Your cit-y.
To car-rion bird and beast
they've of-fered as a feast
the saints they led to slaugh-ter;
a-round Je-ru-sa-lem,
with none to bur-y them,
their blood was poured like wa-ter.

2. We are a taunt to those a-round us dwell-ing.
 When will You come, the en-e-my ex-pel-ling?
 O hear us, LORD! Will You ex-tin-guish nev-er
 Your jeal-ous an-ger? Will it burn for-ev-er?
 Your wrath, O LORD, pour out
 on all who Your name flout.
 Con-sume the god-less na-tions,
 for greed-i-ly have they
 seized Ja-cob as their prey
 and razed his hab-i-ta-tion.

3. Do not recall the *misdeeds of our fathers*, nor *hold their guilt against us, LORD*, but rather *show Your compassion to Your humbled nation and come with haste, O God of our salvation!*
 O *LORD*, increase Your fame, the *glory of Your name*;
 free *us from all oppression*.
 Have *mercy on Your own*;
 for *Your name's sake alone*
 forgive *us our transgression*.
4. Why should the heathen, *Israel deriding*, ask *in contempt*, "Where *may their God be hiding?*"
Arise, O Lord! Strike in retaliation;
 the *blood of saints avenge before the nations!*
 And *may You from Your throne*
 hear *how the prisoners groan*.
 Your *greatness manifesting*,
 preserve *us as of old*.
 Repay *them sevenfold*
 who *taunt You with their jesting*.
5. We shall forever *joyful praises render*
 to *You, O LORD*, our *Shepherd and Defender*.
 We *as Your flock, Your chosen congregation*,
 shall *give You thanks through every generation*.

PSALM 80

For the director of music. To the tune of "The Lilies of the Covenant."
Of Asaph. A psalm.

Geneva, 1562

1. O Is - rael's Shep - herd, hear our plead - ing,
You who all Jo - seph's flock are lead - ing,
You throned a - bove the cher - u - bim!
Shine forth be - fore Your E - phra - im,
show Ben - ja - min, Ma - nas - seh light!
Come, save us, God! Stir up Your might.

2. How long yet in Your indignation will You ignore our supplication? Tears are the bread of Israel; You gave us tears to drink as well. You made us suffer strife and scorn, and we our neighbours' jeers have borne.
3. LORD God of hosts, O come, restore us and cause Your face to shine before us. From servitude in Egypt's land You once brought out a vine to plant, that it might thrive for evermore where other nations dwelt before.

Psalm 80

4. You cleared the ground for it to flourish; Your vine took root and did not perish but filled the land so that its shade a shelter for the mountains made and, covering many mighty trees, spread to the River and the Sea.
5. Why did You break its walls asunder? All passers-by its grapes now plunder. Your vine is ravaged by the boar, and other beasts its fruit devour. Return, O God, and show Your grace; look down from heaven, Your dwelling place.
6. O God of hosts, grant preservation and save Your vine from devastation. See how they in their savage ire have cut it down, burned it with fire. O let them perish in their fear when You with Your rebuke appear.
7. But let Your hand, so great in power, Your aid and favour freely shower upon the man at Your right hand and let him there beside You stand. You raised him up, the son of man, to work out Your salvation's plan.
8. O then we shall forsake You never! Revive us, and we shall forever call on Your name, before You bow. LORD God of hosts, restore us now and cause Your face to shine on us. LORD, save us in Your faithfulness.

PSALM 81

For the director of music. According to gittith. Of Asaph.

Geneva, 1562

1. Sing a psalm of joy;
shout with ho-ly fer-vour.
All your skills em-ploy;
with your heart and soul
Ja-cob's God ex-tol.
He is our pre-serv-er.

2. O all *Israel*,
voice your *jubilation*.
Let your *music* swell;
harp and timbrel play.
Show in every way
joy and exultation.
3. With the *trumpet's* tune
herald, *in due* season,
feast-days *of the* moon:
Let its echo sound.
To let joy abound
God gives every reason.

Psalm 81

4. Keep by *God's* command
your *commemoration*:
When in *Egypt's* land
captive *Israel*
did in bondage dwell,
He gave liberation.
5. “When you *served as* slaves
of the *ruthless* Pharaoh,
I, the *God who* saves,
listened to your plea
and I set you free
from distress and sorrow.
6. “In the *worst of* plights
comfort *I* provided.
On Mount *Sinai's* heights
I gave you My law.
You at Meribah
tested were and guided.
7. “O my *people*, hear!
Let my *warnings* reach you.
My *commands* *revere!*
Would you but obey,
not to evil stray.
Listen as I teach you.
8. “You shall *not bow* down
showing *veneration*
to mere *gods of* stone.
You shall hate and flee
the idolatry
of the heathen nations.

9. "I, LORD God of truth,
I from E-gypt freed you.
O-pen wide your mouth;
put your trust in Me.
Know that I am He
who will rich-ly feed you.

10. "By their *wilful* choice
they my *love* rejected;
they ignored *My* voice.
Israel did not
heed what they were taught.
They My law neglected.

11. "To their *stubborn* way
Israel I surrendered.
Would they *but* obey
and return to Me!
O then I would be
Israel's defender!

12. "Then I *would* in haste
Israel deliver.
I would *soon* lay waste
the oppressor's land
and with mighty hand
thwart the foe's endeavour.
13. "As their *just* reward,
all the *hostile* nations
who *despise* the LORD
would before His face
cringe in their disgrace
and humiliation.
14. "With *abundance* I
Israel would nourish.
You I *would* supply
with the finest wheat,
honey pure and sweet.
Israel would flourish!"

PSALM 82

A psalm of Asaph.

1543, Geneva, 1562

1. In sol-*em*n court the “gods” as-*sem*-ble;
be-fore the Lord they stand and trem-ble.
There in their midst He takes His place
and they His right-*eous* judg-ment face:
“You judge un-just-ly. How much long-er
will you with false-hood rouse My an-ger?
How long yet will you par-tial be
to those whose wick-ed-ness you see?”

2. “Defend the weak and the afflicted;
ensure that orphans are protected.
The rights of the oppressed maintain.
Deliver them from wicked men.
But, look, the poor are left forsaken;
the order of the world is shaken.
There is no justice, all are fools,
and everywhere the darkness rules.

Psalm 82

3. “I called you ‘gods’; you I exalted
and you as sons of God consulted.
But as mere mortals you will die,
for you My just decrees defy.
In spite of all your proud pretences,
you’ll fall like any other princes.”
O God, arise! The earth now judge:
all nations are Your heritage!

PSALM 83

Psalm 83

A song. A psalm of Asaph.

Geneva, 1562

1. God, be not si-lent, nor sit still!
Stir up Your might for Is-ra-el.
For, look, Your foes pre-pare for fight-ing;
they raise their heads, for war u-nit-ing.
The flames of ha-tred they keep fan-ning,
Your cho-sen peo-ple's down-fall plan-ning.

2. They say, "Come, let us wipe them out;
let Israel be put to rout.
Let all their nation be defeated,
its name from memory deleted."
They are with one accord conspiring,
the fall of Israel desiring.
3. Look, Edom and the Ishmaelites,
the Hagarenes and Moabites,
with the Philistines and the Tyrians
join Ammon's tribe and the Assyrians;
Geba combines with Agag's remnants.
They give support to Lot's descendants.

4. Treat them as You did Midian;
as Sisera, that warrior slain
when in a woman's tent he sheltered;
as those who at the Kishon faltered –
all Jabin's men, who, stripped of splendour,
were dung left on the fields of Endor.
5. Like Oreb and like Zeëb, LORD,
let foes receive their due reward;
like Zebah and Zalmunnah, humbled
when to their downfall they both stumbled –
those who had said, "God's own green pastures
we will possess as lords and masters."
6. O God, make them like whirling dust,
like chaff before a windy gust.
As fire consumes the woods like tinder
and turns the hills to ash and cinder,
so with Your storms, O God, subdue them;
with frightful hurricanes pursue them.
7. LORD, on their heads heap such great shame
that they will all confess Your name.
May they be crushed and doomed forever;
in their disgrace let them discover
that You are LORD, uniquely glorious,
that You are everywhere victorious.

PSALM 84

Psalm 84

For the director of music. According to gittith. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

Geneva, 1562



1. O LORD of hosts, al-might-y King,
the prais-es of Your house I sing.
How love-ly is Your ha-bi-ta-tion!
Your ho-ly courts I yearn to see;
faint with de-sire, I long to be
where pil-grims join in cel-e-bra-tion.
My heart and flesh with joy-ful shout
to You, the liv-ing God, cry out.

2. The sparrow *finds a place* to rest;
the swallow *builds herself* a nest
to rear her young beside Your altar.
Your temple is their safe abode,
O LORD of hosts, my King, my God.
How *blest are* those who *there find* shelter.
Your house, O LORD, is *their delight*;
they sing Your praises day and night.

3. How *blest are those whose strength* You are,
who *seek the ways that* from afar
lead *them to Zion's holy* places.
As they through Baca's valley pass,
they make that barren wilderness
a place of springs, a lush oasis.
The *early rain on it* descends,
and *pools refresh the* desert sands.
4. They make *their way from strength* to strength
until in Zion they at length
appear before their God and Saviour.
LORD God Almighty, hear my plea;
O God of Jacob, answer me.
Bestow on me Your grace and favour.
O God, our Shield, from *heaven* above
bless Your anointed with Your love.
5. LORD, one day in Your dwelling place
is *better than a thousand days*
outside the courts of Your salvation.
I would much rather stand and wait
as *humble servant at Your gate*,
the *threshold of Your habitation*,
than, far from there, to dwell within
the tents of wickedness and sin.
6. The LORD His goodness has revealed:
He is to us a sun and shield.
With grace and honour He delights us.
He shows His mercy, as of old,
and no good gift will He withhold
from those whose walk is just and righteous.
O LORD whose word is firm and true,
how *blest are those who* trust in You.

PSALM 85

Psalm 85

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

Geneva, 1562

1. You showed Your fa-vour to Your land, O LORD;
 You Ja-cob's for-tunes gra-cious-ly re-stored.
 Your peo-ple You then from their guilt set free,
 for You for-gave all their in-iq-ui-ty.
 You did not let Your in-dig-na-tion last;
 Your fu-ry and dis-pleas-ure quick-ly passed.
 Now, God our Sav-iour, hear us as we pray:
 A - gain re-store us! Take Your wrath a - way.

2. LORD, *will Your blazing anger* never cease?
Will it go on forever and increase?
Will You not once again our strength renew,
 that *all Your people may rejoice* in You?
 Your *never-failing love and mercy* show
 and *Your salvation, LORD, on us* bestow.
 To us Your *constant faithfulness* unfold,
 Your *lovingkindness as in days of old.*

3. Let *me now* hear what *God the LORD* will speak,
 for *to His saints who Him in worship seek*
 He *will proclaim His peace* and righteousness –
 but *let them not to foolish ways regress.*
 He *surely with His saving help is near*
 to *those who serve Him and His name* revere,
 that in our *land His glory* may prevail
 and *He may there among His people* dwell.
4. *Unfailing love* meets *constant faithfulness,*
 while *righteousness and peace* embrace and kiss.
 Up *from the ground true loyalty sprouts* forth;
 down *from the heavens justice views* the earth.
 Rich *blessings* will the *LORD on us* bestow;
 with *plenteous* crops our *land will* overflow.
 Before Him *justice will its banner* sway
 when *for His footsteps it prepares* the way.

PSALM 86

A prayer of David.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. Turn to me, O LORD, and heed me;
see how poor I am, how need - y.
I who serve You con - stant - ly
trust in You to res - cue me.
Guard my life, show me Your fa - vour,
for You are my God and Sav - iour.
Lord, Your ser - vant's joy re - new,
for I lift my soul to You.

2. You forgive us our transgressions
in your mercy and compassion;
You abound in love and grace.
In my woes I seek Your face.
You, O LORD, will hear my pleading.
There's no power Yours exceeding.
You, O God, how great You are,
great Your deeds beyond compare!


Psalm 86

3. All the *nations* will adore You;
they will *come and bow before* You,
bringing *glory to Your* name,
for none *equals You* in fame.
Lord *supreme in might and splendour*,
glorious are Your works of wonder;
glorious is Your heavenly throne.
You are *God – yes, You alone*.
4. Teach me, *in Your ways* direct me;
in Your *truth, O LORD*, instruct me.
Let it *be my heart's one aim*
to revere *Your holy* name.
Thankful *for Your grace and favour*,
I will *praise Your name forever*.
In Your *love You came to save*
me, Your *servant, from the grave*.
5. See the *proud pursue and hound* me;
those who *seek my life surround* me.
They for *You have no regard*.
But in *You I trust, O Lord*.
You are *rich in love and favour*,
slow to *anger, patient ever*;
boundless *is Your faithfulness*.
Pity *me in my distress*.
6. Strengthen *me in my affliction*;
grant Your *servant Your protection*.
You whom *I rely upon*,
rescue *me, Your handmaid's son*.
Give me *proof of Your great favour*;
show my *foes You are my Saviour*.
Shame them *all and let them see*
how You *help and comfort* me.

PSALM 87

Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm. A song.

Geneva, 1562



1. Our gra-cious God has laid se-cure foun-da-tions
and built His ci-ty on mount Zi-on's heights.
He loves her gates and He in them de-lights
more than in all the towns of Ja-cob's na-tion.

2. What glorious *things*, O city of God's favour,
are said of you, proclaimed in joyful tone:
"I number *Egypt*, even *Babylon*,
among all those who know Me as their Saviour.
3. "The Cushite, the *Philistine*, and the Tyrian
I will now in my register inscribe
and say of every nation, every tribe,
"This one was born within the walls of Zion."
4. It rightly will be said of God's own city,
"This one and that one were in Zion born,
and as the LORD Most High Himself has sworn,
He will uphold her in His love and pity."
5. This will the LORD write in the roll of nations:
"These, born in Zion, all to Me belong."
With joyful music they proclaim in song:
"In Zion are the springs of my salvation."

PSALM 88

*A song. A psalm of the Sons of Korah. For the director of music.
According to mahalath leannoth. A maskil of Heman the Ezrahite.*

Geneva, 1562



1. O LORD, the God who res-cues me,
I day and night cry out be-fore You.
O turn to me as I im-ple-re You
to be at-ten-tive to my plea.
My soul is trou-ble-filled and wea-ry;
the dark-ness of the grave draws near me.

2. Like those descending to the pit,
I am among the dead forsaken.
My strength and vigour You have taken;
with misery I am beset.
Cut off, as from Your presence banished,
I have from Your remembrance vanished.
3. You plunged me deep into the grave,
and in the darkest pit I languish.
Your fury burdens me with anguish,
and You engulf me with Your waves.
Of my close friends You have bereft me;
they shunned me and in horror left me.

4. As in a pris-on put a-way,
I have no pros-pect of es-cap-ing.
My eyes grow dim with grief and weep-ing.
Yet, LORD, to You I turn each day
and spread my hands in sup-pli-ca-tion
as I cry out for con-so-la-tion.

5. Do You work wonders for the dead?
Do they with praise rise up before You
and for Your steadfast love adore You?
How can Your goodness make them glad?
Is not Abaddon, dark and sombre,
the land where none Your deeds remember?

6. But I cry out to You, O LORD;
my prayer I offer every morning.
O LORD, why do You keep on scorning
my fervent pleas, as if unheard?
Why do You cast me off and leave me?
Why do You hide Your face to grieve me?

7. From childhood I've been close to death,
forlorn, afflicted, badly shaken,
and by Your terrors overtaken;
my life is but a feeble breath.
I am engulfed by Your great fury;
Your onslaughts leave me weak and weary.
8. Your terrors like a mighty flood
have overwhelmed and almost drowned me,
and all day long they surge around me.
You bring me bitter solitude.
I'm shunned by those I loved so dearly;
my closest friend is darkness dreary.

PSALM 89

Psalms 89

A maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

Geneva, 1562



1. I will for-ev-er sing of Your great love, O LORD,
to a-ges yet to come make known Your faith-ful word,
for with my mouth I will to ev-ery gen-er-a-tion
pro-claim Your faith-ful-ness in joy-ful ad-o-ra-tion.
Your cov-enant love stands firm; it will not wane or wa-ver,
For You in heaven it-self es-tab-lished it for-ev-er.

2. You said, "I've made a covenant with my chosen one;
to David as my servant I My love have shown,
for I to him have sworn, 'Your offspring I will favour,
I will establish Your descendants' reign forever.
Your kingdom will endure, for I laid its foundations,
and I will build your throne throughout all generations.'"
3. O LORD, the heavens extol the wonders of Your ways;
the holy ones in their assembly sing Your praise.
Who in their mighty host compares with You in splendour?
They all before Your throne to You their homage render.
O LORD, who is like You? Who else has power unbounded?
You are the mighty God by faithfulness surrounded.

4. You rule the swelling tides, the surging of the sea,
and on the roaring waves impose tranquillity.
Proud Rahab You have crushed, its carcass You have shattered;
You with Your mighty arm Your enemies have scattered.
Both earth and skies are Yours, for Yours is all creation;
the world with all it holds You placed on its foundation.
5. You made both north and south and every mountain height;
Mount Tabor and Mount Hermon glory in Your might.
Your arm, Your strong right hand, evokes their jubilation.
True righteousness and justice are Your throne's foundation.
The love and faithfulness that will endure forever
before You make their way as heralds of Your favour.
6. Blest are the people who acclaim You as their King,
who know the festal shout and of Your mercy sing.
They see Your holy face and walk in light before You;
exulting in Your name, they all day long adore You.
Your wondrous deeds they laud, Your righteousness recalling;
they go their way with joy, Your steadfast love extolling.
7. You are our strength and glory, You exalt our horn,
and by Your favour, LORD, our enemies we scorn.
To You belongs our shield, our king so great and glorious;
You, LORD, came to his aid and You made him victorious.
To You our praise we sing, to You we homage render,
O Israel's Holy One, our powerful Defender.
8. Of old You to the faithful in a vision said:
"I have exalted him by whom you will be led;
one of your own I have selected and appointed:
My servant David, with My holy oil anointed.
My arm will make him strong, My right hand will protect him.
No foes will humble him, no wicked man afflict him.

9. "Be-fore him I will go and crush his en-e-mies.
His horn I will ex-alt; My love will nev-er cease.
My name will be his strength; it will for-sake him nev-er,
and I will set his hand on seas and might-y riv-ers.
He will ac-knowl-edge me and cry in ad-o-ra-tion,
'My Fa-ther and my God, the Rock of my sal-va-tion!'

10. "I also will appoint him as my firstborn son, earth's most exalted king, in fame surpassed by none. My steadfast love for him I will maintain forever; the covenant made with him I will not break or sever. In keeping with My pledge, the throne to David given will stand forever firm, enduring like the heavens.
11. "But should his sons forsake and disobey My law, ignoring my commands, not holding them in awe, then I will punish them, flog them for their transgression, but will not take from him My love and My compassion. My covenant will stand firm, My vow will not be broken, nor will I change a word of what My lips have spoken.

12. "I once for all have sworn by My own holiness. I will not break My word, but David I will bless; his throne will evermore from heir to heir be handed, for like the sun it will endure as I commanded. And like the moon, the faithful witness in the heavens, his reign will be secure. My promise I have given."
13. But Your anointed one You in Your wrath have spurned; him You have now cast off, against him You have turned. The covenant made with him You have repudiated; his crown lies in the dust, defiled and violated. LORD, You have breached his walls, brought widespread devastation, reduced his citadels to scenes of desolation.
14. See how all passers-by have robbed and plundered him; he is his neighbours' scorn, enduring bitter shame. The right hand of his foes You have in war exalted; they cheered in triumph when against him they revolted. His sword You have turned back, his enemies have felled him, and in his many battles You have not upheld him.
15. O LORD, You have removed the sceptre from his hand, cast to the ground his throne, him from Your presence banned. You have cut short his youth, his vigour You have taken, enveloped him in shame, and left him all forsaken. How long, O LORD? How long will You from him be hiding? How long before Your blazing wrath will be subsiding?
16. Remember, LORD, my life, its brief and fleeting span. O for what vanity have You created man! For who can live and see the light of day forever? Who can outwit the grave and meet its terrors never? Lord, where is now Your love? Why has it waned and wavered? Where is the faithfulness that once You swore to David?

17. Re-mem-ber how I bear with-in my heart, O Lord,
 the in-sults and the taunts that I have long en-dured.
 Your ser-vant has been mocked and jeered by all the na-tions;
 foes taunt-ed You're a-noint-ed with their prov-o-ca-tions.
 Yet praise and wor-ship God! His mer-cy will not wa-ver.
 Yes, A-men and A-men. Praised be the LORD for-ev-er!

PSALM 90

A prayer of Moses the man of God.

Geneva, 1551

1. Lord, You have been for by-gone gen-er-a-tions
 their dwell-ing place, their ha-ven of sal-va-tion.
 Al- so for us You are the rock of a-ges,
 our on- ly re- fuge when the tem- pest ra- ges,
 and You in gen- er- a- tions yet to come
 will be our chil- dren's ev- er- last- ing home.

2. Before You *formed, O powerful Creator,*
 the *soaring mountains, all their peaks and craters;*
 before You set the *earth on its foundations*
 and *made the world a place of habitation,*
 from everlasting *stood Your holy throne,*
 to everlasting *You are God alone.*
3. You turn us *back to dust when life is ended,*
 for *so You* in these *very words* commanded:
 “*Return to dust, O mortals.*” *Thus we perish.*
Brief is our life, and vain the things we cherish.
A thousand of our years are in Your sight
a day gone by, a watch that ends the night.

4. We're swept a-way as by a might-y riv-er.
 Like fleet-ing dreams are we and our en-deav-our,
 like ten-der grass that springs up in the morn-ing,
 like flowers that, for a while the earth a-dorn-ing,
 un-fold and blos-som in the ear-ly sun:
 by eve-ning they are shriv-elled up and gone.

5. For we are *all consumed by Your great anger*,
 and we have seen Your *indignation linger*.
 You are with our *iniquity acquainted*;
 Your *light reveals that all our deeds are tainted*.
 For in Your *wrath will all our days go by*,
 until our *lives we finish with a sigh*.
6. Our years are *few: You seventy allow us*,
 or *eighty if You with the strength endow us*.
 Throughout *their span we in our sorrow languish*;
 the *best of them are filled with toil and anguish*.
 They quickly *pass until we reach the day*
 when life is *over and we fly away*.

7. Who feels Your *anger's force, O God Almighty?*
 Who *knows how great it is and fears it rightly?*
 Teach us that we our *span of days may number*;
 help us *gain wisdom. LORD, Your love remember!*
 We for Your *mercy and compassion yearn*.
 How long yet *must we wait? O LORD, return!*
8. O LORD, come *in the morning and supply us*
 with Your *unfailing love to satisfy us*,
 that we may then *rejoice and sing with gladness*
 as *many days as we have mourned in sadness*,
 as *many years as we have seen distress*.
 Replace our *grief with joy and happiness*.
9. Make known to us Your *deeds of might and splendour*,
 and may our children *marvel at Your grandeur*.
 May You, O Lord, our *gracious God and Saviour*,
 bless us with all the *riches of Your favour*.
 Establish *all the labours of our hands*;
 establish *them, that to Your praise they stand*.

PSALM 91

Psalm 91

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. Those dwell-ing in the hid-ing place
of God Most High shall tar - ry
where in the sha-dow of His grace
His good-ness will not var - y.
My for-tress when I am be - set,
my rock - I trust Him ev - er,
for He will from the fowl - er's net
His faith-ful ones de-liv - er.

2. He'll *save you from the pestilence,*
His *wings as shelter* lending.
His *pinions are your* sure defence,
His *truth a shield* unbending.
At *night you will not* fear the gloom,
nor, *during day,* the arrow,
nor *havoc that may spread* at noon,
nor *nights of plagues and* sorrow.

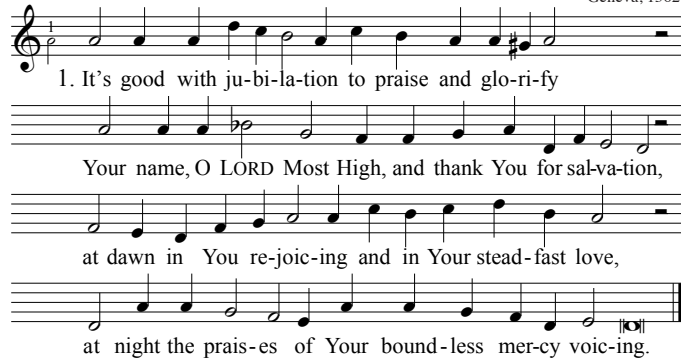
3. *A thousand at your side* may fall,
but *you'll be safely* guarded;
when *tens of thousands* die in all,
you'll *see the foe* rewarded.
Since *you the LORD* your refuge made,
your *rock and habitation,*
no *evil shall your tents* invade,
nor *plague and tribulation.*
4. His *hosts of angels* God commands
for *evermore to* serve you.
They *will support you* on their hands
and *from all evil* swerve you,
lest *ever you your* foot should dash
against a stone, or stumble.
The *deadly serpent* you will crush;
the *lion* you will humble.
5. "Because *he on My* love relies,
I *surely will* defend him.
He *knows My name;* thus, when he cries,
My *answer I will* send him.
I'll *come with rescue* in the strife;
to *him is honour* owing.
I'll *bless him with great* length of life,
to *him salvation* showing."

PSALM 92

Psalm 92

A psalm. A song. For the Sabbath day.

Geneva, 1562



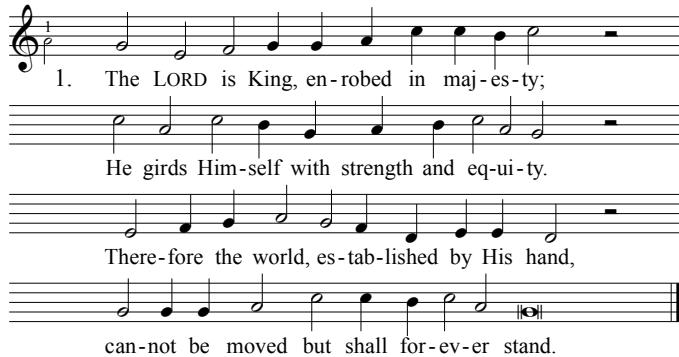
1. It's good with ju-bi-la-tion to praise and glo-ri-fy
Your name, O LORD Most High, and thank You for sal-va-tion,
at dawn in You re-joic-ing and in Your stead-fast love,
at night the prais-es of Your bound-less mer-cy voic-ing.

2. With *song and music* blending, let me Your praise recite;
let *harp and lute* unite in harmony unending.
My *thankfulness* expressing, I praise Your deeds of might;
I sing of my delight, Your *faithfulness* confessing.
3. Your works are great and splendid. O how profound Your thought!
The *senseless* fool cannot begin to understand it.
Though *evil men* may flourish, though like the grass they sprout,
LORD, You shall root them out. They shall forever perish.
4. You are supreme forever. Doomed is Your enemy.
LORD, see the wicked flee, by none to be delivered!
With such great strength You bless me that, like the wild ox,
I lift up my horn on high. The finest oils refresh me.
5. I have been vindicated! As my own eyes have seen,
my foes, to their chagrin, lie humbled and defeated.
The LORD is my salvation; their downfall is assured.
With my own ears I've heard their cries of desperation.

6. The just will He remember, to them His favour show;
they like the palm tree grow, like Lebanon's fine timber.
Those whom the LORD will cherish within His house He plants.
There God His blessing grants: within His courts they flourish.
7. Still fruit in old age bearing, they fresh and green remain.
Their witness makes it plain: the LORD is just and caring.
His righteousness and favour they shall proclaim in song:
"In Him there is no wrong. He is my rock forever."

PSALM 93

Geneva, 1562



1. The LORD is King, en-robbed in maj-es-ty;
He girds Him-self with strength and eq-ui-ty.
There-fore the world, es-tab-lished by His hand,
can-not be moved but shall for-ev-er stand.

2. Firm from of *old has stood*, O LORD, Your throne;
from *everlasting You are God alone*.
To *You the seas have lifted up their voice*,
the *pounding waves that in their strength rejoice*.
3. But mighty *though the thundering floods may be*,
far mightier *than the breakers of the sea*
is *He, the LORD, who sits enthroned on high*,
the *King whose name we praise and glorify*.
4. Your word stands *firm, in Your decrees we trust*;
Your statutes *are dependable and just*,
and *holiness, O LORD whom we adore*,
befits Your house, now and for evermore.

PSALM 94

Geneva, 1562



1. LORD, God of venge-ance, our De-fend-er,
in right-eous-ness Your judg-ment ren-der!
Rise up, O Judge of all the earth;
re-veal Your jus-tice and shine forth!
Give to the proud their just re-ward.
How long must we still wait, O LORD?

2. How long yet will the *evildoer exult and revel in his power?*
Hear *how the wicked boast aloud*;
of *all their misdeeds they are proud*.
They *crush Your people in their rage*
and *they oppress Your heritage*.
3. When will *You come as our avenger?*
They *slay the widow and the stranger*
and *put to death the fatherless*;
the *poor and helpless they oppress*.
They say, "*The LORD, He does not see*.
The *God of Jacob, where is He?*"

4. You fools who lack all com-pre-hen-sion,
 mark these my words and pay at-ten-tion.
 When will you sense-less ones be wise?
 Does He who fash-ioned ears and eyes
 not have the power to see and hear?
 Is He not one whom You should fear?

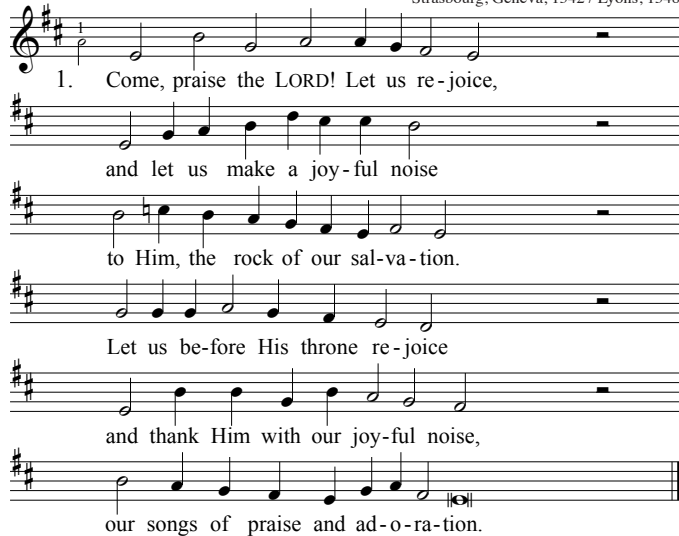
5. Does *He* who disciplines the nations
 not see your sins and provocations?
 Does *He* who teaches all mankind
 not probe the depths of every mind?
 The LORD well knows that in the end
 your thoughts are but a puff of wind.
6. Blest is the man by *You* instructed,
 and by *Your* discipline corrected –
 the one to whom *You* teach *Your* ways
 to grant relief in troubled days,
 till for the wicked, one and all,
 a pit is dug in which they fall.

7. God will not leave His own forsaken;
 His love is steadfast, never shaken.
 His people He again will bless
 with judgment based on righteousness,
 and all who have an upright heart
 will give His justice their support.
8. Who will, when wicked men attack me,
 be on my side, stand up and back me?
 Who will defend me in the strife
 when foes conspire to seek my life?
 Without God's help I soon would have
 my dwelling in the silent grave.
9. When I cried out, "My foot is slipping,"
 You were at hand for my safekeeping,
 and in my great anxiety
 Your steadfast love supported me.
 Whenever I on You would call,
 Your consolation cheered my soul.
10. O LORD, can wicked rulers ever
 serve You as allies, gain Your favour?
 They frame their mischief by decree
 and make of laws a mockery.
 They band together and consent
 to put to death the innocent.
11. The LORD is my defence and shelter,
 my God the rock that will not falter.
 Our enemies He will requite
 for what was wicked in His sight.
 All evildoers He will rout;
 the LORD our God will wipe them out.

PSALM 95

Psalm 95

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1548



1. Come, praise the LORD! Let us re-joice,
and let us make a joy-ful noise
to Him, the rock of our sal-va-tion.
Let us be-fore His throne re-joice
and thank Him with our joy-ful noise,
our songs of praise and ad-o-ra-tion.

2. The LORD our God, *whose praise* we sing,
rules *as our great and glorious King*.
None *equals Him, no god is greater*.
The *deepest caves are in His hand*;
the *mountains, all the seas, the land*
are *His, for He is their Creator*.
3. Come, let us *worship and bow down*
before this God of great renown.
Our *Maker, Him our thanks we render*;
He *led us by His mighty hand*
to *pastures in a verdant land*.
He *is our shepherd, our defender*.

4. Today, would you *but hear His voice*:
Do *not repeat your fathers' choice*,
who *stubbornly with Me contended*;
at *Massah's rock and Meribah*
they *tested Me* although they saw
how *they by Me had been defended*.
5. For forty years *they wearied Me*.
I *said, "They show no loyalty*.
Their *hardened hearts resist My favour*;
My *ways they foolishly ignore*."
And *so I in My anger swore*:
"*Into My rest they'll enter never*."

PSALM 96

Psalm 96

Geneva, 1562

1. Sing to the LORD with ex-ul-ta-tion.
 O sing a new song, all cre-a-tion.
 Sing to the LORD and bless His name.
 Day af-ter day with joy pro-claim
 the won-drous deeds of His sal-va-tion.

2. Make *known His glory to the nations*;
 declare to all their *populations*
 His *marvellous* works, for *He, the LORD*,
 is to be *worshipped* and adored.
 Praise *Him with joyful exclamations*.
3. All *gods* revered by *other nations*
 are *merely* idols, *man's* creation.
 Our *God* made all the *heavens'* extent,
 and *glory dwells within* His tent.
 Before *Him* kneel in adoration.
4. *Glory and strength*, O *tribes and nations*,
 ascribe to God with *exultation*.
 His *power and majesty* acclaim;
 extol His *great and glorious* name.
 Sing *praise to Him with jubilation*.

5. Within *His* courts your *offerings* render
 and *worship* Him in *holy* splendour.
 O *all you nations, far and near*,
 tremble before *Him*, quake with fear.
 Bow down to *Him* in awe and wonder.
6. Herald abroad as *proclamation*:
 "The *LORD* is King of *all creation*."
 The *world* is firmly *set in place*;
 none *can His handiwork* erase.
 He *will with justice* rule the nations.
7. In *Him* rejoice, O *heights of heaven*.
 Let *earth* be glad, to *rapture* driven.
 Rejoice, O *roaring sea's* domain;
 exult, O *fields of golden* grain.
 By *rustling woods* let *praise* be given.
8. Shout forth your gladness, *all creation!*
 Sing to the LORD with *exultation*.
 Behold, *He* comes! Your *joy* express!
 He *comes in truth and righteousness*
 to *judge the earth and rule the nations*.

PSALM 97

Psalm 97

Geneva, 1562

1. The LORD our God is King!
 Let earth re-joice and sing.
 Let shores of dis-tant na-tions
 re-sound with ju-bi-la-tion.
 Clouds dark with mys-ter-y
 en-fold His maj-es-ty.
 He firm-ly based His throne
 on right-eous-ness a-lone.
 Our glo-rious King is He.

2. Fire that consumes His foes
 fiercely before Him goes.
 His thunderbolts are frightening:
 The world's lit up with lightning.
 Earth trembles at the sight.
 The mountains, great in height,
 like wax all melt away
 in terror and dismay
 when God reveals His might.
3. The heavens everywhere
 His righteousness declare.
 The world in awe and wonder
 beholds His holy splendour.
 But God puts those to shame
 who do not fear His name,
 who in their idols boast,
 and all their worthless host.
 You gods, all worship Him!
4. Now Zion lifts her voice;
 all Judah's towns rejoice.
 They heard the proclamation
 of glorious vindication.
 LORD, none with You compare,
 for God Most High You are.
 The earth is Yours alone;
 exalted is Your throne,
 supreme for evermore.
5. Let evil be abhorred
 by those who love the LORD.
 The faithful He will ever
 from wicked men deliver.
 Light dawns for the upright;
 in joy they will delight.
 You saints, rejoice in Him
 and praise His holy name.
 Extol His glorious might!

PSALM 98

Psalm 98

A psalm.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. Sing to the LORD, a new song voic-ing,
for might-y won-ders He has done.
His right hand and His arm most ho-ly
the vic-to-ry for Him have won.
The LORD has blessed us with sal-va-tion;
His vin-di-ca-tion He has shown.
He has re-vealed to all the na-tions
That jus-tice is-sues from His throne.

2. *He has remembered all His mercy,
His faithfulness to Israel.
Our God was everywhere triumphant;
the whole wide world saw Him prevail.
Let all then gather to adore Him
and His victorious might acclaim.
Now make a joyful noise before Him;
let all creation praise His name.*

3. *Let all the earth with loud rejoicing
burst into song to praise the LORD!
With joyful blasts of horns and trumpets
let Him be worshipped and adored.
Join in the praise and jubilation,
make music with the harp, and sing!
Shout forth your joy in celebration;
come, praise the LORD, the mighty King.*
4. *Let seas and oceans roar and thunder.
Praise God, all you who dwell on earth.
Let rivers clap their hands rejoicing;
let every mountain shout with mirth.
He comes, He comes to judge the nations,
to rule the world with equity.
He will reveal His vindication,
and righteous will His judgment be.*

PSALM 99

Psalm 99

Geneva, 1562

1. God, the LORD, is King, throned on cher-u-bim.
 Let the peo-ples quake, earth's foun-da-tions shake,
 for in Zi-on He shows His maj-es-ty
 and His ex-al-ta-tion o-ver eve-ry na-tion.

2. Let them *spread the fame* of *His awesome name*;
holy is the LORD and *to be adored*.
 Let them *praise their King*, of *His justice* sing.
 Worship *Him uprightly*. He, *the King*, is mighty.
3. You in *Jacob's land* have by *Your own hand*
right and truth maintained, *equity ordained*.
 At *His footstool* bow and *revere Him* now.
 Praise Him, *high and lowly*, for *the LORD* is holy.
4. *Moses to Him prayed*, *Aaron sought His aid*;
 later *Samuel called on Him* as well.
 They *cried out to Him*, and *He answered* them,
 in all *tribulation* heard *their supplication*.
5. He to *Israel* spoke in a *cloud of smoke*;
 they *His glory saw*, *worshipped Him* with awe.
 He, their *God and Shield*, *His commands revealed*,
 which *His chosen nation* kept *with dedication*.

6. You came *to their aid* when *to You they prayed*;
 You *forgave them then*, though *You punished sin*.
 Come to *Zion's hill* and *perform God's will*;
 praise Him, *high and lowly*, for *the LORD* is holy.

PSALM 100

A psalm. For giving thanks.

Geneva, 1551

1. You lands and peo-ples of the earth,
be-fore the LORD your joy shout forth.
Serve Him with glad-ness all your days
and come to Him with songs of praise.

2. Know that *the LORD is* God alone;
He *made us*, and we *are His* own,
the sheep that *He* to pasture leads
and *as their* shepherd guards and feeds.
3. Come, enter *then His* gates with praise
and in *His* courts your voices raise.
Give thanks to *Him* and bless His name;
within *His* house your joy proclaim.
4. The LORD is good, and evermore
His love and mercy will endure.
All generations He will bless
in *His* unchanging faithfulness.

PSALM 101

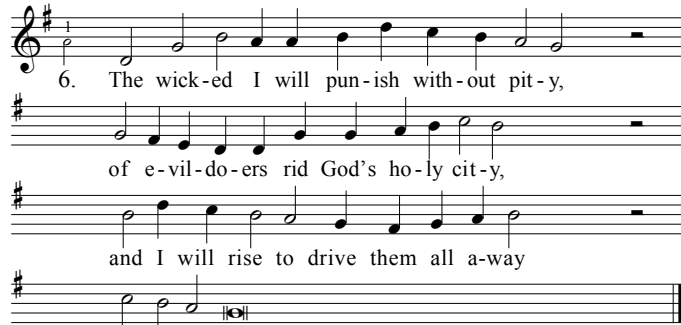
Of David. A psalm.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. LORD, I will wor-ship You with great re-joic-ing,
my praise of right-eous-ness and mer-cy voic-ing.
Of stead-fast love and jus-tice I will sing
to You, my King.

2. The path of *blameless living I will* ponder.
When will *You come to me*, lest I should wander?
I'll walk *within my house from sin* apart,
with upright heart.
3. Things base and *worthless I will not have* near me.
The *faithless and their deeds I hate* sincerely.
I *shun all evil. No disloyalty*
shall cling to me.
4. If one should *secretly his neighbour* slander,
I will not fail to *silence the offender*.
Proud hearts and *haughty eyes I cannot* bear
and will not spare.
5. Those who are *faithful, without guile or malice*,
I will *appoint to serve me in my* palace.
No *liar* and no *scandalmonger* shall
in my house dwell.

Psalm 101



6. The wick-ed I will pun-ish with-out pit-y,
of e-vil-do-ers rid God's ho-ly cit-y,
and I will rise to drive them all a-way
day af-ter day.

PSALM 102

*A prayer of an afflicted man.
When he is faint and pours out his lament before the LORD.*

Geneva, 1542



1. Heed my prayer, O LORD, be near me;
turn Your ear to me and hear me.
In my woes and mis-er-y,
do not hide Your face from me;
when I pray in grief and wor-ry,
LORD, to me Your an-swer hur-ry.
Lis-ten to my lam-en-ta-tion;
quick-ly come with con-so-la-tion.

2. For my *days, like smoke, have vanished,*
and my *life will soon be finished.*
Like a *hearth my bones all burn*
while I *for Your answer yearn.*
For my *heart is so dejected*
that my *bread I have neglected.*
While I *groan, my strength is going;*
through my *skin my bones are showing.*

3. While I lie a-wake in sor-row,
 I am like a lone-ly spar-row
 perch-ing on a house-top high.
 Like a pel-i-can am I,
 like an owl, whose hab-i-ta-tion
 is a place of des-o-la-tion.
 In my lone-li-ness I lan-guish,
 for I suf-fer con-stant an-guish.

4. All day long my foes deride me;
 they with *curses* have defied me.
 I no longer eat my bread,
 but with *ashes* I am fed;
 with my *drink* my tears are blended,
 for Your *wrath* has not yet ended.
 You have *cast me off* in fury
 and have *left me sad and weary*.

5. Like an *evening shadow*, fleeting,
 swiftly *its brief span* completing,
 so my *days all quickly* pass,
 for I *wither like the grass*.
 But You, *LORD, enthroned forever*,
 are the *One who changes* never;
 every *passing generation*
 sees Your *glorious exaltation*.
6. LORD, You will *arise in pity*
 on Your *house and holy city*.
 It is *time to show Your face*,
 the *appointed time* for grace.
 You will *hear our supplication*
 when we *pray for restoration*.
 Those who *serve You, LORD, sincerely*
 love the *stones of Zion* dearly.
7. All the *nations will revere* You;
 all the *kings of earth will fear* You,
 for Your *city You shall* build,
 to be *with Your glory* filled.
 You will *set Your congregation*
 firm on *Zion's strong foundation*.
 When we *pray, LORD, You will* hear us;
 when we *suffer, You are* near us.
8. May a *future generation*
 praise the *LORD for such salvation*:
 "He looked *down from heaven on high*
 to *release those doomed to die!*"
 So in *Zion, in His dwelling*,
 all will *praise His love* un-failing
 when the *peoples there* adore Him
 and the *kingdoms kneel* before Him.



9. God has tried me in His rig-our,
and He broke my strength and vig-our.
“O my God, my God,” I pray,
“Do not yet take me a-way.
You whose years go on for-ev-er,
do not yet my life-thread sev-er.
Lis-ten to my sup-pli-ca-tion;
grant me life and res-to-ra-tion.”

10. Mighty *God of all creation*,
You have *laid the earth's foundation*,
and You *framed the vast extent*
of the *spacious firmament*.
But they *both will fall and tumble*;
what may *seem secure will crumble*.
Like a *garment one may cherish*,
so will they *wear out and perish*.

11. Like a *cloak, Your whole creation*,
from the *skies to earth's foundation*,
will be *changed and cast aside*,
but You *evermore abide*.
LORD, the *children of Your servants*,
all the *line of their descendants*,
will in *safety dwell before You*,
for Your *steadfast love adore You*.

PSALM 103

Psalm 103

Of David.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551

1. O bless the LORD, my soul, bless your pre-serv-er!
 My in-most be-ing, praise His name with fer-vour.
 Do not for-get His deeds of love and grace.
 O bless the LORD, who par-dons your trans-gres-sions,
 who heals your ill-ness-es in His com-pas-sion,
 and who re-deems your life from death's a-byss.

2. O *bless the LORD*, who *with His mercy* crowns you,
 who *with His love and faithfulness* surrounds you,
 who grants His bounteous *gifts your whole life* through.
 To *Him who shows His righteousness*, sing praises;
 from *their affliction He His people* raises.
 Your youth He, like the *eagle's*, will renew.
3. To *the oppressed His justice He* discloses.
 His ways *He long ago revealed to Moses*;
 His deeds He has to *Israel made* known.
 Great is *His love! The LORD is slow to anger*.
 He *will not let His wrath forever* linger
 and will not endlessly *accuse His own*.

4. The *LORD has dealt with us in great compassion*,
 not *punished us according to transgression*.
High as the vault of heaven, without end,
 so *great His mercy is to those who fear Him*;
 He *sweeps the sins of all those who revere Him*
 as far away as *east from west* extends.
5. In *tender mercy, like that of a father*
 who *has compassion on his sons and daughters*,
 God looks on those who *put in Him their trust*.
 On *all who fear Him, He will have compassion*,
 for *well He knows how we were formed and fashioned*;
 the LORD remembers *that we're only dust*.
6. Life is like *grass, so quick to fade and perish*,
 or *like a flower that will but briefly flourish*,
 that *sears and withers in the blowing wind*;
 soon it is gone, not *leaving any traces*.
 But *God is ever merciful and gracious*;
 His love stands firm, *abiding without end*.
7. God's *mercy, everlasting and unfailing*,
 His *righteousness, for evermore prevailing*,
 will rest on those who *worship Him with awe*.
 God *will be faithful through the generations*.
 To *children's children who with dedication*
 uphold His *covenant and obey His laws*.
8. His *holy throne the LORD in heaven has* founded;
 from *there He rules with sovereign power* unbounded,
 for all the universe is *His domain*.
 Praise *Him, you angels, great in might and splendour*.
 You *loyal servants, in your awe and wonder*
 shout forth the praise of *His eternal reign!*

Psalm 103

9. You hosts of an-gels, wor-ship and a-dore Him.
 All you who serve and min-is-ter be-fore Him,
 His jus-tice and His maj-es-ty ex-tol!
 Let all cre-at-ed things in glad com-mun-ion
 ex-alt His name through-out His vast do-min-ion.
 Come, praise the LORD and bless Him, O my soul!

PSALM 104

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1548

1. O bless the LORD, my soul, and praise His name.
 O LORD, how great You are, how bright Your fame!
 You who are clothed in maj-es-ty and splen-dour,
 en-rob-ed in light, to You my praise I ren-der.
 The heav-ens You have stretched out like a tent,
 Your pal-ace found-ed on the fir-ma-ment.
 Clouds are Your char-iots, storms lend You their pin-ions;
 winds are Your her-alds, fire and flame Your min-ions.

2. The earth, which You have *founded*, *none* can shake.
The raging deep You *as its* cloak did make,
 and *even* mountains *were* concealed thereunder;
 the waters fled at *Your rebuke*, *Your* thunder.
 They *down the* hills their way to *valleys* found;
 the *mighty* waters *You with* limits bound.
 So *You assigned* their place to them, that never
 their *roaring* floods the *earth* again might cover.

3. You, LORD, let wa-ter gush from springs and wells;
it flows in val-leys in a-mong the hills.
You quench the thirst of eve-ry crea-ture liv-ing,
to roam-ing beasts re-fresh-ing wa-ter-giv-ing.
There by the riv-er-side nest man-y birds;
a-mong the branch-es is their sing-ing heard.
From Your high halls You wa-ter all the moun-tains;
You bless the earth from o-ver-flow-ing foun-tains.

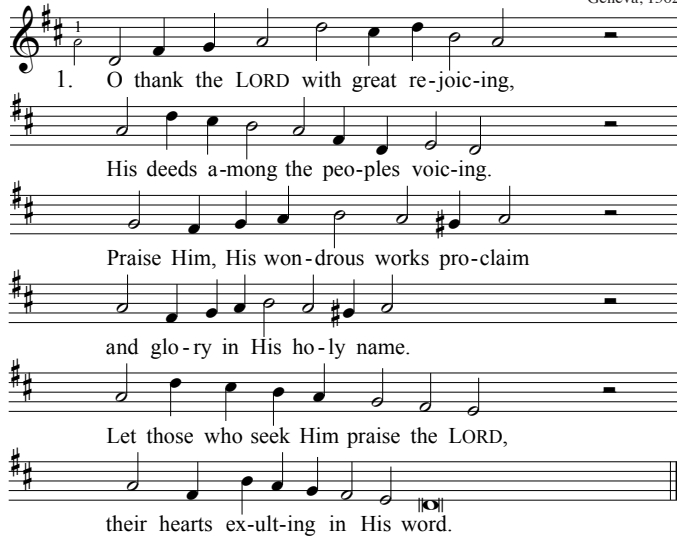
4. For cattle You cause *grass to sprout and grow*,
and You to man give *plants to reap and sow*.
You *in his bread and wine let him take pleasure*;
in oil of joy, *supplied in richest measure*.
On *cedars that You planted rains pour down*;
well *watered* are the *trees of Lebanon*.
There *dwells the stork with birds of every feather*;
goats *roam the rocky crags where coney*s gather.

5. To mark the seasons *You, LORD, made the moon*.
At Your command the sun turns dusk to noon,
and *when the day by night is overtaken*,
then in the forest *all the beasts awaken*.
Young *lions roar and seek from God their prey*,
but *when the dawn appears, they steal away*
and *in their dens lie down, the sunlight scorning*.
Man *then awakes and greets the dewy morning*.
6. Off to his work man *goes when morning calls*
and labours till the *evening shadow falls*.
O *LORD, Your many glorious works astound us*.
In wisdom You made *everything* around us;
its *fullness* earth to *You as tribute* brings.
Your *ocean teems with countless living things*.
There *sail the ships in coming and in going*;
there *plays Leviathan, its pleasure showing*.
7. All creatures, LORD, look to *Your open hand*
to give them food, for *they on You depend*.
They *gather up its plenty* when You beckon;
avert Your face, and *they are panic-stricken*,
for *when You take away their breath, they die*.
They *are created when You from on high*
give *them their life: it is Your Spirit's doing*;
the *face of all the earth You keep renewing*.
8. For evermore God's *radiant glory stands*;
may He rejoice in all that He commands.
He *looks at earth and makes it shake and shiver*;
He touches mountains, and *they smoke and quiver*.
God *I will praise as long as I shall live*;
may to the LORD my worship pleasure give.
But *may the wicked from the earth be driven*.
Bless *God, my soul! To Him all praise be given*.

PSALM 105

Psalm 105

Geneva, 1562



1. O thank the LORD with great re-joic-ing,
His deeds a-mong the peo-ples voic-ing.
Praise Him, His won-drous works pro-claim
and glo-ry in His ho-ly name.
Let those who seek Him praise the LORD,
their hearts ex-ult-ing in His word.

2. Turn to the LORD, who *fails us* never,
and *seek His face*, His *strength*, forever.
Recall the wonders He *has wrought*,
the *righteous judgments* He *has taught*.
Remember these, you chosen ones,
O *Abraham's offspring*, Jacob's sons.
3. He *is the LORD*, our *God unfailing*,
His *judgments everywhere prevailing*.
He *will remember* and *uphold*
His *covenant made* in days of old.
The *steadfast words* of His command
a *thousand generations stand*.

4. Firm *stands His word* to *Abraham* spoken,
His *oath to Isaac*, never broken.
His *everlasting covenant*
the *LORD our God* will not recant.
He *promised Israel*, "You I'll give
the *land where you as heirs may live*."
5. When *few in number and neglected*,
they *by the nations were rejected*;
they *had to wander far and wide*,
but *God remained* their faithful guide,
and *kings He would rebuke and warn*:
"Do my *anointed ones* no harm."
6. Where *Jacob dwelt among the nations*,
God *summoned famine and starvation*,
destroying every source of bread.
But *He had sent* a man ahead,
that *He his chosen ones* might save.
This *man was Joseph*, sold as slave.
7. In *Egypt he endured great anguish*;
in *prison he was left to languish*.
His *feet were bruised*, with *shackles* chained;
his *neck in irons* long remained.
But *when the LORD's word* proved him right,
he *was delivered* from this plight.
8. The *king called Joseph and released him*;
his *prophecies and counsel* pleased him.
He *made him master of the land*,
gave *all he had* into his hand,
to *guide his princes* on their course,
to *show his elders wisdom's source*.



9. Then Is-ra-el with kin and cat-tle
 went down to E-gypt there to set-tle.
 Rich bless-ings did the LORD be-stow;
 soon they were strong-er than their foe.
 Then God made the E-gyp-tians treat
 His cho-sen ser-vants with de-ceil.

10. The *LORD* sent Moses as their saviour
 with Aaron, whom He chose to favour,
 and through their words He wrought for them
 great wonders in the land of Ham.
 Though darkness covered it by day,
 the foe would not God's word obey.
11. To blood He turned both stream and river.
 He all their land to frogs delivered;
 they into inner chambers went.
 Then swarming flies and gnats He sent.
 Their fields and orchards hailstorms lashed;
 throughout the land the lightning flashed.

12. Their fig trees and their vines were shattered,
 their fields by swarms of locusts battered,
 which ate their crops and all things green
 till only barren ground was seen.
 Then God in anger raised His hand
 and smote the firstborn in the land.
13. With silver and with gold provided,
 they went, by God their shepherd guided.
 How glad was Egypt when they left;
 of all its pride it was bereft.
 God spread a cloud and gave a light
 to point the way by day and night.
14. He gave them quail as they demanded,
 and bread from heaven on them descended.
 Out of the rock God's mighty hand
 made rivers flow in desert land.
 His promise, made to Abraham,
 He kept and safely guided them.
15. God led them forth with joy and singing,
 their voices with His praises ringing.
 He gave to them the nations' land,
 filled with their fruit His people's hand,
 that they might serve Him all their days.
 O *Israel*, to the LORD give praise.

PSALM 106

Psalm 106

Geneva, 1562

1. O thank the LORD, bring Him your praise,
ex-tol His good-ness all your days;
His stead-fast love en-dures for-ev-er.
Who can pro-claim His deeds of might?
Blest those who con-stant-ly en-deav-our
to keep to what is just and right.

2. When You *deliver Israel*,
O LORD, *remember* me as well.
Come to my aid and *show Your* favour,
that *with Your* flock I may engage
in *praising* You, O *gracious* Giver,
and *glory with Your* heritage.
3. We, as *our fathers did* before,
have *done what You, O LORD*, abhor;
we *all are* guilty of *transgression*.
Your *chosen* ones in *Egypt's* land
forgot *Your* kindness and *compassion*,
ignored the wonders of Your hand.

4. Though at *the Red Sea* they rebelled,
with *mighty hand* He them upheld
and *for His* name's sake *aid* provided.
At *His* rebuke the *waters* fled;
His *own*, as through a *desert* guided,
were *through the deep* to safety led.
5. God in *His* mercy *set them* free,
redeemed them from the enemy.
Before *His* wrath all *Egypt* covered;
not *one* escaped His *anger's* blaze.
His *people's* foes the *sea* devoured.
Then *they believed* and sang His praise.
6. His mighty works *they soon* forgot;
His *counsel* they no longer sought
but *Him with* lustful *cravings* taunted.
His *people* boldly *challenged* Him,
and *so He* gave them *all they* wanted
but *sent a plague* to punish them.
7. Some in *their* pride and *envy* rose
God's *chosen* leaders to oppose.
The *earth* then opened up and swallowed
all *who with* Dathan had conspired
and *who* Abiram's lead had followed.
The *wicked* perished in the fire.
8. At Horeb's mount a *calf* they made
and to a *metal* image prayed;
for *this* they traded *God's* great splendour,
the *glory* nothing *can* surpass.
They, *scorning* Him, their *great* defender,
revered a *bull* that feeds on grass.

9. Their God and Sav-iour they for-got,
 who won-drous things for them had wrought,
 as-tound-ing E-gypt by His pow-er;
 whose deeds of might and maj-es-ty
 caused all the land of Ham to cow-er,
 struck them with ter-ror by the sea.

10. His people He would then have slain,
 for they continued to complain,
 but Moses, whom He greatly favoured,
 stood in the breach, confronting Him.
 So they were from God's wrath delivered,
 from the destruction threatening them.

11. Then they despised the pleasant land,
 bestowed on them by God's own hand.
 His steadfast promise not believing,
 they sulked and grumbled in their tents.
 God with their disobedience grieving,
 they stubbornly would not repent.

12. He swore that He would slay them all,
 that in the desert they would fall
 because of all their provocations,
 and that their sons at His command
 would be dispersed among the nations
 and scattered over all the lands.
13. By Baal-Peor's lure misled,
 they ate from offerings for the dead,
 and so provoked the LORD to anger.
 He saw their deeds; His wrath arose.
 He let a plague among them linger
 because they lifeless idols chose.
14. Then Phinehas rose to intervene;
 the plague was stopped when God had seen
 how, acting with determination,
 he put an end to wickedness.
 Thus he for endless generations
 was credited with righteousness.
15. At Meribah they spurned God's will,
 and there with Moses it went ill.
 The people by their profanations
 caused Moses rashly to provoke
 the LORD their God to indignation,
 for he with undue anger spoke.
16. They disobeyed the LORD's command
 to slay the peoples of the land,
 but, mingling with the heathen nations,
 they learned their wicked customs there,
 served Canaan's vain abominations;
 its gods became for them a snare.

17. To hea-then wick-ed-ness en-ticed,
 they to the de-mons sac-ri-ficed
 their own be-lov-ed sons and daugh-ters,
 poured out their chil-dren's guilt-less blood.
 They sought by such ab-hor-rent slaugh-ter
 to sat-is-fy some pa-gan god.

18. To Canaan's idols, gods of vice,
 they gave their sons as sacrifice;
 the land was with their blood polluted.
 God's chosen people openly
 themselves defiled and prostituted
 by unclean acts for all to see.
19. Therefore the LORD stood up in rage
 and He abhorred His heritage.
 He turned them over to the nations;
 to slavery did the LORD condemn
 those who had roused His indignation.
 Their enemies ruled over them.

20. Time after time He set them free,
 though they refused to bow their knee;
 bent on rebellion, they defied Him.
 They sank into iniquity;
 God made their enemies deride them
 till they lamented bitterly.
21. Then He took note of their distress;
 He heard their cry and gave redress.
 God in His steadfast love relented;
 no longer did He those condemn
 who of their evil had repented.
 He caused their foes to pity them.
22. Save us, O LORD our God, we pray;
 bring back Your people gone astray,
 and take us from among the nations,
 that to Your great and holy name
 we may give thanks with jubilation
 and glory in Your wondrous fame.
23. Blest be the God of Israel,
 whose deeds in majesty excel.
 Extol His holy name forever;
 let never-ending praise ring out.
 Blest be the LORD who fails us never.
 Let all the people "Amen!" shout.

PSALM 107

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. Give thanks to God, re-joic-ing
be-cause the LORD is good.
Bless Him with an-thems voic-ing
your love and grat-i-tude.
He who our peace en-sures
for - sakes His prom-ise nev-er.
His stead-fast love en-dures,
and we are His for-ev-er.

2. Let all this *be* repeated;
let *those whom* He set free
retell how *He* defeated
their *fiercest* enemy.
He *gave them* peace and rest.
In *far-off lands* He sought them;
from *east* as well as west,
from *north and south* He brought them.

3. Some, wandering *in waste* places,
found *nowhere* they could stay.
God heard them *and was* gracious;
He *led them* on their way.
With *thirst* and hunger weak,
they *cried to God* to save them
from *deserts* dry and bleak.
A place of rest He gave them.
4. God led them *to a* city
where *they could* safely dwell;
He showed them *love and* pity.
Let *them* His wonders tell,
and *let their* anthems rise.
His *steadfast love* relieves them.
Their *thirst* He satisfies;
no more their hunger grieves them.
5. Some, chained in *gloomy* prisons,
endured His anger's rod.
They had *rebelled and* risen
against the words of God.
His *counsel* they had spurned,
the *Most High's* voice neglected.
In *vain* for help they yearned;
they *were by all* rejected.
6. They cried to *God* to save them;
He *broke their* shackles all
and liberty *He* gave them;
the *gloom* did He dispel.
Let *them* God's love adore
and *at His* marvels wonder;
He *shatters* great bronze doors,
snaps *iron bars* asunder.

7. Some were with ill-ness strick-en
 be-cause of sin and guilt.
 All food caused them to sick-en;
 they were with loath-ing filled.
 Close to death's gates they came,
 and there were none to cheer them.
 Then in their grief and shame
 they cried, and God did hear them.

8. To them His word revealing,
 He came with power to save,
 stretched out His hand of healing
 and snatched them from the grave.
 Let them all thank the LORD,
 their sacrifices bringing,
 and His great deeds record
 with joyful shouts and singing.

9. Some who in *ships* were sailing
 the *ocean's* mighty sweep
 saw there God's *power* prevailing
 in *wonders* of the deep.
 The *tempest*, when He spoke,
 caused *waves to rise like mountains*
 that *roared and fell and broke*
 into *wild, foaming* fountains.
10. They were *distressed and humbled*;
 their *courage* ebbed away.
 Like drunken *men* they stumbled
 in *terror* and dismay.
 The *LORD* saw their despair,
 and *when to Him* they shouted,
 He *heard their* fervent prayer;
 the *raging storm* He routed.
11. The LORD, their *fears* allaying,
 bade *storm and* wind be still;
 hushed were the *waves*, obeying
 their *Maker's* word and will.
 How *happy* were the men
 when *He the calm* provided
 and *He their* ship again
 to *longed-for* havens guided.
12. Let all then *thank their* Saviour
 with *shouts of* joyful praise,
 extol His *love and* favour,
 shown in *such* wondrous ways.
 Let *them break* out in song
 within *their* congregation.
 Let *Him be* praised among
 the *elders of* the nation.

13. In - to dry land He chang-es
 the fields where streams a-bound.
 Clear springs and ver-dant rang-es
 He turns to thirst-y ground.
 To salt-y wastes He turned
 a land of fruit and flow-er
 be-cause its peo-ple spurned
 His words of truth and pow-er.

14. Into cool *streams* He changes
 a *thirsty* desert land.
 In parched and *barren* ranges
 flow *springs* at His command.
 There He reveals His grace,
 shows *hungry ones* His pity,
 allows them in that place
 to *build themselves* a city.

15. He grants them *fields* for sowing
 and *vineyards* to prepare;
 in harvests *overflowing*
 they *see God's* wondrous care.
 His *favour* does not cease;
 their *granaries* they replenish.
 In *number* they increase;
 their *herds* do not diminish.
16. God pours *contempt* on princes
 when *they* His own oppress,
 drives them with *their pretences*
 into *the* wilderness.
 He, *lifting* them from woe,
 His *people* does remember;
 like *flocks* their families grow,
 for He *adds* to their number.
17. The upright *with* elation
 God's *mighty* works acclaim;
 the wicked *of all* nations
 are *silent*, put to shame.
 Let *then* the wise regard
 all *this* with awe and wonder,
 and, *turning* to the LORD,
 let them *His* mercy ponder.

PSALM 108

Psalm 108

A song. A psalm of David.

Geneva, 1562

1. My heart is stead-fast, O my God.
Your mer-cy I will ev - er laud;
Your name I will in song ex - tol,
make me-lo-dy with all my soul.
A-wake, O harp and lyre, a wake,
for I will urge the dawn to break.
I'll sing Your glo - ry to the na-tions,
Your praise a - mong their pop-u - la-tions.

2. Great is, O God, Your steadfast love,
far higher than the heavens above.
Your faithfulness soars to the skies.
Above the heavens, O God, arise;
reveal Your splendour and shine forth
Your glory over all the earth.
Now show Your might and save Your nation;
to those You love, grant liberation.

3. Our mighty King, the God of grace,
has spoken in His holy place:
“All Succoth’s vale and Shechem’s land
I will divide as I have planned.
All Gilead belongs to Me;
Manasseh is My property.
My helmet: Ephraim, strong defender.
My sceptre: Judah, firm commander.
4. God shamed His foes with words that sting:
“At Edom I My sandal fling;
I Moab as My washbowl claim
and in Philistia shout My fame.”
God, who but You can be our guide
to Edom, so well fortified?
But You have cast us off in anger
and with our armies march no longer.
5. To us again Your favour show;
grant us Your aid against the foe.
Uphold us as none other can,
for worthless is the help of man.
Our God will crush the enemy;
with Him, we’ll gain the victory.
Our proud oppressors He will humble,
tread on their necks and make them tremble.

PSALM 109

Psalm 109

For the director of music. Of David. A psalm.

Geneva, 1551

1. God, whom I praise and love sin-cere-ly,
do not stay si-lent. O LORD, hear me,
for wick-ed mouths, Your word de-fy-ing,
frame with their lips de-ceil and ly-ing.
Though not de-serv-ing ill or threat,
I am with words of hate be-set.

2. They rave and *without cause* abuse me
and, *in return for love*, accuse me.
I pray for *all who have* abhorred me;
with evil *they for good* reward me.
You *see this, LORD, from heaven* above;
with *hatred they repay* my love.
3. Appoint a *wicked man* to seize him.
Let *his accuser* not release him;
to him be *guilt and blame* awarded.
His prayers be *all as sin* regarded.
his *days be few*, and in disgrace
may *he to others* yield his place.

4. His wife be *widowed and neglected*;
his *children orphaned, unprotected*.
And when they *beg, let nought be given*;
they from their *ruined homes* be driven.
May *creditors his goods* all seize;
may *strangers plunder what they* please.
5. May he be *exiled from his city*,
none *show his children* any pity.
May his *posterity be banished*,
cut off, until *his name* has vanished;
his *father's and his mother's* sin,
let *it before the LORD* remain.
6. May it be *always recollected*
that *he mistreated the afflicted*,
that to the *destitute he* never
showed any *kindness, any favour*;
the *poor and broken-hearted* he
chased to *their death, relentlessly*.
7. He loved to *curse* – *may curses* press him.
He *scoffed at blessings* – *may none* bless him.
He like a *mantle wore his cursing*,
his *evil and his hatred* nursing.
May *all the ills he did* and spoke
like *oil into his body* soak.
8. His cursing *be a cloak* around him,
a *belt that with his guilt* has bound him.
May all who *without cause* accuse me
and *speak their evil* to abuse me
receive *such payment* from the LORD
as *their appropriate* reward.

9. But You, O LORD, my God and Sav-iour,
 for Your name's sake, show me Your fa-vour!
 Good is Your love, great Your com-pas-sion;
 de-liv-er me from all op-pres-sion,
 for I am poor and need sup-port,
 and deep-ly wound-ed is my heart.

10. A fading *shadow*, *disregarded*;
 a *locust*, *shaken off*, *discarded* –
 these do I *in my woe* resemble.
 My knees, through *fasting* *weakened*, *tremble*.
 I'm *skin and bones*, *all strength* has fled,
 and *those who taunt me* *shake their head*.
11. O help me, *LORD my God*, and hear me.
 In *Your unfailing love*, *be near me*.
 Save me, *Your promises* *renewing*,
 and show them *that it is Your doing*.
 LORD, *they may curse*, but You will bless;
 You'll *save me in Your righteousness*.

12. LORD, put to *shame those who attack me*
 and *with their taunts torment and mock me*;
 but may Your *servant sing with gladness*,
 saved by Your *hand from grief and sadness*.
 Dishonour my *accusers' name*
 and *wrap them in a cloak of shame*.
13. I'll thank the *LORD for His salvation*,
 praise *Him before the congregation*.
 He stands *beside all those who suffer*;
 His help and *comfort He will offer*.
 Though *foes the poor to death condemn*,
 the *LORD Himself will rescue them*.

PSALM 110

Of David. A psalm.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. The LORD un-to my Lord these words has spo-ken:
“Be seat-ed on the throne at My right hand
till I the pow-er of Your foes have bro-ken,
and You up-on their necks Your foot shall plant.”

2. To *You the LORD* will *send forth out of Zion*
the *sceptre of authority and might*.
Amidst Your enemies show Your dominion
and rule them by Your own God-given right.
3. Your *people* will be *wholly glad and willing*
when *You to Your great battle summon* them.
Your youth will come, as dew when day is dawning;
arrayed in holiness are Your young men.
4. The *LORD* has sworn an *oath He will not sever*:
“*After the order of Melchizedek*
you are a priest, a priest to me forever.”
He gave His word and will not take it back.
5. The *Lord* is at *Your right hand; He will scatter*
kings who oppose Him on His day of wrath;
all nations He as judge will slay and shatter,
and He will crush whoever blocks His path.

Psalm 110

6. From *wayside* brooks He'll *drink refreshing* water;
in *His campaign* He *will not fail or fall*.
His enemies will never make him falter;
He will lift up His head and rule them all.

PSALM 111

Psalm 111

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1548

1. O give the LORD whole-heart-ed praise!
 In thank-ful song my voice I raise
 with-in the right-eous con-gre-ga-tion.
 Great are the do-ings of the LORD,
 and all to whom they joy af-ford
 will stud-y them with ded-i-ca-tion.

2. In majesty *and* glory stand
 the *works of His almighty* hand.
 His *righteousness endures forever*.
 He *caused His wondrous acts* to be
 preserved in *thought and memory*;
 His *love and mercy will not waver*.
3. The LORD gives food *with open hand*
 to *all who honour His command*;
 He *keeps His covenant obligations*.
 His *mighty deeds has He made known*:
 He *gave His people*, as their own,
 the *heritage of heathen nations*.

4. The wondrous works *His hands* have done
 are *just and faithful, every one*;
 His *precepts all will stand unshaken*.
 They *will endure eternally*;
secure and firm is all that He
 has in *uprightness undertaken*.
5. To Israel He *redemption sent*;
eternal is God's covenant.
 His *holy name is all-surpassing*.
 The *fear of God is wisdom's source*,
 a *light to all who walk its course*.
 His *glorious praise is everlasting!*

PSALM 112

Psalm 112

Geneva, 1562



1. Come, praise the LORD! Let all re-vere Him.
 How bless-ed is the man who fears Him,
 who in the LORD's com-mands takes pleas-ure.
 His off-spring, blest in e-qual meas-ure,
 will be the might-y in the na-tion,
 a tru-ly up-right gen-er-a-tion.

2. *Abundant riches fill his dwelling;
 firm stands his justice, never failing.
 As after night comes morning brightness,
 light dawns for him who loves uprightness;
 all gloom and darkness it displaces
 for the compassionate and gracious.*
3. *All's well with him whose generous lending
 gives joy to those on him depending;
 who, his trustworthiness revealing,
 lets justice govern all his dealings.
 The righteous one shall never waver;
 His praises will be sung forever.*

4. *With steadfast heart in God confiding,
 he has no fear of evil tidings;
 he in the end with exultation
 will greet his foe's humiliation.
 His gifts he on the poor will shower;
 great are his honour and his power.*
5. *The just will thrive in his endeavours;
 His righteousness endures forever.
 The wicked sees it with vexation;
 his teeth he gnashes in frustration.
 The schemes and hopes that he may cherish
 are sure to fail and doomed to perish.*

PSALM 113

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Geneva, 1551



1. Come, praise the LORD! His might ac-claim.
Let all His ser-vants praise His name;
both now and ev-er-more a-dore Him.
From where the sun be-gins to rise
to where it sets in west-ern skies,
let all with prais-es come be-fore Him.

2. God far above *all nations* dwells;
His glory *heavenly heights* excels,
for *who compares* in *might and splendour*
with *Him, the LORD, who* from His throne
on *earth and on the heavens* looks down?
Let *all* to Him their *praises* render.
3. God saves the *needy from disgrace*
and lifts them *to an honoured place*
among the princes of His nation.
His *favour makes the barren spouse*
a *joyful mother* in her house.
Praised *be the LORD* with *exultation.*

PSALM 114

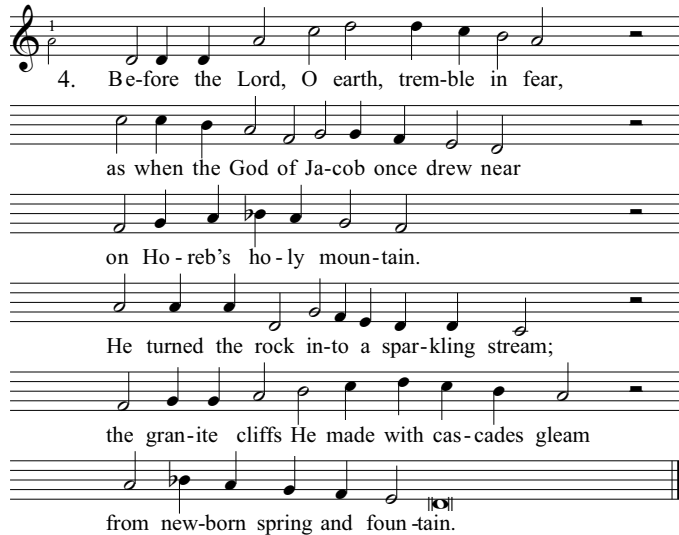
Strasbourg, 1539 / Lyons, 1548



1. When Is-ra-el went where E-gypt could not reach,
and Ja-cob's house fled peo-ple of strange speech,
the earth in ter-ror trem-bled.
God's sanc-tu-ar-y Ju-dah then be-came,
and Is-ra-el He chose as His do-main;
their en-e-mies He hum-bled.

2. The *waves rolled back*, the sea *fled at the sight*,
the *Jordan turned its waters back* in fright;
dread *came on all creation.*
The *mountains quaked and skipped like frightened rams*;
the *hills jumped up and shook like shivering lambs*
in *fear and consternation.*
3. Why *was it* that you ran away, O sea?
O *Jordan*, why did you *turn back* and flee?
Why *all this consternation*?
Why, *mountains*, did you *skip like frightened rams*?
And *hills*, what made you *shake like shivering lambs*
with *fear and trepidation*?

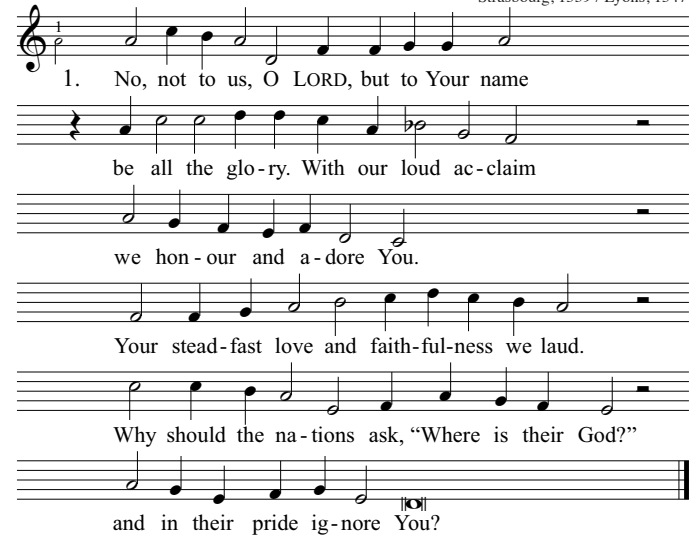
Psalm 114



4. Be-fore the Lord, O earth, trem-ble in fear,
as when the God of Ja-cob once drew near
on Ho - reb's ho - ly moun-tain.
He turned the rock in-to a spar-king stream;
the gran-ite cliffs He made with cas-cades gleam
from new-born spring and foun-tain.

PSALM 115

Strasbourg, 1539 / Lyons, 1547



1. No, not to us, O LORD, but to Your name
be all the glo-ry. With our loud ac-claim
we hon - our and a - dore You.
Your stead-fast love and faith-ful-ness we laud.
Why should the na-tions ask, "Where is their God?"
and in their pride ig-nore You?

2. Our *God*, enthroned on *heaven's cherubim*,
will bring to *pass whatever* pleases Him.
The *idols of the nations*,
though *skilful works of silver and of gold*,
are *merely things that hands of men did mould*
into *abominations*.
3. Though *they have* mouths, they *cannot make* a sound.
Their eyes are blind: they cannot look around
at *any sacrifices*.
They *may have* ears, but *they can never* hear;
their *nostrils cannot smell though men draw* near
with *frankincense and spices*.

4. Though they have hands, they can-not touch or feel,
and at dead feet do their a-dor-ers kneel.
Though pre-cious stones en-crust them,
yet from their mouths no words can ev-er come.
Their mak-ers will, like them, grow deaf and dumb,
And so will all who trust them.

5. O *Israel*, trust *only in the LORD*!
Praise Him, your help and shield, with one accord;
His power will protect you.
O house of Aaron, put in God your trust;
all you who fear Him, in the LORD find rest
when woes and cares afflict you.

6. The *LORD* will not forget *us but will bless*
all who in Him alone their faith confess
with thanks for all He gave them.
On Aaron's house and on His Israel,
on all who fear Him will His blessings dwell;
both small and great, He saves them.

7. May *He, the LORD*, give you a rich increase,
you and your children with His bounties please.
May God bless you from heaven;
by Him was all creation fathered forth.
To Him belong the heavens, but the earth
the LORD to man has given.
8. The *dead cannot in God the LORD rejoice;*
those who go down to silence cannot voice
a new song to revere Him.
But we will bless the LORD for evermore,
from this time forth and always Him adore.
Praise then the LORD and fear Him.

Geneva, 1562

1. I love the LORD; His faith-ful-ness I praise.
 He heard my cries, for He is al-ways near me;
 in ten-der mer-cy He bent down to hear me.
 I call on Him in wor-ship all my days.

2. The *cords of death* held me in deep despair;
 great was my anguish when they tightly bound me.
 The *torments* of the grave were all around me.
 In my distress I turned to God in prayer.
3. I cried to Him, "Deliver me, O LORD!
 Preserve my life, O faithful God and Saviour."
 The LORD is just; He shows His grace and favour.
 In His compassion He fulfils His word.
4. To helpless ones the LORD a shield will be;
 He rescued me from peril and affliction.
 Come, O my soul, find rest in His protection.
 God in His mercy has been good to me.
5. LORD, You have saved my soul from death's abyss.
 My tears You've dried; my feet You've safely guided,
 kept them from stumbling. Grace You have provided,
 that I may live to walk before Your face.

6. I kept my faith, and therefore did I speak
 when I was made to suffer tribulation;
 I said in haste and bitter consternation:
 "All men are false, and guileful ways they seek."
7. What shall I render to my Saviour now
 for all the riches of His consolation?
 I will lift up the cup of His salvation
 and call upon His name with thankful vow.
8. In all His people's presence I will pay
 my vows to Him, the LORD so good and gracious.
 To God the death of all His saints is precious;
 in times of grief He is their help and stay.
9. I am, O LORD, Your servant, bound yet free,
 Your humble slave, whose shackles You have broken.
 I'll offer You my sacrifice as token
 of thankfulness, and praise You constantly.
10. Before God's people, O Jerusalem,
 right in your midst, within His habitation,
 I shall fulfil my vows with jubilation.
 Shout hallelujah! Zion, praise His name.

PSALM 117


Geneva, 1551



Come, all you na-tions, praise the LORD!
Ex-tol Him all with one ac-cord.
Great is His stead-fast love toward us;
en-dur-ing is His faith-ful-ness.
All peo-ples, in the LORD re-joice
and praise His name with heart and voice.

PSALM 118

1543 / Geneva, 1551



1. Come, thank the LORD, His good-ness prais-ing;
His firm and stead-fast love en-dures.
O Is-ra-el, O house of Aa-ron,
pro-claim His love for-ev-er sure.
Let all who come to Him in wor-ship
be in His stead-fast love se-cure.
Come to the LORD with your thanks-giv-ing;
for ev-er-more His love en-dures.

2. *To God I cried in my affliction;
He answered me and set me free.
The LORD Himself is my protection;
what can mere mortals do to me?
On all my foes I look in triumph;
with God I face them fearlessly.
I put no confidence in princes;
the LORD, He shall my refuge be.*

3. I was sur-round-ed by all na-tions,
but I sub-dued them in His name;
and though they swarmed like bees a-round me,
I beat them down like thorns a-flame.
I near-ly fell when they at-tacked me;
to my sup-port the LORD then came.
He is my song and my sal-va-tion;
His strength is ev-er-more the same.

4. Hear in the dwellings of the righteous their shouts of joy and victory: "The LORD's right hand is strong and mighty; He lifts it up triumphantly." I shall not die, but live and praise Him; in song His deeds my theme shall be, for He who chastened me severely has not to death surrendered me.

5. Let me now thank the LORD my Saviour; unlock the gates of righteousness, for this is where the righteous enter; the gateway to the LORD it is. I thank You, LORD, for You have heard me and answered me in my distress. You are the rock of my salvation; with all my heart Your name I bless.
6. The stone the builders had rejected was chosen as the cornerstone. To us a marvel unexpected, it is the work of God alone. This is the day He has created; now let us sing with joyful tone. Hosanna, LORD! Cause us to prosper. LORD, bless all those who are Your own.
7. Blest He who in the LORD's name enters; we bless you from His dwelling place. The LORD is God; He shines upon us the glorious brightness of His face. Come, join the jubilant procession; with boughs in hand, your voices raise. Bind festal offerings to the altar and worship Him with shouts of praise.
8. You are my God, and I will praise You, my rock and refuge, firm and sure. You are my God; I will extol You, for in Your love I am secure. Come to the LORD with your thanksgiving; with joyful anthems Him adore. O thank the LORD for all His goodness; His love endures for evermore.

PSALM 119

⸚ Aleph

Geneva, 1551

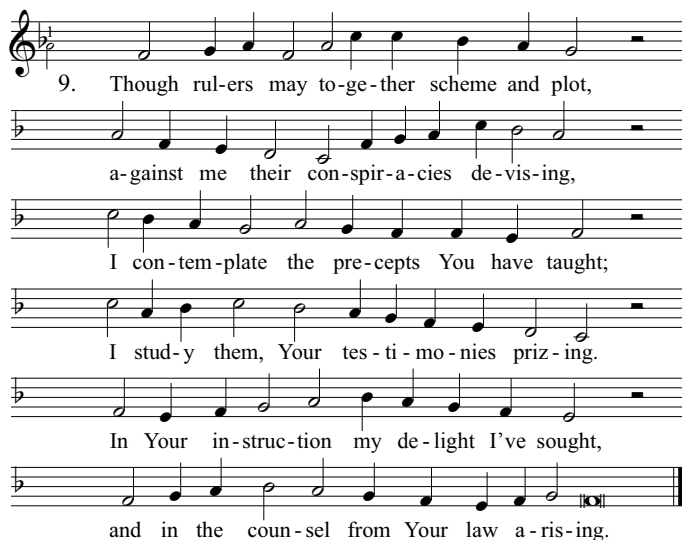
1. How bless-ed are those up-right in their way,
 who keep the LORD's de-crees with ded-i-ca-tion
 and in their walk of life His law o-bey.
 How blest are those who with de-ter-mi-na-tion,
 whole-heart-ed-ly, seek Him by night and day
 and look to Him for guid-ance and sal-va-tion.

2. How *blest* are they who *shun* iniquities,
 Your *holy* law with *diligence* observing.
 You have *laid* down Your *statutes* and *decrees*,
 to be obeyed in *faithfulness* unswerving.
 O *may I* but submit *myself* to these
 and so go forth, a *steady* course preserving.
3. I know that I shall *not* be put to shame
 if *only* with attention undivided
 I heed Your laws and fix my gaze on them.
 I truly thank You for the *grace* provided
 when I am taught the *judgments* You proclaim.
 Do not forsake me, leaving me unguided.

Psalm 119

⸚ Beth

4. How *can* a youth preserve *his* way, O LORD,
 and keep it free of *evil* and *transgression*?
 By living in accordance with Your word.
 O LORD, Your face I seek in full submission.
 Help me against all *sin* to be on guard;
 let me not stray, denying my confession.
5. Your words have I laid up within my heart;
 I keep Your faithful promise as my treasure,
 lest I should ever from Your ways depart.
 O LORD, how blest You are beyond all measure.
 Your statutes and decrees to me impart,
 for in Your law I find my greatest pleasure.
6. In Your commandments I take great delight;
 I turn to them in thoughtful meditation.
 The path marked by Your law I keep in sight
 to guard myself against all deviation.
 Your statutes I will not neglect or slight;
 Your word I praise with joy and exultation.
- ⸚ Gimel
7. Do good to me so that my life may be
 devoted to Your words in all their splendour.
 Open my eyes, that I may clearly see
 Your perfect law and gaze upon its wonders.
 Do not, O LORD, hide Your commands from me,
 who here on earth but as a pilgrim wander.
8. By night and day for Your decrees I long;
 my aching heart consumes itself with yearning.
 The haughty You rebuke for all their wrongs –
 those cursèd ones: Your laws they keep on spurning.
 LORD, set me free from their insulting tongues,
 for I have kept Your law, Your will discerning.



9. Though rul-ers may to-ge-ther scheme and plot,
a-gainst me their con-spir-a-cies de-vis-ing,
I con-tem-plate the pre-cepts You have taught;
I stud-y them, Your tes-ti-mo-nies priz-ing.
In Your in-struc-tion my de-light I've sought,
and in the coun-sel from Your law a-ris-ing.

┐ Daleth

10. See how my soul is *cleaving to the dust*;
renew my life and grant me restoration.
I told You of my ways, for You I trust;
You in Your mercy heard my supplication.
Teach me Your statutes, excellent and just;
then shall Your wonders be my meditation.
11. My weary soul in sorrow pines away;
true to Your promise, comfort and restore me.
LORD, let me not in ways of falsehood stray
but through Your precepts of Your love assure me.
Your statutes I have chosen to obey;
Your righteous judgments I have set before me.

12. In Your decrees I place my steadfast hope;
I cling to them, on Your great love depending.
LORD, put me not to shame but lift me up,
to me in grief Your gracious hand extending.
Along the path of truth I run and leap,
for Your commands enlarge my understanding.

┐ He

13. Teach me Your statutes, LORD, and to the end
I will obey them in complete submission.
Grant insight, that with all my heart and mind
I may observe Your laws without transgression.
Direct me in the path of Your commands,
for I delight in them as my possession.
14. To Your decrees and statutes turn my heart,
that all Your words of wisdom I may ponder.
O LORD, let me not from Your laws depart,
nor to the love of selfish gain surrender.
Restrain me lest I wistful glances dart
at vanities and yearn for earthly splendour.
15. LORD, keep Your word! Come to Your servant's aid.
Then all will stand in fear and awe before You.
Avert from me the taunting that I dread.
Your laws are good, acclaimed by all who fear You.
I long for them. Your justice makes me glad;
through it revive me, LORD, for I revere You.

┐ Waw

16. May Your unfailing mercy come to me;
as You have promised, show me Your salvation.
All those who taunt me with their mockery
I then will answer without hesitation.
LORD, I have put my trust in Your decrees,
for You have sworn to grant me liberation.



17. LORD, do not rob me of Your truth - ful word;
let noth - ing me from Your com - mand - ments se - ver.
Your or - di - nan - ces hope to me af - ford;
I vow to keep them al - ways and for - ev - er.
Then shall I walk in lib - er - ty, O LORD:
Your laws I've sought, and they shall fail me ne - ver.

18. Undaunted I will kings and princes face
to speak of Your decrees, Your revelation,
and not be put to shame or fear disgrace:
Your laws I love and hold in veneration. :
I reach for Your commandments and rejoice
as I reflect on them in meditation.

† Zayin

19. Remember in Your steadfast faithfulness
Your word of hope, once to Your servant spoken.
O LORD, in my affliction and distress
You comfort me with promises unbroken.
Through them have I gained life and happiness,
for of Your love they are a precious token.

20. Although the proud may scorn me utterly,
no path of evil have I ever taken.
When I recall Your laws, they comfort me,
for they from days of old have stood unshaken.
Hot indignation grips me when I see
how wicked men your precepts have forsaken.
21. Your statutes are the theme of all my song
wherever here on earth I make my dwelling.
Your name, LORD, I remember all night long;
Your precepts I obey, my vow fulfilling.
I've kept Your laws, resisting sin and wrong;
this proved to be a blessing all-excelling.

‡ Heth

22. You are my portion, LORD whom I adore;
I have resolved to let Your words direct me.
With all my heart Your favour I implore;
O LORD, show mercy and do not reject me.
I've thought about my ways, and all the more
I turn to You to let Your laws instruct me.
23. I will make haste in doing what is right,
by Your commandments guided and instructed.
Though with their ropes the wicked bind me tight,
Your statutes I will never leave neglected.
I praise You in the middle of the night
for all the righteous laws You have enacted.
24. With all who fear You I keep company,
to those who heed Your laws my friendship showing.
Your mercy is poured forth abundantly,
and with Your love the earth is overflowing.
O LORD, reveal Your statutes all to me
and so unfold the knowledge most worth knowing.

Teth

25. To me, Your ser- vant, You have kind- ness shown,
Your mer- cy with Your pro- mise un- der- pin- ning.
In- struct me, LORD, for it is You a- lone
who are of all true know- ledge the be- gin- ning.
I went as- tray, but as I wan- dered on,
You hum- bled me, and now I keep from sin- ning.

26. LORD, *You are good, and what You do is good.*
Teach me, *and by Your truth let me be guided.*
My name is smeared by *false men, proud and rude,*
yet *wholly with Your precepts I have sided.*
They in their godless hearts are *dull and crude,*
but by Your law I am with *joy provided.*
27. How *good it was for me to suffer pain*
so that in all Your *statutes You might school me.*
The *perfect law that You, O LORD, ordain*
exceeds all earthly riches. Let it rule me!
Your *ordinances are my greatest gain,*
for *gold and silver can no longer fool me.*

Yodh

28. LORD, *You have fashioned me with Your own hands;*
by *You was I once moulded and created.*
Give me then insight into *Your commands,*
that to *Your law I may be dedicated.*
All those who fear You shall *applaud my stand;*
since in *Your word I trust, they are elated.*
29. I know, O LORD, *Your judgments all are just;*
in *faithfulness You brought me tribulation.*
As *You have promised – and Your word I trust –*
now let your mercy be *my consolation.*
In *Your compassion grant me life and rest:*
Your law is my *delight and exultation.*
30. Let *proud and godless men be put to shame,*
for I am wronged by *those who are false-hearted;*
but *Your decrees I'll ponder and proclaim.*
May by my words the *faithful be supported.*
May I obey Your *statutes without blame,*
that far from me all *shame may be averted.*

Kaph

31. With *longing I Your saving power invoke;*
Your word gives hope that *nothing can extinguish.*
With *failing eyes I for Your promise look:*
when will You comfort me and *heal my anguish?*
Though I am like a *wineskin in the smoke,*
I'll not forget Your *laws as here I languish.*
32. LORD, *how long does Your servant have to wait?*
When will I see Your *punishment inflicted*
on those who persecute me in their *hate,*
whose wickedness seems to go *undetected?*
See how the proud for me *their snares have set.*
They *flout Your law; Your word they have rejected.*

33. All Your com-mand-ments shall se-cure-ly stand;
LORD, help me, for by li-ars I am hound-ed.
Though they have al-most swept me from the land,
I've kept Your law, in which my hope is found-ed.
In Your un-fail-ing love my life de-fend,
that I may heed what You, LORD, have ex-pound-ed.

↷ Lamedh

34. Fixed in the heavens is Your eternal word;
firm is Your promise through the generations.
The earth, by You established, has endured;
You are the faithful God of my salvation.
By Your appointment all stands firm, O LORD,
for You are served by all of Your creation.
35. If Your commands had not been my delight,
I would have perished here in my affliction.
Your precepts I will not forget or slight:
You have renewed my life by their direction.
LORD, I am Yours. Come, save me by Your might.
Your laws have I sought out for my instruction.

36. Though wicked men in ambush lie concealed
and are intent on plotting my destruction,
I will reflect on what You have revealed.
I see a limit set to all perfection;
but Your commands, which ever have prevailed,
are boundless – without end, without restriction.

↷ Mem

37. Oh, how I love the teachings of Your law!
I ponder them, all day in study spending.
Your precepts make me wiser than my foe,
for the support they give is never-ending.
Through them, I far more than my teachers know:
I have surpassed them all in understanding.
38. I have more insight than the old and grey,
all owing to the laws I am observing.
I keep my feet from every evil way
to honour Your commandments without swerving.
LORD, You Yourself have taught me not to stray;
so I walk on, a steady course preserving.
39. O LORD, how pleasing is Your steadfast word.
Sweet are Your promises of grace and favour;
yes, nothing greater sweetness can afford –
not even honey, sweet though be its savour.
Your statutes grant me wisdom as reward;
I therefore hate false ways and shun them ever.

↷ Nun

40. Your word, it is a lamp unto my feet,
a lantern shining on the path before me.
I've sworn an oath and never will forget
Your righteous laws that of Your love assure me.
I am by grief and misery beset;
true to Your promise, comfort and restore me.

41. Ac-cept, O LORD, my of-fer-ings of praise.
 And let me by Your stat-utes be in-struct-ed.
 Though I have been in dan-ger count-less days,
 Your laws I've not for-got-ten or re-ject-ed.
 My foe for me his snares and pit-falls lays,
 but Your com-mand-ments I have not ne-glect-ed.

42. Your *testimonies are forever mine* –
 my *heritage and permanent possession*,
 the *joy that I shall in my heart enshrine* –
 and to *their praise I ever give expression*.
 My *heart to Your commandments I incline*,
 right to *the end upholding my confession*.

□ Samekh

43. I *hate the fickle and divided heart*;
 I *love Your law and praise it with elation*.
 You *are my shield, my refuge, my support*;
 Your *word shall be my hope and expectation*.
 You *evildoers, all from me depart*,
 that *I may serve the God of my salvation*.

44. *Uphold me, LORD, and so my life sustain*;
 true to *Your promise, grant me preservation*.
 Let *me not hope and trust in You in vain*,
 for *I rely on You for liberation*.
 Your *statutes I will evermore maintain*;
 I *turn to them in reverent meditation*.
45. *All those who from Your statutes go astray*
 You *will reject. In vain do they dissemble*.
 Like *worthless dross You cast them all away*;
 I *therefore love Your laws. Let me not stumble*.
 I *dread the righteous judgments You display*;
 the *fear of You makes my whole body tremble*.

‏ Ayin

46. See *how what I have done is just and right*;
 O *LORD, to my oppressors do not leave me*.
 Ensure *Your servant's welfare, God of might*;
 let *not the arrogant oppress and grieve me*.
 My *eyes grow dim with watching day and night*
 for *You to keep Your promise and relieve me*.
47. Treat *me according to Your love and grace*;
 guide *me towards the truth for which I'm yearning*.
 Help *me gain insight into Your decrees*;
 LORD, *teach Your servant what is most worth learning*.
 To *let me grasp the justice of Your ways*,
 come to *my aid and make me more discerning*.
48. It's *time for You to act and to be bold*;
 Your *holy law is being violated*.
 I *prize it more than all the finest gold*;
 my *love for Your commands is unabated*.
 In *all my ways Your precepts I uphold*;
 the *paths of falsehood I have ever hated*.

D Pe



49. How won-der-ful are Your de-crees, O LORD;
I glad-ly keep them, for they are as-sound-ing.
As You un-fold and o-pen up Your word,
it shines Your light in-to my dark sur-round-ings.
It e-ven to the sim-ple will a-ward
gifts of dis-cern-ment and of un-der-stand-ing.

50. With *open mouth I pant for Your commands*
and *to my deepest longing give expression.*
To *those who love Your name You grace extend;*
turn, *then, to me as well in Your compassion.*
Direct my footsteps. *Help me to withstand*
the *power of sin and keep me from transgression.*
51. Free *me from man's iniquitous designs,*
that *I may serve You, by Your laws directed.*
LORD, *make Your face upon Your servant shine,*
and *by Your statutes let me be instructed.*
While *shedding streams of tears, I grieve and pine,*
for *Your commands are utterly neglected.*

T Tsadhe

52. LORD, *You are upright and Your laws are just;*
Your judgments You on righteousness have founded.
In *Your decrees have I placed all my trust,*
for *they in faithfulness are firmly grounded.*
My zeal consumes me, and I am distressed
when *foes ignore the truth You have expounded.*
53. Your *promise is well tested and secure;*
I *cherish it as token of Your favour.*
Though *I'm of no account, despised and poor,*
I *love Your precepts and forget them never.*
Your *justice will eternally endure;*
Your *law is true and shall abide forever.*
54. Though *I encounter anguish and distress,*
Your *laws are my delight and consolation.*
Ever enduring is Your righteousness,
and *everlasting is Your revelation.*
Your *servant, LORD, with understanding bless,*
that *I may live, rejoicing in salvation.*

P Qoph

55. To *You, O LORD, I cry with all my heart;*
be *merciful and hear my supplication.*
From *Your commandments I will not depart.*
I *call on You and plead for preservation.*
Save *me, O LORD, and come to my support,*
that *I may keep Your laws with dedication.*
56. Before *the break of day I cry to You;*
Your *word I trust, for You are my defender.*
I *even lie awake the whole night through,*
that *I Your steadfast promises may ponder.*
LORD, *in Your righteousness my life renew;*
hear *me and show Your love and mercy tender.*

57. My foes draw near and mal-ice they in-tend;
 far from Your laws are those by whom I'm hound-ed.
 But You are near, and I on You de-pend,
 for true are all the words You have com-mand-ed.
 Long have I known that they are with-out end:
 all Your de-crees You have for-ev-er found-ed.

┌ Resh

58. See my affliction, *LORD*, and set me free,
 for Your commandments I obey and cherish.
 Defend my cause and win release for me.
 True to Your word, allow my life to flourish.
 But far removed shall all salvation be
 from those who spurn Your statutes: they shall perish.
59. Great is, *O LORD*, the mercy You have shown;
 grant me the life by Your decree awarded.
 Though countless foes may seek to hunt me down,
 Your laws I've not forgotten or discarded.
 I loathe the faithless for the wrong they've done;
 Your word have they defied and disregarded.

60. See how I love and cherish Your commands;
 I follow them in all that I endeavour.
 Preserve my life by Your almighty hand;
O LORD, be mindful of Your love and favour.
 In all Your words I see Your truth maintained;
 each one of Your decrees endures forever.

┌ Sin and Shin

61. Though kings and princes hound me without cause,
 I stand in awe before Your revelation.
LORD, I rejoice at all Your promises;
 they like great spoil rouse me to jubilation.
 All falsehood and deception I despise;
 Your laws I love and hold in veneration.
62. *O LORD*, I praise You seven times a day,
 for righteous are the laws You have provided.
 Great peace is theirs who cherish and obey
 all Your commands and by Your word are guided.
 No stumbling-block or snare besets the way
 of those who in Your justice have confided.
63. For Your salvation, *LORD*, I hope and pray,
 and Your commandments I fulfil sincerely.
 I follow Your decrees and will not stray,
 for all Your testimonies I love dearly.
 Your precepts and Your statutes I obey,
 for You know all my ways and see them clearly.

┌ Tav

64. May all my pleading reach Your holy throne;
 remember me in pity and compassion.
 Bless me with insight, for I am Your own.
 Draw near, *O LORD*, and answer my petition.
 According to the mercy You have shown,
 deliver me from evil and oppression.

Psalm 119

65. Now let my lips run o-ver with Your praise,
for Your de-crees You have in me im-plant-ed.
My tongue shall sing, a joy-ful an-them raise,
for in Your stat-utes jus-tice is pre-sent-ed.
Let Your hand help me when Your ser-vant strays;
I've cho-sen, LORD, the pre-cepts You have grant-ed.

66. I long for Your salvation night and day,
and Your commandments my delight awaken.
O let me live, that I may praise Your ways;
let Your decrees lend me support unshaken.
I wander like a sheep that's gone astray.
Come, seek me, LORD! Your laws I've not forsaken.

PSALM 120

A song of ascents.

Geneva, 1551

1. I seek the LORD in my af-flic-tion
and cry to Him for my pro-tec-tion:
"O save me, LORD, from lips that slan-der,
from tongues that will to false-hood pan-der."
De-ceit-ful tongue, what shall He grant you,
and with what more shall He pre-sent you?
Sharp ar-rows from a war-rior's bow
and burn-ing char-coal's red-hot glow!

2. Woe me! Behold my tribulation,
for Meshech is my habitation;
near Kedar's tents I'm forced to wander,
where treacherous tribesmen kill and plunder.
Too long I have with those resided
who hate all peace and who deride it.
I am for peace, which they abhor;
thus when I speak, they are for war!

PSALM 121

A song of ascents.

Geneva, 1551

1. I lift my eyes un - to the hills.
From where will help ap-pear?
Who will re-lieve my fear?
The LORD His pro - mis - es ful - fils -
He who made earth and heav-en;
His help is free-ly giv-en.

2. He will *not* let you *slip* or fall,
for *He* is at your *side*;
support He will provide.
The *keeper* of all Israel
will *guide* and *guard* you ever;
He sleeps or slumbers never.
3. He is *your* shelter *on the* way,
the *shade* at your right *hand*
in dry and *barren* land.
The *moon* by *night*, the sun by day
will *never* harm or hurt you;
the *LORD* will not desert you.

Psalm 121

4. All *evil* strikes *at you* in vain;
the *LORD* will keep your *life*
secure in *woes* and *strife*.
When you *go out*, when you *come* in,
the *LORD* will *fail* you never
but keep you safe forever.

PSALM 122

A song of ascents. Of David.

Geneva, 1551

2. *Jerusalem, designed so well,
built as a close-knit unity –
there flock together joyfully
the tribes and clans of Israel.
They to Jerusalem ascend,
according to the LORD's command,
to thank Him with their adoration.
For there are set the royal thrones
of David's house, and there his sons
with righteous judgments rule the nation.*
3. *Pray that Jerusalem be blest:
"May peace prevail within your walls,
and safety in your citadels.
May those who love you there find rest."
Now for the sake of friends and kin,
Jerusalem, I say again:
"May lasting peace be yours to cherish."
And mindful that the God of grace
has in your midst His dwelling place,
I pray that you may thrive and flourish.*

PSALM 123

A song of ascents.

Geneva, 1551




1. To You in heaven, our Lord so good and great,
I lift my eyes and wait.
As eyes of slaves will to their lord be turn - ing
when for a fa - vour yearn - ing,
and as a slave - girl's eyes in - tent - ly lin - ger
up - on her mis - tress' fin - gers,
so our eyes, too, look to our Mas - ter's face
un - til He grants us grace.

2. Show us Your *pity*; LORD, be merciful!
O LORD, be merciful!
Too long, *O God*, have we been made to suffer
the insults of the scoffer.
We've had our fill of taunting and derision,
of all the cruel oppression
by those who in their proud complacency
treat us disdainfully.

PSALM 124

A song of ascents. Of David.

Geneva, 1551



1. What if the LORD had not been on our side?
Let Is - ra - el de - clare this far and wide:
If when our foes at - tacked in bit - ter strife,
the LORD our God had not been on our side,
they sure - ly would have swal - lowed us a - live.

2. Without the help of God, of Him who saves,
fierce torrents would have swept us to our graves.
Yes, if the LORD had not been merciful,
we would have perished in the roaring waves.
The raging waters would have drowned us all.
3. God rescued us from teeth that rip and tear.
Praise Him who broke the fowler's deadly snare.
We have escaped, are free now like a bird.
Our help comes from the LORD who hears our prayer,
from Him who shaped creation by His word.

PSALM 125

A song of ascents.

Geneva, 1551

1. Those who trust in the LORD re-sem-ble
Mount Zi-on, firm and sure,
which ev-er will en-dure;
it stands un-moved and will not trem-ble.
So Is-ra-el will not be shak-en
or be for-sak-en.

2. Jerusalem! As *all* around her
the *mountains* stand on guard
to *keep her* peace unmarred,
so will the *LORD Himself* surround her
to *guard His* own and *be* their Saviour
now *and forever*.
3. The *wicked's* sceptre *will not* humble
the *land He* did entrust
to *people* right and just,
lest they, *enticed by evil*, stumble,
and *they their* hands to *wrong* be turning,
God's *counsel* spurning.

Psalm 125

4. Do *good, O LORD*, to *those who* fear You,
to *those who* in Your sight
are *godly* and upright.
To all in *Israel* who revere You,
when *sinner*s to their *doom* are driven,
Your *peace* be given!

PSALM 126

A song of ascents.

Geneva, 1551

1. When Zi-on was at last re-stored,
brought back from ex-ile by the LORD,
it seemed to us as if we dreamed.
How glad were those He had re-deemed!
Our mouths were filled with loud re-joic-ing;
we laughed and cheered, our rap-ture voic-ing.
Then oth-er na-tions, too, con-fessed,
“The LORD His own has great-ly blessed.”

2. In *His enduring faithfulness*
the LORD did *wondrous things* for us.
With *shouts of gladness* and delight
we *gloried in His* deeds of might.
Again, LORD, grant us restoration,
as in the *Negev's desolation*
the *rain-filled streams* turn arid sand
into a *green and pleasant land*.

Psalm 126

3. Let *those who sow their seed in tears,*
beset by *anxious cares and fears,*
at *harvest time* no longer weep,
rejoicing in the crops they reap.
The *sower going forth in sorrow*
to *carry seed to field and furrow*
will with *his sheaves* come home again,
exulting in the golden grain.

PSALM 127

A song of ascents. Of Solomon.

Geneva, 1551



1. Un-less the LORD will build the house,
its build-ers on-ly toil in vain;
the cit-y's guards keep watch in vain
un-less the LORD up-holds their cause.
In all the la-bour of your hands
suc-cess on God a-lone de-pends.

2. In *vain at early dawn* you rise
and *then at night* go late to bed
only to *slave all day* for bread.
In *vain* you toil and heave your sighs.
On those *He loves the* LORD will heap
His *blessings* even while *they* sleep.
3. Our *children all* are gifts of God,
our *sons and daughters* His reward –
each *one a blessing from the* LORD,
as *heritage* on us bestowed.
Like *arrows in a warrior's* hands
are *sons that rise* to one's defence.

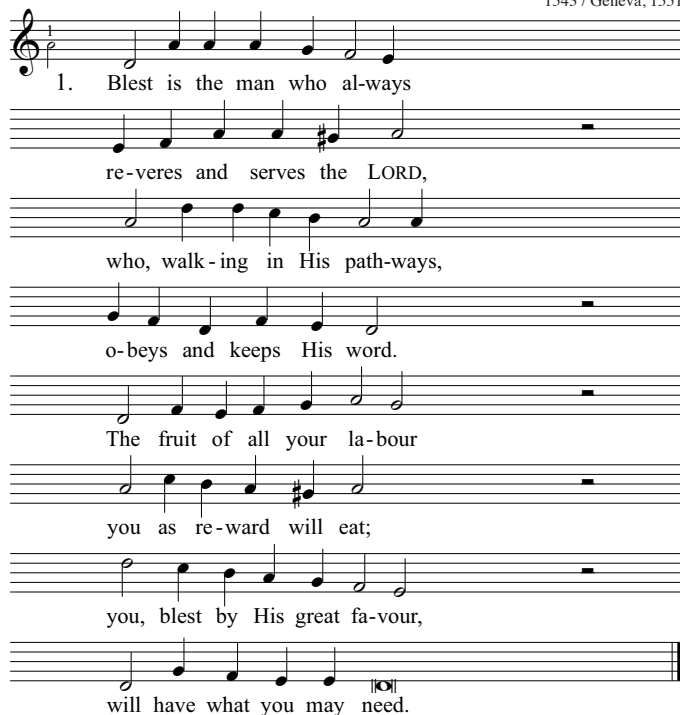
Psalm 127

4. *Blest is a man when in his youth*
the *LORD with sons* has favoured him,
who *has a quiver filled with them* –
his *arrows in the* fight for truth.
Great is the strength that they will show
when *in the gate* they face *their* foe.

PSALM 128

A song of ascents.

1543 / Geneva, 1551



1. Blest is the man who al-ways
re-veres and serves the LORD,
who, walk-ing in His path-ways,
o-beys and keeps His word.
The fruit of all your la-bour
you as re-ward will eat;
you, blest by His great fa-vour,
will have what you may need.

2. *Your wife a vine resembles,
fruitful within your house.
Like olive shoots assemble
the children God allows.
Around your table sitting,
they are a rich reward,
a blessing great and fitting
for him who fears the LORD.*

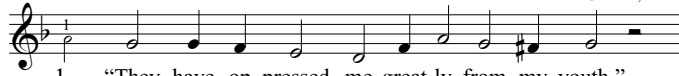
Psalm 128

3. *From Zion come your blessing;
may you see Salem's peace
and happiness progressing
until your days will cease.
May you through life's duration
know that your seed is well
and see their generations.
Peace be on Israel.*

PSALM 129

A song of ascents.

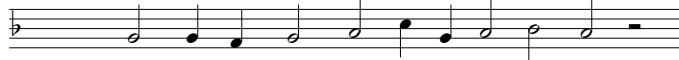
Geneva, 1551



1. "They have op-pressed me great-ly from my youth."



Make this your song, O Is-rael, and re-peat it:



"They have op-pressed me great-ly from my youth,



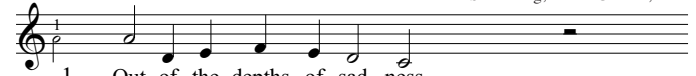
but they have failed, for I am un-de-feat-ed.

2. "They *ploughed* my back as if they ploughed a field; long *furrows* drew those *enemies* who hound me." The *LORD* is righteous; *He*, my strength and shield, has *cut* the cords with which the wicked bound me.
3. May all those who hate Zion be brought low. Put them to shame, LORD. Crush them by Your power. Make them like grasses that on housetops grow, that *shrivel* in the sun before they flower.
4. No reaper gathers those to have them threshed; no binder such a worthless crop will rescue. No passers-by will shout, "May you be blessed!" They will not say, "We in the LORD's name bless you!"

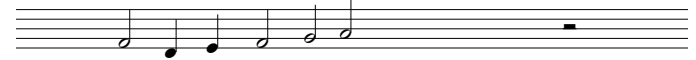
PSALM 130

A song of ascents.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551



1. Out of the depths of sad-ness



to You, O LORD, I cry.



Bless me a-gain with glad-ness



and help me from on high.



LORD, hear my sup-pli-ca-tion



and lis-ten to my plea.



O Fount of con-so-la-tion,



with mer-cy com-fort me.

2. If, *showing no compassion*, You would our sins record and mark all our transgressions, who *then could* stand, O LORD? But You will *pardon* fully all our *iniquity*, that we may serve You truly and *fear* Your majesty.

Psalm 130



3. O God of my sal-va-tion,
my soul, with long-ing stirred,
waits for Your con-so-la-tion,
hopes in Your stead-fast word.
More keen-ly I am yearn-ing
for You, O faith-ful One,
than watch-ers for the morn-ing
a-wait the break of dawn.

4. Hope in the LORD, O nation!
With Him is steadfast love,
and He with full salvation
will bless you from above.
The LORD will in compassion
for Israel atone;
yes, from all their transgression
He will redeem His own.

PSALM 131

A song of ascents. Of David.

Geneva, 1551



1. O LORD, my heart is free from pride;
con-ceit my eyes can-not a-bide.
I do not look for what would be
too great, too won-der-ful for me.

2. No! Like a child that, weaned at last,
lies in its mother's arms at rest,
no longer fretting anxiously,
my soul is quieted in me.
3. Hope in the LORD, O Israel;
He surely will make all things well.
For His great wisdom, Him adore;
trust Him both now and evermore.

PSALM 132

A song of ascents.

Geneva, 1551

1. Re-mem-ber, LORD, how war and strife
and hard-ships bur-dened Dav-id's life;
re-call his days with trou-bles rife.
To God an oath he swore a-loud;
to Ja-cob's Might-y One he vowed:

2. "I will not enter my own house,
or get into my bed, and drowse
or sleep, till I have paid my vows,
till I find for the LORD a place,
for Jacob's God a dwelling place."
3. In Ephratah the news we heard,
in Jaär's fields our hearts were stirred;
we found the ark and spread the word:
"Let us go to His dwelling place
and worship there before His face."
4. O LORD, go to Your place of rest,
You and Your ark, with power blessed,
and let Your faithful priests be dressed
in holiness and so proclaim
Your righteousness and wondrous fame.

Psalm 132

5. Let shouts of praise the heavens shake,
Your saints their joyful anthems make;
and for Your servant David's sake,
LORD, do not turn away Your face
from him, anointed by Your grace.
6. The LORD has once to David sworn
an oath from which He will not turn:
"There will to you a child be born,
a son who from your line will spring,
whom on your throne I'll set as king.
7. "If then your sons in faith uphold
My covenant, made in days of old,
and keep the laws that I unfold,
I to their offspring shall pass on
Your kingdom's everlasting throne."
8. For Zion, by all men admired,
the LORD has chosen and acquired
and for His resting place desired:
"Jerusalem is founded well;
for evermore I here will dwell.
9. "On her I will my blessings shed.
Abundantly will she be fed;
I'll satisfy her poor with bread.
Her priests I'll with salvation dress;
her saints will shout with happiness.
10. "There I will cause, in David's line,
a horn to sprout, a lamp to shine
for My anointed as a sign.
his enemies I'll clothe with shame;
on him, his crown will gleam with fame."

PSALM 133

A song of ascents. Of David.

Geneva, 1551



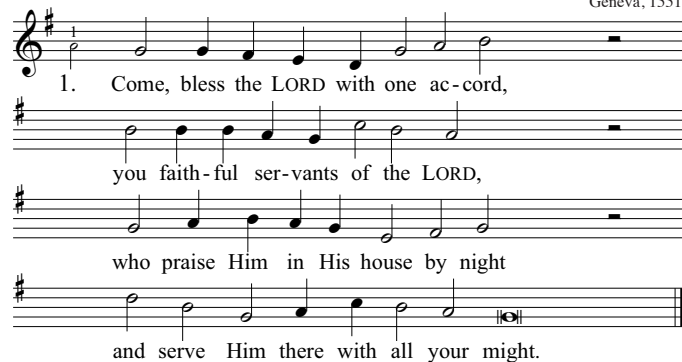
1. How good it is when bro-thers are u-nit-ed,
with one an-oth-er's com-pa-ny de-light-ed,
and live in pleas-ant har-mo-ny.
It's like the pre-cious oil on Aa-ron's head
when down his beard and priest-ly robe it spread,
that he might God's a-noint-ed be.

2. It's like the *dew of Hermon*, so refreshing,
which *to the hills of Zion* is a blessing
when it in *cooling* drops descends.
For *there, in Zion, in His dwelling* place,
the *LORD* bestows amazing gifts of grace
and grants the *life* that never ends.

PSALM 134

A song of ascents.

Geneva, 1551



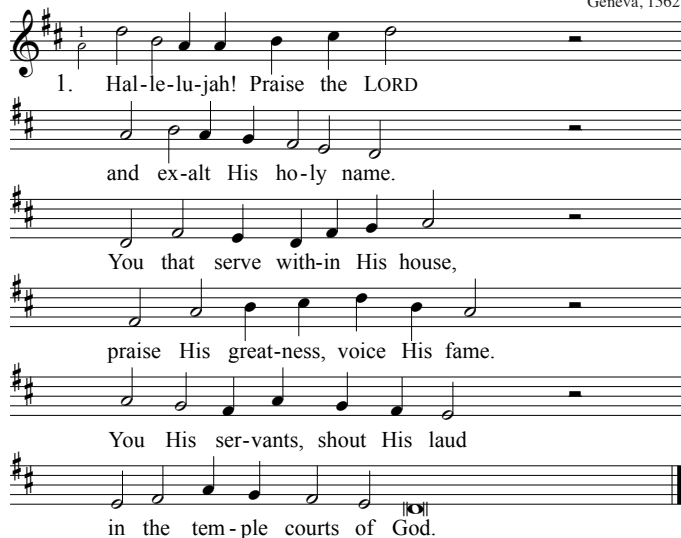
1. Come, bless the LORD with one ac-cord,
you faith-ful ser-vants of the LORD,
who praise Him in His house by night
and serve Him there with all your might.

2. Your *hands in prayer and* worship raise;
adore Him in His holy place.
Come, *kneel before Him* in His house;
extol His *name with* sacred vows.
3. The *LORD* now *bless you* from above,
from *Zion in His* boundless love –
our *God who made both* earth and sky.
Praise be to *Him, the LORD* Most High.

PSALM 135

Psalm 135

Geneva, 1562



1. Hal-le-lu-jah! Praise the LORD
and ex-alt His ho-ly name.
You that serve with-in His house,
praise His great-ness, voice His fame.
You His ser-vants, shout His laud
in the tem-ple courts of God.

2. Praise the *LORD*, for *He is* good;
sing your *praise* to Him alone.
He chose *Jacob* for Himself;
Israel *He made* His own.
Far above all gods is He,
great in *power* and majesty.
3. He does *all that pleases* Him;
heaven, *earth*, the deepest sea
do His *bidding*, heed His will;
clouds rise up at His decree.
With the *rain* He lightning sends;
winds and *tempests* He commands.

4. Egypt's *firstborn* *He* destroyed,
striking down both man and beast.
He His *signs and wonders* sent;
Egypt's *kingdom* *He* laid waste,
showing *Pharaoh* and his court
that no *man* *His* will can thwart.
5. Many *nations* *He* struck down,
kings and *princes* great in might:
Og, the *king of Bashan's* hills,
Sihon *of the Amorites*.
He smote *Canaan's* kingdoms all,
gave their *land* to Israel.
6. Your exalted name, O LORD,
will stand *firm* for evermore;
Your great *glory and renown*
through all *ages* will endure.
For the *LORD* will vindicate
all who for *His* mercy wait.
7. Idols are but *precious* ore,
fashioned by the hands of men.
They have *eyes*, but cannot see;
nations *worship* them in vain.
They have *mouths*, but cannot speak.
Why should *men* their favour seek?
8. They have *ears*, but cannot hear;
nothing can they understand.
In their *mouths* there is no breath,
and their *makers*, in the end,
like their *idols* will become;
so will *all who* trust in them.

Psalm 135

9. Come, O house of Is-ra-el,
sing the prais-es of the LORD.
Come, O Aa-ron's priest-ly house,
bless His name with one ac-cord.
Le-vi's house, your voic-es raise.
You that fear Him, sing His praise.

10. Blest from Zion *be the* LORD,
who dwells *in* Jerusalem.
Let His *people all* rejoice;
let them *praise and worship* Him.
Hallelujah! Praise the LORD!
Bless His name *with* one accord.

PSALM 136

Geneva, 1562

1. O give thanks and praise the LORD,
God of gods, with one ac-cord,
for His stead-fast love is sure;
it shall ev-er-more en-dure.

2. Praise the *mighty King* of kings,
who *alone does* wondrous things,
for His *steadfast love is* sure;
it shall *evermore* endure.
3. With great *skill the heavens* He made;
earth He *on the* waters laid,
for His *steadfast love is* sure;
it shall *evermore* endure.
4. Gave the *sun by day* for light,
moon and *stars to* rule the night,
for His *steadfast love is* sure;
it shall *evermore* endure.
5. He made *Egypt's greatness* vain,
caused their *firstborn* to be slain,
for His *steadfast love is* sure;
it shall *evermore* endure.

6. He stretched out His might-y hand,
brought out Is-rael from that land,
for His stead-fast love is sure;
it shall ev-er-more en-dure.

- 7. God divided the Red Sea,
led His *people* through it, free,
for His *steadfast love is sure*;
it shall *evermore endure*.
- 8. Pharaoh's *host was* overthrown;
God through *deserts* led His own,
for His *steadfast love is sure*;
it shall *evermore endure*.
- 9. Mighty *rulers great in fame*
He *destroyed and* put to shame,
for His *steadfast love is sure*;
it shall *evermore endure*.
- 10. Sihon, *king of the Amorites*,
Og of *Bashan*, by His might,
for His *steadfast love is sure*;
it shall *evermore endure*.

- 11. As a *heritage*, their land
He gave *into Israel's* hand,
for His *steadfast love is sure*;
it shall *evermore endure*.
- 12. He *remembered all our* woes
and *redeemed us* from our foes,
for His *steadfast love is sure*;
it shall *evermore endure*.
- 13. Food to *all will He* supply;
praise our *God, enthroned on high*,
for His *steadfast love is sure*;
it shall *evermore endure*.

PSALM 137

Psalm 137

Strasbourg, 1539 / Geneva, 1551

1. A-long the streams of Bab-y-lon in sad-ness
 we sat and wept, re-mem-bering Zi-on's glad-ness,
 and on the wil-lows there we hung our lyre,
 for there our cap-tors did our songs re-quire;
 while we la-ment-ed, joy and mirth they want-ed.
 "Sing for us one of Zi-on's songs," they taunt-ed.

2. How *shall we* sing the *LORD's* songs in our anguish
 while in a foreign land we mourn and languish?
 Jerusalem, for *love of you* I cry;
 my *right hand* wither if I you deny.
 My *mouth* be dumb if ever I forget you,
 if *not* above my *highest joy* I set you!
3. Remember, LORD, how *Edom* showed no pity
 that day when *Babylon* razed *Zion's* city,
 how *Esau's* sons rejoiced and said to them,
 "Tear down, tear down all of *Jerusalem*.
 Destroy and raze it down to its foundations!"
 O God, do not forget their provocations.

4. O *Babylon*, destroyer, *God* shall smite you!
 How *happy* he, appointed to requite you
 with all the evil you to us have done!
 May all mankind your *lonely ruins* shun.
 How *happy* he who shall, devoid of pity,
 dash on the rocks the *children of your* city!

PSALM 138

Psalm 138

Of David.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. With all my heart, O LORD, I praise
Your glo-rious ways, Your ex-al-ta-tion.
Be-fore the gods Your name I bless
in thank-ful-ness and a-do-ra-tion.
I bow down toward Your ho-ly place
and laud Your grace, Your love un-fail-ing,
for You have shown Your word and name
to be su-preme and all-ex-cel-ling.

2. You *answered* me the day I called;
You *made me* bold and *valiant-hearted*.
You *heard me* in my darkest hour
and by *Your power* was I supported.
Now let the *kings of* all the earth
in awe shout forth their praise unbroken,
for *peoples everywhere*, O LORD,
have heard the *words that You have* spoken.

3. Let *rulers* all with one accord
extol the LORD in *joyful* chorus.
Let *them all* praise God's majesty,
for *great is He*: His ways are glorious.
Though *high-enthroned*, He from above
looks down in love upon the lowly,
but *from afar* the proud He knows
and will expose *their ways* unholy.

4. LORD, *You will* to my rescue come
when *troubles* loom from *all* directions.
Though *enemies* around me swarm,
Your *mighty arm* is my protection.
God *shall fulfil* His plan for me;
His promise *He will keep* forever.
LORD, *God of grace*, do not cast off
Your works of *love*. *Forsake them* never!

PSALM 139

Psalm 139

For the director of music. Of David. A psalm.

Geneva, 1551

1. LORD, You have searched me, heart and soul.
My in-most thoughts, You know them all.
When I sit down and when I rise
You see me with Your watch-ful eyes.
and from a-far Your keen dis-cern-ing
re-veals to You my hopes and yearn-ings.

2. You trace my *steps and day by day*
see *me at rest* or *on my way*.
The paths I *take* are known to You,
for *You watch everything I do*.
Before my *tongue one word can mention*
You are *aware of my intentions*.
3. You are *before me and behind*;
I *will in You my refuge find*.
LORD, You have *laid Your hand* on me.
Such *knowledge is a mystery*
so high that *I cannot attain it*,
so deep that *I cannot explain it*.

4. Where can I *from Your Spirit* flee?
Where *will You* not be near to me?
If I to *heaven's height* ascend,
then *I shall there* before *You stand*.
If I into the *depths* descended,
You would not *leave me unattended*.
5. When on the *wings of dawn* I rise
and *fly away* to *distant skies*,
to the *remotest sea* or land,
and *make my home* where I *descend*,
You even *there will stay beside me*
and with Your *right hand hold and guide me*.
6. If I say, "*Let the gloom of night*
surround me, keep me *from Your sight*,"
Then darkness *is not dark* to You;
it *will not hide me* from *Your view*.
With You the *night is never lightless*;
before Your *eyes the dark is brightness*.
7. O LORD, You *formed my inward parts* –
my *inmost self*, my *mind and heart*.
You shaped them *in my mother's womb*,
wove *them together* on *Your loom*.
With awe, with *reverent admiration*,
I praise Your *wonderful creation*.
8. O LORD, You *know me through and through*;
my *frame was not concealed from You*
when I in *utmost secrecy*
was *knit and braided skilfully*.
You know how *I in safe seclusion*
was made with *delicate precision*.

9. You, LORD, when I was yet un-born,
 be-held my un-de-vel-oped form.
 and long be-fore my life be-gan
 You in Your book de-creed its span;
 You then re-cord-ed on its pag-es
 Your plan for me in all its stag-es.

10. How precious are *Your thoughts* to me!
 How *vast* the sum of *them* must be.
 I try to *count them* – they are more
 than *all the sand* upon the shore.
 O God, when *I from sleep* awaken,
 I am still *with You*, not forsaken.

11. O God, if *only You would* slay
 all *those who* go their *wicked* way.
 O let them *all from* me depart,
 those *men of blood* and *evil* heart.
 They strive *against You* in their scheming;
 Your holy *name they keep* blaspheming.

12. Do I not *hate those who hate* You,
 those *who their wickedness* pursue?
 O LORD, all *who against* You rise
 I as *my enemies* despise.
 May woes and *misery* await them.
 I with a *perfect hatred* hate them!

13. Search me, O *God, and know* my heart;
 see *if I* from *Your ways* depart.
 LORD, probe my *every* anxious thought
 and *let me* by *Your word* be taught.
 Help me walk *on where* You are leading,
 in *everlasting ways* proceeding.

PSALM 140

Psalms 140

For the director of music. A psalm of David.

1543, Lyons, 1548



1. From e-vil men, O LORD, pro-*te*ct me;
from all their fu-ry, save my life.
Their hearts and minds are full of mal-ice;
they dai-ly stir up war and strife.

2. Their *tongues* are sharper than a serpent's;
their *words* with deadly venom sting.
O LORD, protect me from the wicked,
for they like *vipers* ruin bring.
3. Keep me from those who rage against me,
those who for me have spread a net.
They in their pride seek my destruction
and in my path their snares have set.
4. LORD, save me, hear my cry for mercy.
"You are my God," so I have said.
O LORD, You are my strong defender
and in the battle shield my head.
5. Let not my foes' desires be granted
LORD, let their plotting not succeed.
Let their own sin be their undoing;
repay them for their pride and greed.

6. May burning coals fall down upon them;
let them be thrown into the fire.
LORD, put an end to all their slander
and fling them into pits of mire.
7. I know, LORD, You uphold the needy;
You justice for the poor proclaim.
Surely the righteous with thanksgiving
will in Your presence praise Your name.

PSALM 141

A psalm of David.

Geneva, 1562



1. Has-ten LORD! Hear my sup-pli-ca-tion.
O let my prayer like in-cense rise;
re-ceive as eve-ning sac-ri-fice
the hands I lift in ad-o-ra-tion.

2. Save *me*, LORD, from all *sin* and folly
and *guard* the doorway of my lips;
set *there* a constant watch that keeps
my *mouth* from speaking words unholy.
3. Let *my* heart to wrongs *not* incite me,
nor let *me* seek the company
of those who love iniquity;
may *not* their choicest foods delight me.
4. Let *good* men, when I am transgressing,
rebuke *me*, strike *me*, punish *me*.
This will like healing ointment be –
a *welcome* kindness and a blessing.
5. Evildoers – how *I* detest them!
But when their leaders are *flung* down
from *rocky* cliffs and overthrown,
they'll know how justly *I* addressed them.

Psalm 141


6. As *new-ploughed earth* with rocks is cluttered,
as *barren* fields are strewn with stones,
so, as it were, *our* very bones
before the gaping grave lie scattered.
7. LORD, my eyes *I* fix now directly
on *You*, my helper in the strife.
Save *me* from danger, guard my life;
in *Your* unfailing love, protect me.
8. Keep *me* from those who would ensnare me,
from *traps* that wicked men have set;
let *them* be caught in their own net,
while *I* escape because *You* spare me.

PSALM 142

Psalm 142

A maskil of David. When he was in the cave. A prayer.

Geneva, 1551



1. With all my voice to God I cry;
I call up-on the LORD Most High.
Be-fore His face my grief I show
and tell my trou-ble and my woe.

2. To You *I pour out* my complaint,
for *I am* weak, my *spirit* faint.
O LORD, I *turn to* You and pray,
for *it is* You who *know* my way.
3. Foes in my *path* have laid a snare.
I *look*, but none sees my *despair*;
I find no *place* of refuge near,
no *friend* to whom my *life* is dear.
4. LORD, hear my *cry* and *comfort* me;
in my *distress* to *You* I flee.
You are my *shelter* from the strife,
my *portion* in the *land* of life.
5. O God my *Saviour*, set *me* free
from *those who* are too *strong* for me.
Your servant *out of* prison bring,
that *thankful* praises *I* may sing.

6. The *righteous* then shall gather round
to *share the* blessings *I* have found,
their hearts made *glad* because they see
how *richly* You have *dealt with* me.

PSALM 143

A psalm of David.

Strasbourg, 1539 / Lyons, 1547

1. LORD, lis-ten to my sup-pli-ca-tion,
my fer-vent plea for Your sal-va-tion.
Be true to me, do what is right.
With-hold from me Your con-dem-na-tion,
for none is right-eous in Your sight.

2. My bitter *foe* has long pursued me;
my life he crushed when he subdued me.
By *him* into the darkness led,
I dwell where light and joy elude me;
he leaves me there like those long dead.
3. My soul is drained of expectation;
my heart is numb with consternation.
When I remember former days,
I am absorbed in meditation
and ponder all Your works and ways.
4. LORD, see my hands to You extending;
I thirst for You, on You depending.
My spirit faints. Hide not Your face,
or I will be like those descending
down to the gloom of death's abyss.

Psalm 143

5. Your face in *love* towards me turning,
show me Your mercy in the morning.
I trust in You for my support.
Teach me Your way and guide my learning:
To You I offer all my heart.
6. LORD, save me from my foes forever;
to You, my Rock, I flee for cover.
Teach me Your will: You are my God.
Let Your good Spirit, O my Saviour,
lead me along a level road.
7. For Your name's sake, do not neglect me
but silence all who now afflict me.
Your justice and your mercy show!
I am Your servant. LORD, protect me;
deliver me from all my woe.

PSALM 144

Psalm 144

Of David.

1543 / Geneva, 1551

1. Blest be the LORD, my rock, He who sus-tains me.
 My hands are strong, my God for bat-tle trains me;
 my for-tress and my rock to whom I flee,
 He is my strong-hold and de-liv-ers me.
 God is my shield; I turn to Him for shel-ter.
 When foes at-tack, He will not let me fal-ter.
 Praise Him who bless-es me with vic-to-ry,
 for He sub-dues the peo-ples un-der me.

2. LORD, what is *man, mere man, that You should even take note of him as You look down from heaven?* For *he is but a breath, a puff of wind, a fleeting shadow. Soon his days will end.* LORD, *split the skies! Come down, make mountains tremble. Come and so touch them that they smoke and rumble. Flash forth Your lightning and so fight my fight. Shoot forth Your arrows. Put my foes to flight.*

3. From heaven on high, stretch out Your hand, O Saviour; Your *servant* from the *raging waves* deliver. From *troubles* that engulf *me, set me free,* and *from the hands of aliens* rescue me. LORD, *be my shield, my refuge, my defender;* save *me from foes whose mouths are filled with slander,* whose *right hand* is a *right hand of deceit,* and *for their lies* repay them with defeat.
4. To You, O *God, a new song I'll be singing;* I'll *play the ten-stringed lyre, my praises* bringing to *You who kings with victory* reward, who *freed Your servant David* from the sword. When *foreign foes draw near, be my defender;* save *me from those whose mouths are filled with slander,* whose *right hand* is a *right hand of deceit,* and *for their lies* repay them with defeat.
5. May in their *youth our sons like saplings* flourish, like *sturdy plants* that *with the rains You* nourish, our *daughters* with their *beauty us* enthrall like *graceful columns in a palace* hall; and *may our garners all be overflowing,* provisions of all *kinds on us* bestowing. May in our *fields our sheep* so multiply that *their ten thousands every count* defy.
6. May all those *blessings to Your praise* incite us, our *oxen,* drawing *heavy loads, delight us.* And *may there be no breaching of our walls;* may *we be safe within our citadels.* May in our *streets no anguished cry* distress us. Remember, LORD, Your *people's prayer* and bless us. How *happy* those who *reap such rich* reward! Yes, *happy* those whose *king is God the LORD!*

PSALM 145

Psalm 145

A psalm of praise. Of David.

Geneva, 1562

1. I will ex-alt You, O my God and King,
and bless Your name for-ev-er as I sing.
Yes, dai-ly bless-ing You, I will a-dore
and praise Your ho-ly name for ev-er-more.
Great is the LORD, wor-thy of praise un-end-ing;
His great-ness is be-yond all un-der-stand-ing.
One age will to the next pro-claim the sto-ry
of His great deeds, His acts of might and glo-ry.

2. They will, O LORD, Your wondrous works relate,
and I will on Your splendour meditate.
They of Your glorious deeds will speak at length,
while I declare Your awesome acts of strength.
They will acclaim Your goodness with rejoicing,
sing of Your justice, joyful praises voicing.
Great is Your love and boundless Your compassion;
slow is Your wrath in dealing with transgression.

3. You show to all Your goodness and Your grace;
You all Your creatures in Your love embrace.
Your tender mercy they, O LORD, will bless,
and all Your saints will praise Your faithfulness.
They will extol Your kingdom's power and grandeur,
Your mighty acts and Your majestic splendour,
and so make known to every tribe and nation
Your glorious deeds, Your kingdom's exaltation.
4. Your kingdom will from age to age extend;
of Your dominion there will be no end.
In mercy You uphold all those who fall,
and You lift up the lowly when they call.
All look to You in hope, and with good reason,
for You prepare their food for them in season.
Your hand You open in most gracious giving
to satisfy the needs of all things living.
5. Our God is just and kind in all His ways;
He in His deeds His steadfast love displays.
To all who call on Him, the LORD is near;
He satisfies all those who Him revere.
He hears the cry of those who seek Him truly
but will destroy the wicked and unruly.
My mouth to Him its praises will deliver;
His creatures all will bless His name forever.

PSALM 146

Psalm 146

Geneva, 1562

1. Praise the LORD who reigns for-ev-er!
 O my soul, bring Him your praise.
 I will bless my God and Mak-er
 and ex-tol Him all my days.
 Prais-es to my God I'll sing;
 all my life I'll praise my King.

2. Put no *trust in prince or ruler*,
 in a *man however wise*:
 There's in *him no help or power*;
 when his *breath departs, he dies*.
 All his *plans that very day*
 end when *he returns to clay*.
3. Blest is *he who has as helper*
 Jacob's *God and hopes in Him*;
 He made *heaven, earth, and ocean*,
 shaping *all things found in them*.
 In His *faithfulness the LORD*
 will forever *keep His word*.

4. The *oppressed will see God's justice*,
 and the *captives He sets free*;
 He, the *LORD, will feed the hungry*
 and will *make the blind to see*.
 He *lifts up all those bowed down*;
 them *He will with mercy crown*.
5. He, the *LORD, protects the strangers*;
 orphans, *widows He sustains*.
 He will *make the wicked stumble*.
 Praise Him *who forever reigns*.
 Zion's *children, sing His laud*.
 Hallelujah, *praise your God*.

PSALM 147

Psalm 147

Geneva, 1562

1. Come, praise the LORD! It's good and pleas-ant
to praise His mer-cy ev-er-pres-ent.
Sing to the LORD, our God and Sav-our,
who shows His stead-fast love and fa-vour.
He builds Je-ru-sa-lem's foun-da-tions
and re-u-nites His scat-tered na-tion.
The bro-ken-heart-ed He grants heal-ing,
binds up their wounds, His love re-veal-ing.

2. He counts the *stars* and *knows their number*;
each *one* He will by *name* remember.
Our *Lord* is great, in *power* excelling,
His *understanding* past all telling.
The *LORD* lifts up the *poor* and humble
but *causes wicked men* to stumble.
O come in *thankfulness* before Him;
with *harp and joyful song* adore Him.

3. With clouds He *covers all the heavens*;
rain *for the earth* by *Him* is given.
The *LORD* makes grass on *hillsides* flourish;
the *beasts* and ravens *He* will nourish.
He *does not value man's* resources:
the *runner's legs*, the *strength of horses*.
But He *delights in those who fear Him*,
who *for His constant love* revere Him.
4. Jerusalem, *now praise your Saviour!*
O *Zion*, thank Him *for His* favour.
Your *gates* He strengthens by *His* power;
His *gifts* He on your *children* showers.
Within your walls in *peace* He leads you
and *with the finest wheat* He feeds you.
To all the *earth* He issues orders
that *swiftly reach its farthest* borders.
5. When He the *wintry cold* increases,
He *spreads the snow* like *woolly fleeces*;
like *ashes* He the *hoarfrost* scatters,
and *hailstones* on the *earth* He clatters.
Before *His* cold the *water* freezes
till *He* the *icy bonds* releases:
He sends *His word*, and *winds* start blowing;
He *melts the ice*, and *streams* are flowing!
6. By Him Jerusalem *is* guided;
the *LORD* His statutes *has* provided,
His *steadfast* love to *Jacob* showing,
His *word* on *Israel* bestowing.
He *dealt thus* with no *other* nation;
they *do not know* His revelation.
Come, praise the *LORD*, your *gladness* voicing
and in *His steadfast love* rejoicing!

PSALM 148

Psalm 148

Geneva, 1562

1. O praise the LORD! His name ex - alt!
 Praise Him from high-est heav-en's vault.
 You an-gels, from your lof - ty post
 praise Him with all the heav-en-ly host.
 You sun and moon, you con-stel-la-tions,
 shine forth your light in a - dor - a - tion;
 join with the clouds as they as-cend
 in praise and wor-ship with - out end.

2. Let *them* extol the LORD, for He
 created *them* by His decree,
 and by a law that will endure
 He fixed *their* bounds for evermore.
 Let earth as well show Him devotion:
 praise Him, great creatures of the ocean,
 you frost and snow, you fire and hail;
 praise Him, you storms that do His will.

3. Praise *Him*, you hills and mountains all,
 you fruit trees and you cedars tall;
 wild *beasts* and cattle, creeping things,
 praise *Him* with every bird that sings.
 You kings and rulers of the nations,
 praise *Him* with all their populations.
 Young men and maidens, join in song;
 old men and children, sing along!
4. Let all creation praise *His* name,
 extol *His* all-surpassing fame.
 His glory covers earth and sky.
 He raised *His* people's horn on high;
 His saints He blessed with praise and splendour,
 showed Israel *His* mercy tender.
 Close to *His* heart He keeps *His* own.
 O praise the LORD! Praise Him alone!

PSALM 149

Psalm 149

Geneva 1562

1. Praise-d be the LORD! Let all a-dore Him
and with a new song come be-fore Him.
Let all the faith-ful con-gre-ga-tion
praise Him with ju-bi-la-tion.
Is-ra-el, peo-ple of God's choice,
in Him, your Mak-er, now re-joice.
Chil-dren of Zi-on, shout and sing!
Praise your e-xalt-ed King!

2. Let *them* extol God's name with dancing,
with *harp* and drum His *praise* advancing,
for in His *people* He takes pleasure;
they are His joy and treasure.
See how He crowns with victory
those who walk in humility.
Let *them* in *glorious* fame delight,
rejoicing through the night.

3. Let *from their* lips be heard God's praises
while *their right* hand in *vengeance* raises
the two-edged *sword of vindication*
to *vanquish* heathen nations.
May they God's *punishment* inflict
on those who His *commands* reject
and *bind their* kings with iron *chains*
until no foe remains.
4. Let *Israel* chastise their princes
and *punish* them for *their offences.*
By judgment *passed and sentence* given,
they to their doom are driven.
So let God's *people* raise their voice
and in this *triumph* all rejoice.
He grants *them* glory as reward.
O Zion, praise the LORD!

PSALM 150

Psalm 150

Geneva, 1562

1. Hal - le - lu - jah! Praise the LORD
in His house with one ac-cord!
Praise Him in the wide ex - tent
of His spa - cious fir - ma - ment.
Sing and shout His praise up - right - ly.
His un - bound - ed great - ness praise
and ex - tol His won - drous ways;
praise Him for His deeds so might - y.

2. Praise Him *with the trumpet* blast;
praise His *glory unsurpassed*.
Praise Him *with the harp and lute*;
praise Him *with the strings and flute*.
Worship Him *in exultation*
and with *tambourine and dance*
praise His *glorious excellence*.
Praise His *name with jubilation*.

3. Let the *clashing cymbals* ring
to the *praise of God our King*.
With the *clanging cymbals'* noise
come before Him *and rejoice*.
Let the *breath of all things* living
praise Him *with a mighty sound*.
Let your *voices shake the ground*.
Praise the LORD! Sing HALLELUJAH!

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HYMNS

HYMNS

“We praise You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit”

- 1 The Apostles’ Creed
- 2 The Apostles’ Creed
- 3 O God, We Praise You, We Acknowledge You as Lord
- 4 We Praise You, God the Father, the Creator
- 5 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
- 6 Praise God Most High, You Servants of the Lord
- 7 Glory Be to God the Father
- 8 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
- 9 Glory Be to the Father
- 10 Now Blessed be the Lord Our God

“With them His covenant He established”

- 11 The Ten Commandments
- 12 The Song of Moses
- 13 Do You Not Know? Have You Not Heard?
- 14 The Prayer of Habakkuk

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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- 16 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
- 17 The Song of Mary
- 18 The Song of Zechariah

“The Word became incarnate”

- 19 The People Who in Darkness Walked
- 20 A Geat and Mighty Wonder
- 21 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night
- 22 The Song of Simeon
- 23 Let Us of Christ Our Lord and Saviour Sing
- 24 With Heart and Mouth Let All Confess

“Christ Jesus full atonement made”

- 25 Who Has Believed Our Message
- 26 You, Holy Lamb of God, We Bless
- 27 Hark How the Adoring Hosts Above
- 28 Salvation unto Us Has Come
- 29 All Glory, Laud, and Honour

“Christ has risen! Hallelujah!”

- 30 Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands
- 31 Christ Has Risen! Hallelujah!
- 32 Christ the Lord is Risen Today
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- 34 If God Is on Our Side
- 35 The God and Father of Our Lord
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- 38 Our Saviour, When He Told His Own
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- 40 Christ, Above All Glory Seated
- 41 Where High the Heavenly Temple Stands
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- 43 Rejoice, the Lord is King
- 44 Christ Shall Have Dominion

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- 47 The Spirit, Sent from Heaven Above
- 48 The Spirit Came, as Promised

“Watch o’er Your church, O Lord”

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- 50 The Church’s One Foundation
- 51 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
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- 53 Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode
- 54 Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep
- 55 Come, Take by Faith the Body of the Lord
- 56 Until He Comes
- 55 We Thank You, Father, Who Have Planted
- 58 For the Bread Which You Have Broken
- 59 The Lord’s Prayer
- 60 What Is in Life and Death My Only Aid

- 61 If You But Let the Father Guide You
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“Come, Lord Jesus! Maranatha!”

- 63 Come! Lord Jesus! Maranatha
- 64 Jesus Is Our Sure Defence
- 65 Lo, Round the Throne, a Glorious Band
- 66 Day of Judgment! Day of Wonders!
- 67 The Hope of Faith Shall Not Deceive Us
- 68 Behold the Amazing Gift of Love
- 69 Lo, What a Glorious Sight Appeared
- 70 Our Outer Nature Wastes Away
- 71 Thank the Lord and Come with Praise

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

- 72 We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator
- 73 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
- 74 We Come, O Christ, to You
- 75 Give to Our God Immortal Praise
- 76 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
- 77 All Glory Be to Thee, Most High
- 77 I’ll thank Thee, O My God and Saviour
- 79 Ye Servants of God
- 80 Now Thank We All Our God

HYMN 1

Formerly Hymn 1A

The Apostles' Creed

Credo

J. Schouten, 1966

I be-lieve in God the Fa-ther, Al-might-y,
Mak-er of heaven and earth.
And in Je-sus Christ, His on-ly be-got-ten Son, our Lord;
who was con-ceived by the Ho-ly Spir-it,
born of the vir-gin Mar-y;
suf-fered un-der Pon-tius Pi-late;
was cru-ci-fied, dead, and bur-ied;
He de-scend-ed in-to hell;
the third day He rose a-gain from the dead;
He as-cend-ed in-to heaven,

Hymn 1

and sit-teth at the right hand of God the Fa-ther Al-might-y;
from thence He shall come to judge the liv-ing and the dead.
I be-lieve in the Ho-ly Spir-it;
I be-lieve a ho-ly cath-o-lic church,
the com-mun-ion of saints;
the for-give-ness of sins;
the res-ur-rec-tion of the bod-y;
and the life ev-er-last-ing. A-men.

HYMN 2

Formerly Hymn 1B

Hymn 2

The Apostles' Creed

'k Geloof in God

Enige Gezangen, 1933

1. In God, our heaven-ly Fa-ther, I be - lieve —
al-might-y Rul-er, all-vic-to-rious,
Cre-a - tor of both heaven and earth,
whose ho - ly Name is great and glo - rious.
And I be-lieve in Christ our Lord —
Christ Je - sus, the in - car - nate Word,
God's on - ly Son, our faith - ful Sav - iour,
sent to re-deem a world for - lorn;
who was con-ceived by God the Spir - it
and of the vir-gin Mar-y born.

2. Our Lord was under Pilate crucified;
the burden of God's wrath He carried.
Rejected and despised by men,
He died for us, and then was buried,
descending into death's domain.
But He the third day rose again;
He to His heavenly throne ascended,
at God's right hand, and He, our Head,
shall come again with power and glory
to judge the living and the dead.
3. In God the Holy Spirit I believe —
through whom we are a new creation.
And I believe a catholic church,
one holy Christian congregation;
the true communion of all those
whom God once as His people chose;
the full forgiveness of transgressions,
release from sin and mortal strife;
the resurrection of the body,
and glorious, everlasting life.

HYMN 3

Formerly Hymn 2

Hymn 3

O God, We Praise You, We Acknowledge You as Lord

Te Deum

Du Seigneur

Geneva, 1562

1. O God, we praise You, we ac-knowl-edge You as Lord.
E-ter-nal Fa-ther, You are eve-ry-where a-dored.
Led by the ser-a-phim, the an-gels praise You right-ly:
“O ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly is the Lord Al-might-y!
Both heaven and earth are filled with Your ma-jes-tic splen-dour.”
To You all an-gels nev-er-ceas-ing prais-es ren-der.

2. The prophets and apostles praise Your deeds of might as they in chorus join the martyrs robed in white. Your holy church rejoices, everywhere confessing You, Father, high-enthroned in glory all-surpassing; Your true and only Son, worthy of adoration; the Holy Spirit, source of help and consolation.
3. O Christ, our glorious King, the victory You have won. You, Lord, are God the Father's everlasting Son. Yet You did not despise the Virgin's womb, O Saviour, when You came from on high to free mankind forever. You then defeated death and Satan's power infernal; You opened up the way that leads to life eternal.

4. You are enthroned in glory at God's own right hand, till You from there as judge will on the clouds descend. O Lord, we therefore pray, grant help and vindication to those who through Your precious blood have gained salvation. In everlasting glory add them to the number of all Your saints, O Lord. Your heritage remember!
5. We bless You day by day, we praise Your holy name; from age to age Your power and glory we acclaim. O Lord, keep us this day from evil and transgression. Have mercy on us, Lord; show pity and compassion. Let all who hope in You be with Your love surrounded. In You alone we trust: we'll never be confounded!

HYMN 4

Formerly Hymn 3

We Praise You, God the Father, the Creator

Oblation

Johann Crüger, 1653

1. We praise You, God the Fa-ther, the Cre-a-tor;
we praise You God the Son, our Lord and Sav-iour;
we praise You, God the Spir-it, co-e-ter-nal;
one God al-might-y.

2. Trinity holy, Unity unbroken,
let all creation praise You without ceasing,
for You are one in truth and love and splendour,
Rock of salvation.
3. We praise You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
LORD God eternal, we bow down before You.
Yours be all honour, Yours the power and glory,
now and forever.

HYMN 5

Formerly Hymn 4

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

Nicea

John B. Dykes, 1861

1. Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, Lord God Al-might-y!
Ear-ly in the morn-ing our song shall rise to Thee:
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly, mer-ci-ful and might-y,
God in Three Per-sons, bless-ed Trin-i-ty!

2. Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea,
cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
who wert and art and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

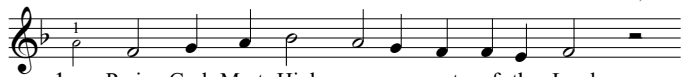
HYMN 6

Formerly Hymn 58

Praise God Most High, You Servants of the Lord

Old 124th

Geneva, 1551



1. Praise God Most High, you serv-ants of the Lord.
Praise His great name and of His glo-ry sing;
with shouts of joy your thank-ful prais-es bring.
Let Him by all His peo-ple be a-dored,
ac-knowl-edged as their sov-ereign Lord and King.

2. Praise God the Father, great in majesty;
praise God the Son, who came to save His own;
praise God the Spirit, sent from heaven's throne,
that He our guide and comforter might be.
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit, Three in One.

HYMN 7

Formerly Hymn 5

Glory Be to God the Father

Regent Square

Henry Smart, 1866



1. Glo-ry be to God the Fa-ther,
glo-ry be to God the Son,
glo-ry be to God the Spir-it,
God Al-might-y, Three in One!
Hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah!
Glo-ry be to Him a-lone!

2. Glory be to Him who loved us,
washed us from all sin and stain!
Glory be to Him who bought us,
made us kings with Him to reign!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Praise the Lamb that once was slain!
3. Glory to the King of angels,
glory to the church's King,
glory to the King of nations!
Heaven and earth, your praises bring.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
To the King of glory sing!

Hymn 7



4. "Glo - ry, bless - ing, praise e - ter - nal!"

Thus the choir of an - gels sings.

"Hon - our, glo - ry, power, do - min - ion!"

Thus its praise cre - a - tion brings.

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Praise the might - y King of kings!

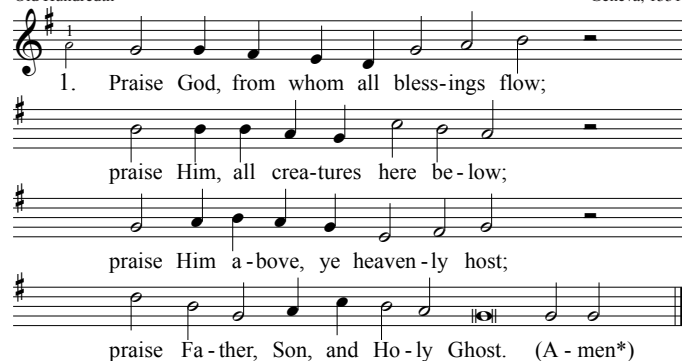
HYMN 8

Formerly Hymn 6

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old Hundredth

Geneva, 1551



1. Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow;
praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low;
praise Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host;
praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. (A - men*)

**May be sung with Amen-cadence*

HYMN 9

Formerly Augment Hymn 28

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Charles Meineke, 1844



1. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the
Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it
was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,
world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

HYMN 10

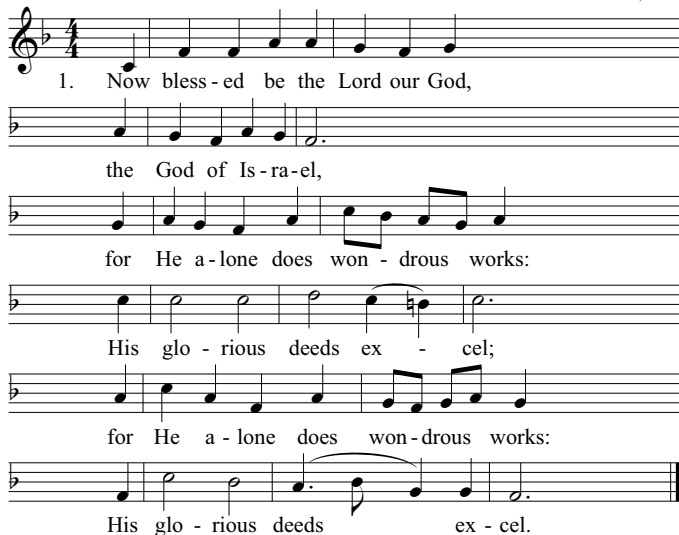
Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God

Psalm 72:18, 19

Formerly Augment Hymn 25

Coronation

Oliver Holden, 1793



1. Now bless-ed be the Lord our God,
the God of Is-ra-el,
for He a-lone does won-drous works:
His glo-rious deeds ex-cel;
for He a-lone does won-drous works:
His glo-rious deeds ex-cel.

2. And blessèd be His glorious name through all eternity;
the whole earth let His glory fill:
Amen! So shall it be;
the whole earth let His glory fill:
Amen! So shall it be.

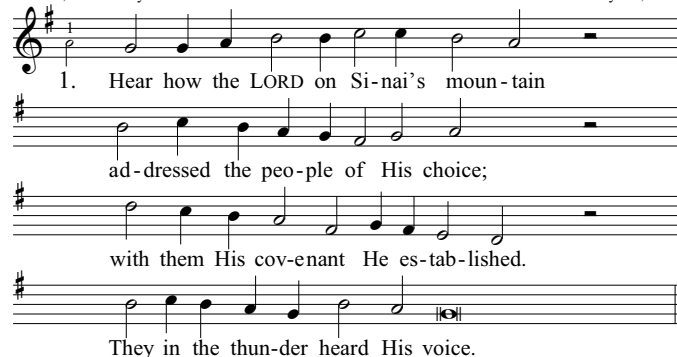
HYMN 11

The Ten Commandments

Formerly Hymn 7

O Dieu, donne moy

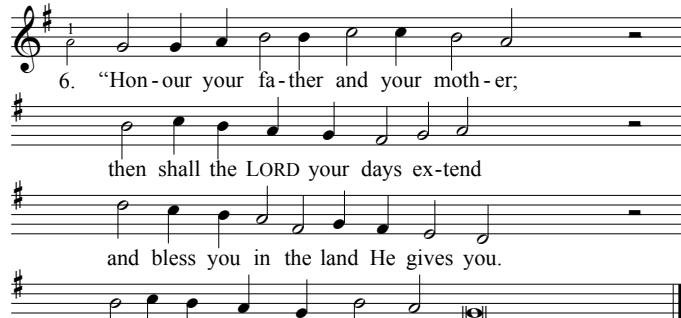
1543/Lyons, 1548



1. Hear how the LORD on Si-nai's moun-tain
ad-dressed the peo-ple of His choice;
with them His cov-enant He es-tab-lished.
They in the thun-der heard His voice.

2. "I am the LORD, your God and Saviour,
who out of slavery set you free,
who brought you from the land of Egypt.
Have, then, no other gods but Me.
3. "You shall not make or serve an idol:
a jealous God am I, the LORD,
who punish evildoers' offspring
but cherish those who heed My Word.
4. "Invoke the LORD with fear and reverence;
you shall not take His name in vain.
The LORD your God will not hold guiltless
those who His holy name profane.
5. "Observe the sabbath, keep it holy;
you and your house that day shall rest.
On six days only shall you labour;
the seventh day the LORD has blessed.

Hymn 11



6. "Hon-our your fa-ther and your moth-er;
then shall the LORD your days ex-tend
and bless you in the land He gives you.
O-bey the LORD your God's com-mand.

7. "You shall not kill or hate your neighbour;
adultery you shall not commit.
You shall not steal, nor bear false witness,
but love the truth and honour it.
8. "Your neighbour's goods you shall not covet,
and everything he calls his own –
his wife, his house, his fields and cattle –
you shall respect as his alone."
9. O LORD, let Your commandments teach us
our sins and misery to know,
that we, delivered from all evil,
to You our thankfulness may show.

HYMN 12

The Song of Moses
Deuteronomy 32:1-43

Formerly Hymn 8

'k Geelooft in God

Enige Gezangen, 1933



1. Give ear, O heav-ens! Earth, hear my ad-dress!
Like gen-tle rain be all my teach-ing;
like morn-ing dew up-on the grass,
like spring-time show-ers be my preach-ing.
I will de-clare the LORD's great name;
O praise our God and spread His fame.
He is the Rock of our sal-va-tion;
His ways are truth and eq-ui-ty.
Pro-claim His glo-ry with e-la-tion.
How right-eous and how just is He!

2. They did not act as chil-dren of the LORD,
 that twist-ed, crook-ed gen-er-a-tion.
 Is this how you es - teem His word?
 You are a sense-less, fool-ish na-tion.
 As Fa-ther He es - tab-lished you,
 and did not He cre - ate you too?
 Think back on by - gone times: re - mem - ber
 His gra-cious deeds in days of old.
 Your fa-ther can re - veal their num-ber;
 all this your eld - ers will un - fold.

3. When God Most High did parcel out the lands,
 dispersing all mankind as nations,
 He fixed their boundaries by His hand to
 give all tribes their place and station.
 His chosen people formed His share;
 He Jacob as His own declared.
 The LORD in barren deserts found him;
 in howling wastelands He drew nigh
 and with His care did He surround him,
 just as the apple of His eye.
4. Lo, as an eagle, hovering o'er its young
 when it has thrust them from its eyrie,
 will catch them, bearing them along
 on outspread wings that never weary,
 so was the LORD then Jacob's guide:
 no foreign god was at his side.
 He made him ride on lofty mountains,
 fed him on harvests of the field.
 From crags flowed honey as from fountains;
 the flinty rock its oil did yield.
5. The rams and goats of Bashan, rich with fat,
 the curds and milk by flocks presented,
 the blood of grapes in brimming vats,
 the finest wheat to him He granted.
 But Jeshurun grow fat, and kicked –
 how fat you've grown, how sleek and thick!
 Then he forsook the God who made him;
 salvation's constant Rock he spurned.
 With foreign idols he betrayed Him:
 God's jealous anger fiercely burned.

6. On strange new gods or de-mons did they call;
 with sac-ri-fic-es they re-vered them
 al-though they were not gods at all;
 in-deed, your fa-thers nev-er feared them.
 Your Rock and Sav-iour you ig-nored,
 for- got your Mak- er and your LORD.
 He saw His off- spring's prov- o- ca- tion
 and, spurn-ing them, said, "I will see
 what end a-waits this gen-er-a- tion,
 these chil-dren of in- iq- ui- ty.

7. "With worthless gods have they offended Me,
 provoking Me to indignation.
 Since they have roused My jealousy,
 I will requite their provocation:
 I'll make them jealous and embrace
 instead of them some foolish race.
 A blaze is kindled by My fury;
 down into deep Sheol it spreads,
 consumes the earth, and will most surely
 make mountain roots glow fiery red.
8. "To ruin and disaster are they doomed,
 for I will pierce them with My arrows.
 By dreadful plagues they'll be consumed,
 by fever and by famine harrowed,
 by fangs of beasts and deadly stings
 of swarms of loathsome crawling things.
 The sword shall in the streets bereave them
 of stalwart youth and maiden mild,
 and in their dwellings they shall grieve then
 for grey old man and newborn child.
9. "I would have blotted out their name and fame
 and scattered them in all directions
 had I not feared their foes would claim
 that their strong hand wrought this destruction.
 'We are the victors,' they would scoff;
 'not God but we have cut them off.'"
 For they are fools, themselves deceiving,
 and nothing do they understand.
 If they were not so unperceiving,
 they would discern their latter end!

10. How could but one pur-sue a thou-sand men
 and two dis-pel ten times that num-ber,
 un-less their Rock a-ban-doned them,
 the LORD them no more would re-mem-ber?
 Our en-e-mies them-selves con-fess
 that they no rock like ours pos-sess.
 Their vine comes from the vine of So-dom
 and of Go-mor-rah's ter-rac-es.
 Their on-ly grapes are grapes of poi-son;
 their clus-ters, filled with bit-ter-ness.

11. The poison of the serpent is their wine,
 the cobra's venom is their potion.
 "It's in My storehouse kept confined
 until the day of retribution.
 Mine is the vengeance. At My call
 their foot will slip; they soon will fall."
 The LORD will come with vindication;
 He'll pity those who are His own
 when, seeing their extermination,
 He knows that all their strength is gone.
12. He'll say, "Where are the gods you now await,
 the rock in which you sought salvation,
 those who your sacrifices ate,
 who drank the wine of your libation?
 Let them your help and refuge be!
 See now that I, yes I, am He,
 the only God: there is none other.
 With life and death at My command,
 I wound and heal, disperse and gather,
 and none can rescue from My hand.
13. "My hand to heaven uplifted, I, the LORD,
 now swear that, as I live forever,
 I'll whet My great and glittering sword
 to bring to nought the foe's endeavour;
 My hand on judgment shall take hold,
 and I'll requite the proud and bold.
 Then drunk with blood shall be My arrows;
 then shall My sword their flesh devour.
 Their long-haired princes I will harrow,
 revealing My victorious power."

Hymn 12



14. O come and with His peo-ple now re-joice;
shout forth your prais-es, all you na-tions!
To thank the LORD lift up your voice
and sing your songs of ju-bi-la-tion.
The LORD is good, His mer-cy great:
His ser-vants He will vin-di-cate,
wreak ven-geance on His ad-ver-sar-ies.
His cho-sen peo-ple He has shown
the cove-nant love that nev-er var-ies
and for their land will He a-tone.

HYMN 13

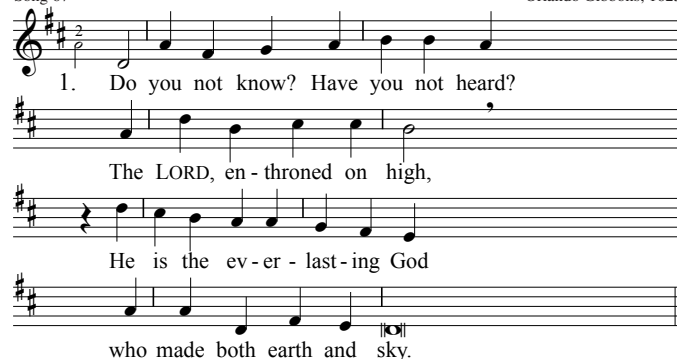
Do You Not Know? Have You Not Heard?

Isaiah 40:28-31

Formerly Hymn 9

Song 67

Orlando Gibbons, 1623



1. Do you not know? Have you not heard?
The LORD, en-throned on high,
He is the ev-er-last-ing God
who made both earth and sky.

2. He will not weary or grow faint;
His power is measureless.
His wisdom is unsearchable,
and great His faithfulness.
3. The weak and weary He revives
when unto Him they cry,
and those who have no might He will
with growing strength supply.
4. Though youths grow weary and may fall,
though young men strive in vain,
the LORD helps those who wait for Him;
their strength they shall regain.
5. They shall mount up with eagles' wings;
unwearied they shall run.
They'll neither falter nor grow faint
as they in faith walk on.

HYMN 14

The Prayer of Habakkuk *Habakkuk 3*

Formerly Hymn 10

Hymn 14

Llangloffan

Hymnal à Thonau, 1865



1. LORD, I have heard the ti - dings
of You and of Your might.
Your deeds re-veal Your great - ness;
I trem-ble at their sight.
LORD, in our time re-new them;
in our day make them known.
In wrath re-mem-ber mer - cy;
Do not for-get Your own!

2. From Teman and Mount Paran
came God, the Holy One,
and all throughout the heavens
His radiant splendour shone;
the brightness of His glory
filled all the earth with praise,
and from His hand the lightning
flashed forth in blinding rays.

3. He came with plagues before Him,
with fevers in His wake.
He stood, the earth surveying,
and made the nations quake.
The everlasting mountains
did crack and split and fold;
the ancient hills He levelled.
His ways were as of old.
4. I saw the tents of Cushan
by squalls to tatters torn;
the curtains of all Midian
were fluttering in the storm.
O LORD, were You then angry
with rivers and with sea,
when You rode with Your horses
and drove to victory?
5. When with Your mighty rivers
You all the earth had cleaved,
the mountain ranges saw You;
with fear they writhed and heaved.
Then were the rushing waters
in raging streams outpoured.
The waves their hands uplifted;
the voice of oceans roared.
6. Your glittering spear and arrows
made sun and moon stand still.
You, marching on in fury,
made earth in terror kneel.
You, trampling down the nations,
came with Your dreadful wrath
to rescue Your own people,
to clear for them a path.

Hymn 14

7. To save Your own a-noint - ed
You crushed the might-y foe.
By their own weap - ons wound - ed,
their chief - tains were brought low.
Ad - vanc - ing like a whirl - wind,
they came to van - quish me.
You with Your hors - es tram - pled
the surg - ing of the sea.

8. I hear Your steps approaching
and at their sound I quake.
Lips quiver, bones are trembling;
I totter and I shake.
In quiet expectation
I shall await the day
when those who now invade us
will all be swept away.

Hymn 14

9. Though fig trees may not blossom
and vines no fruit may yield,
though olives be a failure
and barren be the field,
though in the fold and stables
there be no flock or herd,
yet I will sing and worship,
rejoicing in the LORD.
10. The LORD, my God and Saviour,
in Him I will rejoice,
and, in His power exulting,
I will lift up my voice.
He makes my feet as nimble
as feet of graceful roes;
He lets me walk on mountains,
beyond the reach of woes.

HYMN 15

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Isaiah 40:1-5

Formerly Hymn 11

Hymn 15

Ainsi qu'on oit

Geneva, 1551

1. Com-fort, com-fort now My peo-ple;
speak of peace: so says our God.
Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness,
mourn-ing un-der sor-row's load.
Cry out to Je-ru-sa-lem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cov-er
and her war-fare now is o-ver.

2. For the herald's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
calling all men to repentance,
since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning voice obey!
Now prepare for God a way.
Let the valleys rise to meet Him,
and the hills bow down to greet Him.

3. Then make straight what long was crooked;
make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that His Word is never broken.

HYMN 16

Formerly Hymn 12

Hymn 16

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

Thomas Helmore, 1856

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
and ran-som cap-tive Is - ra - el,
that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here,
un - til the Son of God ap-pear.
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em-man - u - el
shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

2. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.
3. O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's stem,
regard Thine own and rescue them;
from depths of hell Thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

4. O come, Thou Dayspring from on high
and comfort us by drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.
5. O come, Thou who hast David's key,
save us, that we eternally
in paradise regained may dwell;
forever shut the gates of hell.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

HYMN 17
The Song of Mary
Luke 1:46-55

Formerly Hymn 13

Hymn 17

Magnificat

Strasbourg, 1539

1. My soul will mag - ni - fy
the Lord, who from on high
has blessed me with His fa - vour.
His prais-es I will voice;
my spir - it will re - joice
in Him, my God and Sav - iour.

2. The Lord, so good and great,
looked on my lowly state.
Now will all generations
from age to age attest
how richly I am blest.
Great is my exaltation!
3. How holy is His name!
The Mighty One, He came
and showed me His great favour.
With mercy He is near
to all who Him revere;
His love endures forever.

4. His arm revealed His might,
for He has put to flight
all those who are proud-hearted,
and He pulled haughty ones
down from their lofty thrones;
the lowly He supported.
5. Abundant gifts the Lord
has on the hungry poured;
their suffering He has ended.
The rich He sent away;
He, much to their dismay,
let them go empty-handed.
6. The Lord is merciful;
His servant Israel
He graciously delivered,
remembering evermore
what He to Abraham swore
and to his seed forever.

HYMN 18

The Song of Zechariah

Luke 1:67-79

Formerly Hymn 14

Hymn 18

An Wasserflüssen Babylon

Strasbourg, 1525

1. Blest be the God of Is-ra-el,
for He has come to set us free;
in Da-vid's house the Lord has raised
sal-va-tion's horn for all to see.
He through His proph-ets long a-go
said He would save us from our foe,
from all who scorn and hate us.
He has not put our fa-thers' faith to shame
but, in His love re-mem-bering them,
has kept the oath He swore to A-bra-ham.

2. His faithfulness He has now shown,
that we might serve Him without fear,
that all our days with upright hearts
we in His presence might appear.
Of you, my child, it will be said
that God Most High sent you ahead
as herald of salvation.
You will before the Lord prepare His way
and tell His people of the day
when He to them His mercy will display.
3. As God has promised, all our sins
will be forgiven, swept away.
He from on high in tender love
will bless us with the glorious day
on which before our very eyes
the radiant Morning Sun will rise
to shine on us forever.
From death's dark shadow He will grant release
and, when its tyranny shall cease,
will guide our feet into the path of peace.

HYMN 19

The People Who in Darkness Walked
Isaiah 9:2-7

Formerly Hymn 15

Hymn 19

Ellacombe

Württemberg, 1784

1. The peo-ple who in dark-ness walked
have seen a glo-rious light;
now day has dawned for those who dwelt
in death's sur-round-ing night.
To hail You, Sun of Right-eous-ness,
they with re-joic-ing come
as when with joy they share the spoil
or bear the har-vest home.

2. For You the burden have removed
that on their shoulders lay,
have broken the oppressor's rod
as once on Midian's day.
For boots by tramping soldiers worn
and garments rolled in gore
the raging flames will all consume
to mark the end of war.

3. For unto us a Child is born,
to us a Son is given,
and on His shoulders He shall bear
all power in earth and heaven.
The Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the Mighty God is He;
eternal Father, Prince of Peace
His holy name shall be.
4. His government and royal power
shall without end increase,
and He on David's throne shall reign
in everlasting peace.
On justice and on righteousness
His kingdom He shall build.
The LORD of hosts will show His zeal:
His word shall be fulfilled!

HYMN 20

Formerly Hymn 16

Hymn 20

A Great and Mighty Wonder

Es ist ein' Ros'

Cologne, 1599

1. A great and might-y won-der
up- on the earth was done
when Mar-y, vir-gin moth-er,
gave birth to God's own Son.
Re-peat the song a-gain:
"To God on high the glo-ry,
and peace on earth to men!"

2. The Word became incarnate –
made flesh, yet very God.
The angels hailed His coming
with songs o'er fields abroad.
Repeat the song again:
"To God on high the glory,
and peace on earth to men!"

3. Sing praise to God the Father;
join with the heavenly bands.
Rejoice, O vales and mountains,
and, oceans, clap your hands!
Repeat the song again:
"To God on high the glory,
and peace on earth to men!"
4. Since He came us to ransom,
let Him now be adored,
the King once born in Bethlehem,
our Saviour and our Lord.
Repeat the song again:
"To God on high the glory,
and peace on earth to men!"

HYMN 21

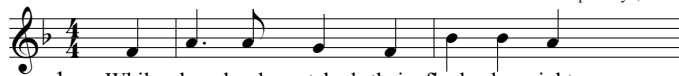
Formerly Hymn 17

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

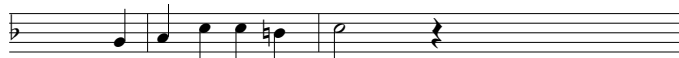
Luke 2:8-14

Winchester Old

Christopher Tye, 1553



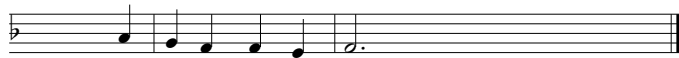
1. While shep-herds watched their flocks by night,



all seat-ed on the ground,



an an-gel of the Lord came down



and glo-ry shone a-round.

2. He said to them, "Be not afraid, for I have come to tell good news of great and wondrous joy for all of Israel.
3. "To you in David's town today was born of David's line a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; and this will be the sign:
4. "A newborn Child you there will find, not as a king arrayed but humbly wrapped in swaddling cloths and in a manger laid."
5. Then with the angel, all at once, appeared a mighty throng – a glorious heavenly multitude, all praising God in song:

Hymn 21

6. "All glory to our God on high and on the earth His peace for men to whom He favour shows which nevermore shall cease."

HYMN 22

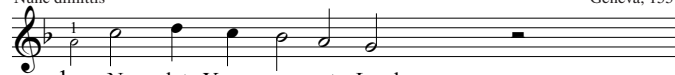
Formerly Hymn 18

The Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32

Nunc dimittis

Geneva, 1551



1. Now let Your ser-vant, Lord,



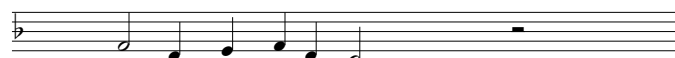
ac-cord-ing to Your word,



de-part in ex-ul-ta-tion;



now I in peace may rest:



my eyes have seen at last



Your won-der-ful sal-va-tion:

2. Lord, You have graciously prepared for all to see a light for revelation, to Gentiles far and near, and glory bright and clear to Israel, Your nation.

HYMN 23

Formerly Hymn 19

Let Us of Christ Our Lord and Saviour Sing

Philippians 2:6-11

Sine Nomine

Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

1. Let us of Christ our Lord and Sav-iour sing,
for, though God's e - qual, though e - ter - nal King,
He did not to His right - ful glo - ry cling.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

2. Himself He emptied, that He us might save;
Himself for us, God's chosen ones, He gave,
and, born as man, our Lord became a slave.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
3. He bore the weakness of our human frame
and He obedient unto death became,
for on a cross He died, in bitter shame.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
4. God therefore raised Him to the heavenly heights,
bestowed on Him, the Lord of life and light,
the name surpassing every name in might.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
5. Let at the name of Jesus every knee,
from heaven above to depths below the sea,
now humbly bow before His majesty.
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Hymn 23

6. Let every tongue confess that Christ is King,
for He is Lord of all created things.
So to the praise of God the Father sing:
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

HYMN 24

Formerly Hymn 20

With Heart and Mouth Let All Confess

1 Timothy 3:3-16

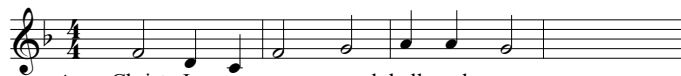
Gräfenberg

Johann Crüger, 1653

1. With heart and mouth let all con - fess
that God's e - ter - nal Son
was in the flesh made man - i - fest,
did not our frail - ty shun.

2. Though Christ was humbled unto death,
enduring curse and shame,
the Spirit vindicated Him
and magnified His name.
3. The angels will for evermore
their songs of triumph sing,
for they His resurrection saw;
they welcomed Him as King.

Hymn 24



4. Christ Je - sus con - quered hell and grave;
all heard the joy - ful news,
for He was far and wide pro - claimed,
to Gen - tiles as to Jews.

5. His chosen ones believed in Him
throughout this hostile world.
the banners of His victory
He everywhere unfurled.

6. He into glory was received,
for He the battle won.
Now at the Father's side He reigns:
Christ Jesus, God the Son!

HYMN 25


Who Has Believed Our Message

Formerly Hymn 21

Mon Dieu, mon Dieu

Isaiah 53

Strasbourg, Geneva, 1542 / Lyons, 1548



1. Who has be - lieved our mes - sage from on high
that God's own Son, who laid His glo - ries by,
came down from heaven to suf - fer and to die
for our trans - gres - sion?
Who saw re - vealed in Him God's power and fa - vour -
the might - y arm of Him who sent our Sav - iour,
that we, His peo - ple, might be free for - ev - er
from sin and shame?

2. See how He grew up like a tender plant
and sprouted from a root in arid land.
He had no form or beauty to command
our adoration.
He was despised and by mankind rejected -
a man of sorrows, burdened and afflicted.
His greatness was not noticed or respected:
we shrank from Him.

3. Our sufferings and in-fir-mi-ties He bore;
 our sor-rows He was will-ing to en-dure,
 while we thought He was be-ing pun-ish-ed for
 His own wrong-do-ing.
 But He was pierced be-cause of our trans-gres-sion,
 bruised for our sin—His pun-ish-ments and pas-sion
 pro-cured our peace; His scourg-ings and op-press-ion
 healed us a-gain.

4. All we like wilful sheep have gone astray;
 we've turned, each one to his own wicked way.
 Thus God has charged Him by His death to pay
 for our offences.
 Our shame He suffered in complete submission;
 He held His tongue when we showed our derision,
 bore us no rancour for our lack of vision
 and wilful wrong.

5. He opened not His mouth when foes had come
 to lead Him to the slaughter like a lamb;
 He, like a sheep before its shearers dumb,
 heard His accusers.
 He was oppressed, but then the LORD relieved Him.
 Who of His generation then received Him
 as sent from God because mankind had grieved Him
 with all their sins?
6. With wicked men they Him a grave assigned,
 but then a rich man Him a tomb did find,
 since He had not been to deceit inclined,
 for He was blameless.
 It was God's will to grieve Him by oppression:
 He made His Son an offering for transgression.
 He, when at last He has fulfilled His mission,
 shall see His seed.
7. The fruit of all His suffering and pain
 shall He behold, contented with His gain:
 that men through His instruction may obtain
 His boundless mercy.
 Hence I, the Lord, reward Him for His passion
 and many shall I make His own possession:
 the ones for whom He made His intercession,
 for whom He died.

HYMN 26

Formerly Hymn 22

You, Holy Lamb of God, We Bless

U, heilig Godslam

Geneva, 1562 / Middelburg, 1933

1. You, ho-ly Lamb of God, we bless:
You, through Your cross re-demp-tion sent us,
and to the Fa-ther You pre-sent us
as priests and kings in ho-li-ness.
O, Sav-iour, You have ran-somed us.
Hence we will hon-our and a-dore You,
and cast in grat-i-tude be-fore You
the crowns by grace be-stowed on us.
A-men, A-men. Hal-le-lu-jah!

HYMN 27

Formerly Hymn 23

Hark How the Adoring Hosts Above

Revelation 5:9-13

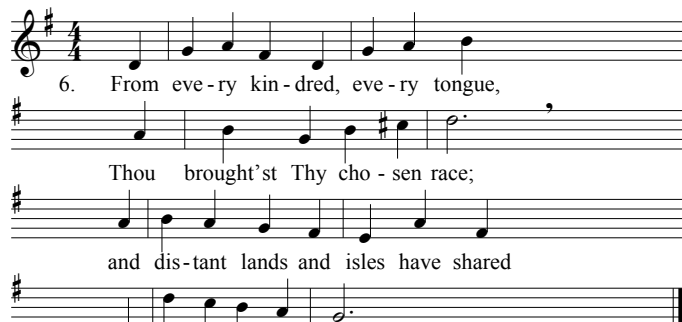
St. Magnus

Jeremiah Clarke, 1701

1. Hark how the a-dor-ing hosts a-bove
with songs sur-round the throne!
Ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues,
but all their hearts are one.

2. "Worthy the Lamb that died," they cry,
"to be exalted thus."
"Worthy the Lamb," let us reply,
"for He was slain for us."
3. To Thee be power divine ascribed,
for wondrous are Thy ways,
and Thine be wisdom, glory, might,
and everlasting praise.
4. From Him who sits upon the throne
the scroll Thou mayest take,
and Thou art worthy as the Lamb
its seven seals to break.
5. Thou hast redeemed us with Thy blood
and set the prisoners free,
Thou mad'st us kings and priests to God
and we shall reign with Thee.

Hymn 27



6. From eve-ry kin-dred, eve-ry tongue,
Thou brought'st Thy cho - sen race;
and dis-tant lands and isles have shared
the rich-es of Thy grace.

7. Let all that dwell in heaven above
or on the earth below,
with fields and floods and ocean's shores
to Thee their homage show.

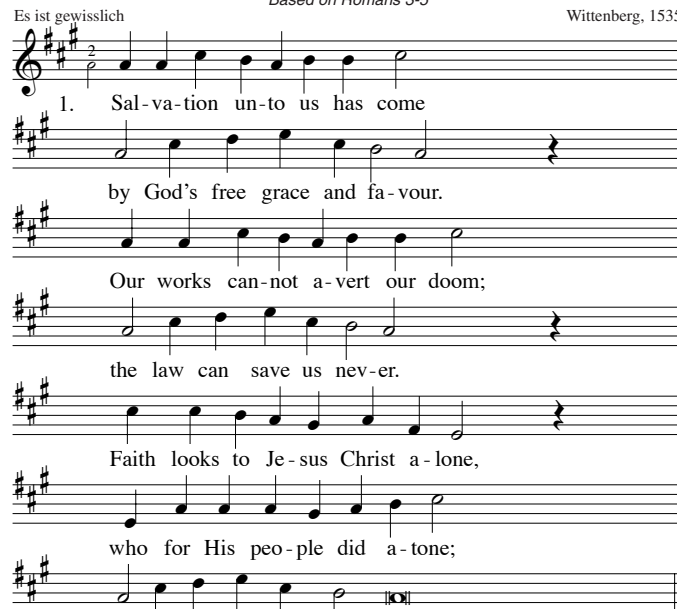
8. To Him who sits upon the throne,
the God whom we adore,
and to the Lamb that once was slain
be glory evermore.

HYMN 28

Salvation Unto Us Has Come
Based on Romans 3-5

Formerly Hymn 24

Wittenberg, 1535



Es ist gewisslich
1. Sal-va-tion un-to us has come
by God's free grace and fa-vour.
Our works can-not a-vert our doom;
the law can save us nev-er.
Faith looks to Je-sus Christ a-lone,
who for His peo-ple did a-tone;
He is our one Re-deem-er.

2. What God did in His Law demand
and none to Him could render
caused wrath and woe on every hand
for man, the vile offender.
Our flesh has not the pure desires
God's holy law of us requires,
and lost is our condition.

3. From sin our flesh could not ab-stain;
sin held its sway un-ceas-ing.
The task was hope-less and in vain;
our guilt was e'er in-creas-ing.
None can re-move sin's poi-soned dart
or pu-ri-fy our guile-ful heart,
so deep is our cor-rup-tion.

4. Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
or we must die despairing,
Christ Jesus came, God's wrath He stilled,
our human nature sharing.
The Law He has for us obeyed
and thus the Father's vengeance stayed
which over us impended.

5. Christ Jesus full atonement made
and brought to us salvation.
Each Christian therefore may be glad
and build on this foundation.
Thy grace alone, O Lord, I plead.
Thy death is now my life indeed,
for Thou hast paid my ransom.
6. Faith clings to Jesus' work alone
and rests in Him unceasing;
and by its fruits true faith is known,
with love and hope increasing.
By faith alone we're justified;
works serve the neighbour and supply
the proof that faith is living.
7. All blessing, honour, thanks, and praise
to Father, Son, and Spirit,
the God who saved us by His grace;
all glory to His merit!
O Triune God in heaven above,
who hast revealed Thy saving love,
thy blessèd name be hallowed.

HYMN 29

Formerly Hymn 25

Hymn 29

All Glory, Laud, and Honour

St. Theodulph Melchior Teschner, 1615

1. All glo-ry, laud, and hon-our
to Thee, Re-deem-er, King,
to whom the lips of chil-dren
made loud ho-san-nas ring.
Thou art the King of Is-rael,
Thou, Da-vid's roy-al Son,
who in the Lord's Name com-est,
the King and Bless-ed One.

2. The multitudes of angels
are praising Thee on high;
let man and all creation
to them with joy reply.
The people near Jerusalem
with palms before Thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before Thee we present.

3. To Thee before Thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to Thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.
Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.

HYMN 30

Formerly Augment Hymn 4

Hymn 30

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands

Christ lag in Totesbanden

Latin melody, ca. 1100

1. Christ Je-sus lay in death's strong bands
for our of-fen-ces giv-en;
but now at God's right hand He stands
and brings us life from heav-en;
there-fore let us joy-ful be,
and sing to God right thank-ful-ly
loud songs of al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

2. It was a strange and dreadful strife
when life and death contended;
the victory remained with life,
the reign of death was ended;
Holy Scripture plainly says
His death has swallowed up our death;
its sting is lost forever! Alleluia!

3. Here the true Paschal Lamb we see,
whom God so freely gave us;
He died on the accursèd tree –
so strong His love – to save us;
see, His blood now marks our door;
faith points to it, death passes o'er,
and Satan cannot harm us. Alleluia!
4. So let us keep this holy day
to which the Lord invites us;
Christ is Himself the joy of all,
the Sun that warms and lights us;
by His grace He does impart
eternal sunshine to the heart;
the night of sin is ended. Alleluia!
5. Then let us feast this joyful day
on Christ the bread of heaven;
the Word of grace has purged away
the old and wicked leaven;
Christ alone our souls will feed,
He is our food and drink indeed;
faith lives upon no other. Alleluia!

HYMN 31

Formerly Hymn 26

Hymn 31

Christ Has Risen! Hallelujah!

Sollt' ich meinen Gott

Johann Schop, 1641

1. Christ has ris-en! Hal-le-lu-jah!
He is our vic-to-rious Head.
Sing His prais-es! Hal-le-lu-jah!
Christ has ris-en from the dead.
He has con-quired sin and Sa-tan.
Where, O death, is now your sting?
Je-sus Christ a-lone is King!
Christ has ris-en! Hal-le-lu-jah!
He is our vic-to-rious Head.
Christ has ris-en from the dead.

2. Christ has risen! He, our Saviour,
freed us from the powers of hell.
We are His! In Him forever
we have triumphed over all.
Sun of Righteousness and Glory,
dawning with Your healing light
You have put all gloom to flight!
Christ has risen! Hallelujah!
He is our victorious Head.
Christ has risen from the dead.

HYMN 32

Formerly Augment Hymn 2

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Easter hymn

Lyra Davidica, 1708

1. Christ the Lord is risen to-day! Al - le - lu - ia!
All cre - a - tion join to say: Al - le - lu - ia!
Raise your joys and tri-umphs high; Al - le - lu - ia!
Sing, you heavens, and earth, re-ply: Al - le - lu - ia!

2. Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Once He died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!
3. Christ's redeeming work is done; Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise; Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!
4. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to You by all be given; Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now, Alleluia!
Every knee to You shall bow. Alleluia!

HYMN 33

Formerly Augment Hymn 3

God Gave to Us This Day of Days

Erschienen ist der herrlich tag

Nikolaus Hermann, 1560

1. God gave to us this day of days
on which we sing our songs of praise,
for Je - sus lives! Let us re - joice
and give Him thanks as with one voice. Al-le - lu - ia!

2. His body unto death He gave
and then was buried in the grave,
but rose again victoriously
and freed us from all slavery. Alleluia!
3. The gloomy darkness, sin, and death
are conquered, as the Scripture says,
by Jesus Christ, the risen Lord;
who brought back light, and life restored. Alleluia!
4. Now we can sing with happiness
for gone's the fearful wretchedness,
thanks to the Lord, the sacrificed
and resurrected Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

HYMN 34

If God Is on Our Side
Romans 8:31-33; 38-39

Formerly Hymn 27

Du Seigneur

Geneva, 1562

1. If God is on our side, a-gainst us shall be none.

He did not spare His own, His well be- lov-ed Son,

but gave Him up for us that He might save us tru-ly.

Will He with Him not give us all things free and ful-ly?

Who then will yet ac-cuse those whom He has e-lect-ed?

'Tis God who jus-ti-fies in Christ, the Res-ur-rect-ed.

2. I am convinced that neither powers, death, nor life, nor angels, things to come, things present, princes, strife, nor height, nor depth, nor any other thing created will from the love of God now keep us separated – His love in Jesus Christ, the Saviour, whom He gave us, that through His precious blood He might redeem and save us.

HYMN 35

The God and Father of Our Lord
1 Peter 1:3-5

Formerly Hymn 28

Farrant

Richard Farrant, 1580

1. The God and Fa-ther of our Lord

be blest for ev-er-more.

Great is the mer-cy He has shown:

Him hon-our and a-dore!

2. He caused us to be born anew: a living hope He gave through Jesus Christ, who rose again triumphant from the grave.
3. The inheritance in store for us is free from all decay; it cannot spoil or be defiled; it will not fade away.
4. It's safely kept in heaven for us whom God's own power will shield, till full salvation is at last on His great Day revealed.

HYMN 36

Formerly Hymn 29

Hallelujah! Praised Be the Son

Halleluja! Lof zij den Heer

Evangelische Gezangen, 1806

1. Hal-le-lu-jah! Praised be the Son,
for His re-deem-ing work is done;
from sin He has un-tied us.
He died, was bur-ied, but He lives,
and to His ran-somed peo-ple gives
His bless-ed Word to guide us.

2. Hallelujah! The praises tell
of David's Son, Emmanuel,
the Saviour, God incarnate.
In Him, who will return again,
let all the universe acclaim
the Father, Son, and Spirit.

HYMN 37

Formerly Augment Hymn 7

Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus

Hebrews 1:3-4; 4:14-16; 12:2

All Saints

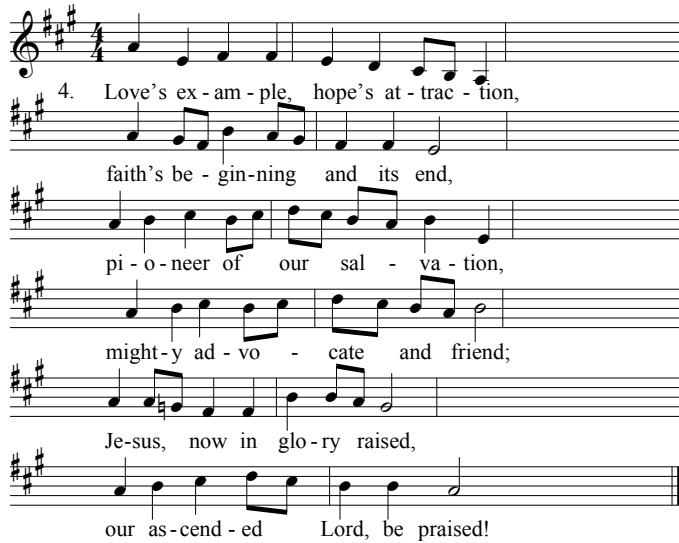
Darmstadt, 1698

1. Since our great High Priest, Christ Je - sus,
bears the name a - bove all names,
reign-ing Son of God, sur - pass - ing
oth-er ti - tles, powers, and claims;
since to heaven our Lord has passed,
let us hold our wit - ness fast!

2. Since we have a priest who suffered,
knowing weakness, tears, and pain;
who, like us was tried and tempted;
unlike us, without a stain;
since He shared our lowly place,
let us boldly seek His grace!
3. Sacrifice and suffering over,
now He sits at God's right hand,
crowned with praise, no more an outcast,
His pre-eminence long planned;
such a great High Priest we have,
strong to help, supreme to save!

Text: Christopher Idle, 1973
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Hymn 37



4. Love's ex - am - ple, hope's at - trac - tion,
faith's be - gin - ning and its end,
pi - o - neer of our sal - va - tion,
might - y ad - vo - cate and friend;
Je - sus, now in glo - ry raised,
our as - cend - ed Lord, be praised!

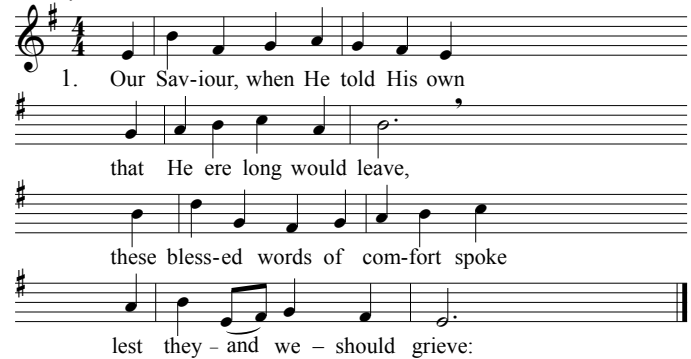
HYMN 38

Our Saviour, When He Told His Own
John 14:1-3, 6

Formerly Hymn 30

Coventry

Samuel Howard, 1762



1. Our Sav-iour, when He told His own
that He ere long would leave,
these bless-ed words of com-fort spoke
lest they - and we - should grieve:

2. "Let not your hearts with anxious thoughts
be troubled or dismayed.
Believe in God, believe in Me
and trust My gracious aid.
3. "I to My Father's house now go,
where many dwellings are.
As I have told you, there I will
a place for you prepare.
4. "For one day I shall come again
to take you unto Me;
where I, your Lord and Saviour, am,
there you shall also be.
5. "I am the way, the truth, the life.
There is not anyone
who shall to God the Father come
except by Me, the Son."

HYMN 39

Formerly Hymn 31

Hymn 39

The Lord Ascended Up on High

Der Du allein

Frankfurt am Main, 1738

1. The Lord as-cend-ed up on high,
the Lord has tri-umphed glo-rious-ly,
in power and might ex-cel-ling.
The grave and hell are cap-tive led
when He went up, our glo-rious Head,
to His e-ter-nal dwell-ing.

2. The heavens with joy received their Lord,
by saints, by angel hosts adored.
O day of exultation!
O earth, adore your glorious King!
Let us of His ascension sing
with joy and adoration.
3. Our great High Priest is present now
where all before God's glory bow:
the Father's throne in heaven.
There He still has our human flesh,
and we as counterpledge possess
the Spirit He has given.

4. We lift our hearts to Christ on high,
for He who laid His glory by
is King of all creation.
Appearing as His church's Head,
He rules the living and the dead
and judges every nation.
5. From heaven He sent His Spirit down
who gives rich gifts to us His own,
gifts from His treasure taken.
Protecting us from Satan's lure,
Christ keeps us by His power secure;
we'll never be forsaken.

HYMN 40

Formerly Hymn 32

Hymn 40

Christ, Above All Glory Seated

Beecher

John Zundel, 1870

1. Christ, a-bove all glo-ry seat-ed,
King tri-um-phant, strong to save!
Dy-ing, You have death de-feat-ed;
bur-ied, You have spoiled the grave.
You have gone where now is giv-en
what no mor-tal might could gain,
on the e-ter-nal throne of heav-en,
in Your Fa-ther's power to reign.

2. There Your kingdoms all adore You,
heaven above and earth below;
while the depths of hell before You,
trembling and defeated, bow.
We revere You, Lord and Saviour;
we implore Your grace and love.
Hear our prayers and help us ever
seek the things that are above.

3. Lord, when You return in glory
on the clouds of heaven above,
we Your flock will stand before You,
kept forever in Your love.
In Your faithfulness confiding,
Jesus, all shall You adore.
On Your holy throne abiding,
You shall reign for evermore.

HYMN 41

Formerly Hymn 33

Where High the Heavenly Temple Stands

Hebrews 4:14-16

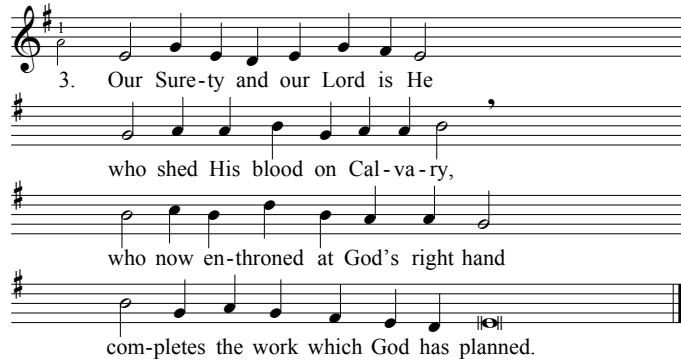
Erhalt uns, Herr

Wittenberg, 1543

1. Where high the heaven-ly tem-ple stands,
the house of God not made with hands,
Christ has the great-est hon-our gained,
yet ver-y God and man re-mained.

2. Our great High Priest, our Saviour, Lord,
gives to His saints on earth support,
since He through all the heavens has passed.
To this confession we hold fast.

Hymn 41



3. Our Sure-ty and our Lord is He
who shed His blood on Cal-va-ry,
who now en-throned at God's right hand
com-pletes the work which God has planned.

4. Though now ascended up on high,
He hears and answers every cry.
To Christ, who pleads before God's throne,
our many weaknesses are known.
5. He, too, was tempted, suffered pain;
yet free from sin did He remain.
He who did all temptation thwart
now takes our misery to heart.
6. Let us then boldly seek God's face,
there to find mercy, help, and grace:
our great High Priest will intercede,
come to our aid in time of need.

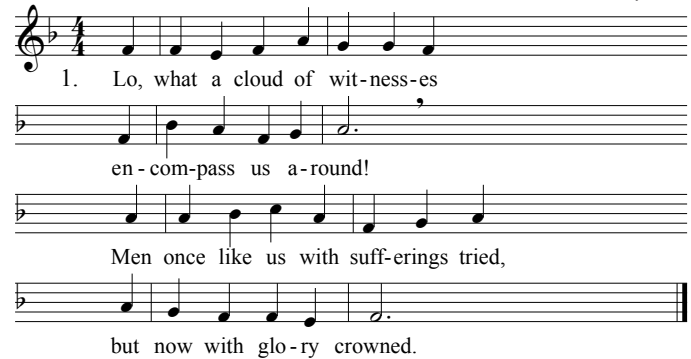
HYMN 42

Lo, What a Cloud of Witnesses
Hebrews 12:1-3

Formerly Hymn 34

St. Flavian

John Day, 1562



1. Lo, what a cloud of wit-ness-es
en-com-pass us a-round!
Men once like us with suff-erings tried,
but now with glo-ry crowned.

2. They reached the finish of the course
and thus obtained the rest.
We too – for God fulfils His Word –
shall be with victory blest.
3. Let us then full of confidence
run to complete the race
and put off sin and every weight
which could slow down our pace.
4. We look to Jesus even more
than to all those around;
in Him, the Author of our faith,
its Finisher is found.
5. He, for the joy before Him set –
unselfish is His love –
endured the cross, despised the shame,
and now He reigns above.

Hymn 42

6. Let us, for-get-ting things be-hind,
press on to God's right hand;
there, with the Sav-iour and His saints,
tri-um-phantly to stand.

HYMN 43

Formerly Hymn 35

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

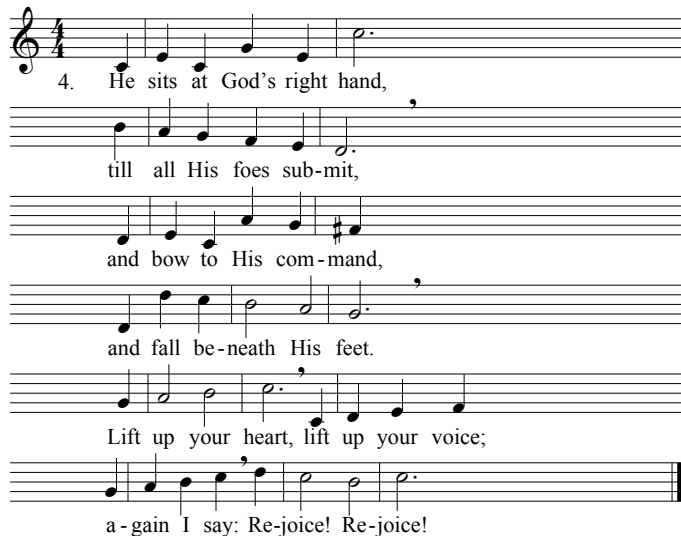
Darwall's 148th

John Darwall, 1770

1. Re-joyce, the Lord is King;
your Lord and King a-dore.
Re-joyce, give thanks, and sing,
and tri-umph ev-er-more.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
a-gain I say, Re-joyce! Re-joyce!

2. Jesus the Saviour reigns;
to Him let praises ring.
The Christ who once was slain
rose as victorious King.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
a-gain I say: Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
3. His kingdom cannot fail;
He rules o'er earth and heaven.
The keys of death and hell
are to Christ Jesus given.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
a-gain I say: Re-joyce! Re-joyce!

Hymn 43



4. He sits at God's right hand,
till all His foes sub-mit,
and bow to His com-mand,
and fall be-neath His feet.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
a - gain I say: Re-joice! Re-joice!

5. Rejoice, He comes again.
The Lord will not delay.
He who from heaven reigns
will come on His great Day.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
a-gain I say: Re-joice! Re-joice!

HYMN 44

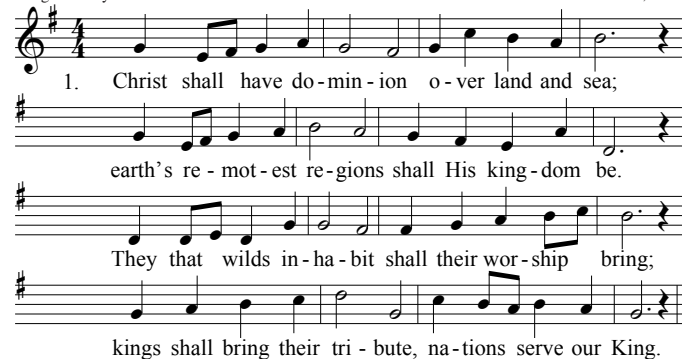
Christ Shall Have Dominion

Formerly Augment Hymn 18

Psalms 72:8-19

King of Glory

Albert Pierson, 1933



1. Christ shall have do-min-ion o-ver land and sea;
earth's re-mot-est re-gions shall His king-dom be.
They that wilds in-ha-bit shall their wor-ship bring;
kings shall bring their tri-bute, na-tions serve our King.

2. When the needy seek Him, He will mercy show;
then the weak and helpless shall His pity know.
He will surely save them from oppression's might,
for their lives are precious in His holy sight.
3. Ever and forever shall His name endure;
long as time continues it shall stand secure,
and in Him forever nations shall be blessed,
and all peoples hail Him King of kings confessed.
4. Unto God Almighty joyful Zion sings;
He alone is glorious, doing wondrous things.
Evermore, O people, bless His glorious name,
His eternal glory through the earth proclaim.

HYMN 45

Formerly Hymn 36

Hymn 45

He Has Come, the Holy Spirit!

Sollt' ich meinen Gott

Johann Schop, 1641

1. He has come, the Ho-ly Spir-it!
 Je-sus left us not a-lone
 when He went up to in-her-it
 might and glo-ry on the throne,
 for He sent the One He prom-ised:
 Ho-ly Spir-it, Power of God.
 Let us spread this truth a-broad
 and un-ceas-ing-ly de-clare it.
 Let us now our voic-es raise:
 to the Spir-it we give praise.

2. Praise the Spirit who, proceeding
 from the Father and the Son,
 in the truth the church is leading.
 Let us praise Him, everyone!
 Him who is both Gift and Giver,
 Him the Sender sent to earth,
 Holy God and yet poured forth.
 Praise, O people, Him forever:
 He true lift to you imparts,
 for He dwells within your hearts.
3. Praise the Spirit who will never
 leave the church by blood once bought.
 He will show His presence ever,
 fierce though be the foe's assault.
 Fear not, flock which He is keeping,
 though encircled by the night;
 child of God, recall His might.
 Would the Spirit then be sleeping?
 Would He not securely keep
 those whom Christ bought as His sheep?
4. Spirit of all understanding,
 of all grace, of truth, and prayer,
 show the paths of life unending;
 always guide us, everywhere.
 May we say, yes, "Abba, Father,"
 say of Jesus, "You are Lord,"
 and praise You with one accord.
 Be where Christ His churches gathers,
 take the offerings that they bring,
 hear them when Your praise they sing.

Hymn 45

5. Coun-sel-lor, O Ho-ly Spir-it,
 You who were from heav-en sent,
 may You with our Sav-iour's mer-it
 fill the earth's re-mot-est end.
 O re-vive, re-fresh, and nour-ish
 all that here may fade and fail!
 Let Your heal-ing wind pre-vail,
 Caus-ing love and zeal to flour-ish.
 To new life let us be raised.
 Ho-ly Spir-it, You be praised!

HYMN 46

Formerly Hymn 37

Come, Praise the Holy Spirit!

I Peter 1:10-12; Ephesians 1:13; I Corinthians 2:9; Galatians 5:18, 22; Romans 8:16-17, 23-25
 Ick wil mij gaen vertroosten Antwerp, 1539

1. Come, praise the Ho-ly Spir-it!
 The proph-ets He in-spired;
 they af-ter our sal-va-tion
 un-ceas-ing-ly in-quired.
 They spoke of Christ our Sav-iour,
 of grace that was to be,
 pro-claimed to us the won-ders
 which an-gels long to see.

2. The gospel of salvation
 God has to us revealed,
 and we, the Word believing,
 were with the Spirit sealed.
 What none had seen or heard of
 has been to us declared;
 what no man had imagined
 God has for us prepared.

Hymn 46

3. Led by the Ho-ly Spi-rit,
our flesh we cru-ci-fy;
in Him shall we find free-dom
as un-to sin we die.
O Spir-it, by Your pow-er
our faith-ful-ness in-crease,
and reap in us Your har-vest
of love and joy and peace.

4. When we cry, "Abba! Father!"
the Spirit witness bears
that God made us His children
and we, with Christ, are heirs.
The Spirit, as the first fruits
of glorious liberty,
helps us await with patience
what we do not yet see.

HYMN 47

Formerly Hymn 38

The Spirit, Sent from Heaven Above

Winchester New

Hamburg, 1690

1. The Spir-it, sent from heaven a-bove,
shows us the way of truth and love.
The Prom-ised One dwells in our hearts;
He light and life to us im-parts.

2. He on the church of Christ our Lord
His many varied gifts outpoured,
that, without pride or malice, we
might one another's members be.
3. The Spirit, knowing all our needs,
perfects our prayers and intercedes
for us, who cannot on our own
gain access to God's holy throne.
4. He is Himself the guarantee
that we shall be forever free
when Christ returns on His great Day.
"O come, Lord Jesus, come," we pray.


HYMN 48

Formerly August Hymn 8

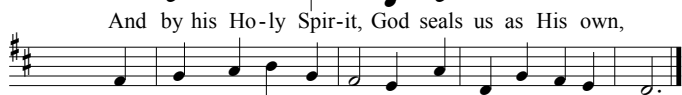
The Spirit Came, as Promised

Befiehl du deine wege

Johannes G. Bastiaans, 1868



1. The Spir-it came, as prom-ised, in God's ap-point-ed hour;
and now to each be-liev-er He comes in love and power.



And by his Ho-ly Spir-it, God seals us as His own,
and through the Son and Spir-it makes ac-cess to His throne.

2. The Spirit makes our bodies the temple of the Lord.
He binds us all together in faith and true accord.
The Spirit in His greatness brings power from God above,
and with the Son and Father dwells in our hearts in love.
3. He bids us live together in unity and peace;
employ His gifts in blessing, and let base passions cease.
We should not grieve the Spirit by open sin or shame,
nor let our words and actions deny His holy name.
4. The Word, the Spirit's weapon, will bring all sin to light;
and prayer, by His directing, will give new joy and might.
Be filled then with His Spirit, live out God's will and Word;
rejoice with hymns and singing, make music to the Lord.

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HYMN 49


Formerly Hymn 39

O Faithful is This Well-known Word

II Timothy 2:11-13

Christe, qui lux es et dies

Verona, 11th c.



1. O faith-ful is this well-known word:
If we have died with Christ our Lord,
we'll al- so live with Him a- gain;
His tri-umph shall not be in vain.

2. If we endure, so Christ has said,
we'll also reign with Him, our Head.
If we on earth His name betray,
He will disown us on His Day.
3. If we are faithless and we stray,
He faithful will remain for aye,
for He cannot Himself deny.
On Christ our Saviour we rely.

HYMN 50

Formerly Hymn 40

Hymn 50

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

1. The church's one foun-da-tion
is Je-sus Christ her Lord;
she is His new cre-a-tion
by wa-ter and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her
to be His ho-ly bride;
with His own blood He bought her
and for her life He died.

2. Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.

3. Though with a scornful wonder
men see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, "How long?"
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.
4. Mid toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.
5. Yet, she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and under His dominion
have saints their triumphs won.
They us in our endeavour
here like a cloud surround
till we, with them, forever
shall be with glory crowned.

HYMN 51

Formerly Hymn 41

Hymn 51

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Ein Feste Burg

Martin Luther, 1529

1. A might-y for-tress is our God,
a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing;
our Help-er He, a-mid the flood
of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.
For still our an-cient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cru-el hate.
On earth is not his e-qual.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth His name,
from age to age the same,
and He must win the battle.
3. And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.
4. That word above all earthly powers –
no thanks to them – abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill,
God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.

HYMN 52

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Psalms 90:1-6

Formerly Hymn 42

Hymn 52

St. Anne

William Croft, 1708

1. O God, our help in a-ges past,
our hope for years to come,
our shel-ter from the storm-y blast,
and our e-ter-nal home.

2. Under the shadow of Thy throne
the saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is Thy arm alone,
and our defence is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.
4. Thy Word commands our flesh to dust,
"Return, ye sons of men";
all nations rose from earth at first,
and turn to earth again.
5. A thousand ages in Thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

6. The busy tribes of flesh and blood
with all their lives and cares
are carried downwards by Thy flood
and lost in following years.
7. Like flowery fields the nations stand
pleased with the morning light;
the flowers beneath the mower's hand
lie withering ere 'tis night.
8. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be Thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

HYMN 53

Formerly Hymn 43

Hymn 53

Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

Was mein Gott will

Claudin de Sermisy, 1529

1. Who trusts in God, a strong a-bode
in heaven and earth pos-sess-es;
who looks in love to Christ a-bove,
no fear his heart op-press-es.
In Thee a-lone, O Lord, we own
our hope and con-so-la-tion,
our shield from foes, our balm for woes,
our great and sure sal-va-tion.

2. Though Satan's wrath beset our path
and worldly scorn assail us,
while Thou art near, we will not fear;
Thy strength shall never fail us.
Thy rod and staff shall keep us safe
and guide our steps forever;
no shades of death, nor hell beneath
Thy people from Thee sever.

3. In all the strife of mortal life
our feet shall stand securely;
temptation's hour shall lose its power,
for Thou shalt guard us surely.
O God, each day direct our way;
renew us by Thy Spirit
until we stand at Thy right hand
through Jesus' saving merit.

HYMN 54

Formerly Hymn 45

Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep

Song 13

Orlando Gibbons, 1623

1. Lov-ing Shep-herd of Thy sheep,
all Thy lambs in safe-ty keep.
Noth-ing can Thy power with-stand;
none can pluck them from Thy hand.

2. May they praise Thee every day,
gladly all Thy will obey;
like Thy blessèd ones above,
happy in Thy precious love.
3. Loving Shepherd, ever near,
teach Thy lambs Thy voice to hear;
suffer not their steps to stray
from the straight and narrow way.
4. Where Thou leadest may they go,
walking in Thy steps below;
then, before Thy Father's throne,
Saviour, claim them for Thine own.

HYMN 55

Formerly Hymn 44

Come, Take by Faith the Body of the Lord

Avec les tiens

Geneva, 1562

1. Come, take by faith the bod-y of the Lord,
and drink the blood of Christ, for us out-poured.
Praise and con-fess the won-ders of His grace:
to res-cue us, He suf-fered in our place.
Led to the slaugh-ter as the Lamb of God,
our Sav-iour bought us with His pre-cious blood.
Re-mem-ber how He bore our curse and shame;
un-til He comes, let us His death pro-claim.

2. Come, let us then with contrite hearts draw near
to seek the pledges of His mercy here.
He who His saints in this world rules and shields
to all believers life eternal yields,
with heavenly bread makes those who hunger whole,
gives living waters to the thirsty soul.
Let us His holy supper celebrate
and, so refreshed, our coming King await.

HYMN 56

Formerly August Hymn 10

Hymn 56

Until He Comes

Almsgiving

John B. Dykes, 1865

The musical notation consists of four staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a 3/4 time signature. The second and third staves are in bass clef. The melody is written on the first staff, and the bass line is written on the second and third staves. The lyrics are written below the staves.

1. By Christ re - deemed, in Christ re - stored,

Him who was cursed, we now a - dore,

and mark the death of our dear Lord,

un - til He comes.

2. His body, offered in our stead,
is shown in this memorial bread,
and thus our contrite souls are fed,
until He comes.
3. His lifeblood shed for us we see
poured out for us, undoubtedly,
as wine we drink in memory,
until He comes.
4. Thus, by His suffering Christ achieved
that we the Spirit have received,
and unity, as brothers, gained,
until He comes.
5. When soon the final trumpet's heard
and all the ancient graves are stirred,
then, with the great commanding word,
the Lord shall come.

6. Then, once again, we'll celebrate.
Let not our hearts be desolate,
but strong in faith, in patience wait,
until He comes.

HYMN 57

Formerly Hymn 46

We Thank You, Father, Who Have Planted

Daar is uit's werelds duistere wolken

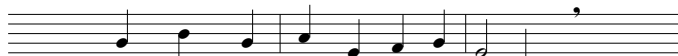
Johannes G. Bastiaans, 1868



1. We thank You, Fa-ther, who have plant-ed



Your ho-ly Name with-in our hearts.



True knowl-edge, faith, and life im-mor-tal



Je-sus Your Son to us im-parts.



You, Lord, have made all for Your pleas-ure;



You gave man food for all his days,



giv-ing in Christ the Bread e-ter-nal.



Yours is the power, Yours be the praise.

2. Watch o'er Your church, O Lord, in mercy;
save it from evil, guard it still.
Perfect it in Your love, unite it,
cleansed and conformed unto Your will.
As grain, once scattered on the hillsides,
was in the broken bread made one,
so from all lands Your church be gathered
into Your kingdom by Your Son.

HYMN 58

Formerly Augment Hymn 9

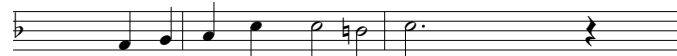
For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Omni Die

David G. Corner, 1631



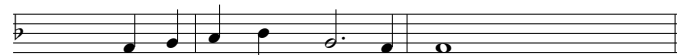
1. For the bread which You have bro-ken,



for the cup You gave, O Lord;



for the words which You have spo-ken,



now we give You thanks, O Lord.

2. By this promise that You love us,
by Your gift of peace restored,
by Your call to heaven above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.
3. In Your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch, O Lord.
In the world to which You send us,
let Your Kingdom come, O Lord.

HYMN 59

Formerly Hymn 47

Hymn 59

The Lord's Prayer

Vater Unser

Leipzig, 1539

1. Our Fa-ther, great in maj-es-ty,
en-throned in heaven e-ter-nal-ly,
with child-like trust we seek Your face,
re-ly-ing on Your love and grace.
In faith and rev-erence we draw near
for You, in Christ, our prayer will hear.

2. Your name be hallowed and adored.
Teach us to know You from Your Word
and from Your glorious works and ways,
that we might offer You our praise.
May our whole life enhance Your fame,
that others, too, might praise Your name.
3. Lord, may Your kingdom come with haste;
lay Satan's dark domain to waste.
May You so rule us by Your Word
that we acknowledge You as Lord.
Preserve Your church, make her complete
until all worship at Your feet.

4. O Father, may Your will be done
on earth below by everyone.
May we deny our wilful way,
and, without murmuring, You obey.
In all our duties, Lord, may we,
like heaven's angels, faithful be.
5. Give us this day our daily bread,
that we may from Your hand be fed.
In all the work we need to do
remind us to depend on You,
not trusting creatures here below,
but You from whom all blessings flow.
6. Do not our sins and debts record,
but freely pardon them, O Lord.
Cleanse us from all our wretchedness
through Christ, whose blood was shed for us –
as, prompted by the grace You give,
our neighbours' debts we, too, forgive.
7. Into temptation lead us not,
lest we in Satan's snares be caught.
Uphold us by Your Spirit's might;
put mortal enemies to flight.
May we against our foes contend
and be victorious in the end.
8. Yours is the kingdom, Yours the might,
and Yours alone the glory bright!
All this we ask of You, our King,
for You are Lord of everything
in this age and eternally.
Amen, Amen, so shall it be!

HYMN 60

Formerly Hymn 49

What Is in Life and Death My Only Aid
Lord's Day 1 of the Heidelberg Catechism

Misericorde

Geneva, 1562

1. What is in life and death my on-ly aid,
my com-fort when I am by trou-bles swayed?
I am not mine but Christ's, who full-y paid
for all my sins and saved me.
His pre-cious blood for my of-fen-ces gave He,
freed me from all the dev-il's power and slav-ery,
for in the book of life God did en-grave me,
and me His own He made.

2. My faithful Saviour keeps me in His care;
without my Father's will cannot a hair
fall from my head; He shall for me prepare
a heavenly habitation.
All things must serve to further my salvation.
His Holy Spirit brings me consolation;
He makes me willing now with dedication
in hope His yoke to bear.

HYMN 61

Formerly Hymn 48

If You But Let the Father Guide You

Wer nur den lieben Gott

Georg Neumark, 1657

1. If you but let the Fa-ther guide you,
re-ly-ing on His faith-ful-ness,
He will be ev-er-more be-side you
in all your sor-row and dis-tress.
He who on God Most High de-pends
builds not his house on shift-ing sands.

2. Will anxious care or bitter sighing
at any time give true relief?
And what avails us our decrying
each morning's evil, trouble, grief?
We only add to grief and stress
by discontent and bitterness.

3. Be still! What God in His good pleasure
to you in wisdom may impart
is given you in perfect measure;
thus be content within your heart.
To Him who chose us for His own
our needs and wants are surely known.

- With song and prayer, in faith progressing,
in all you do God's will obey.
Expect from Him alone your blessing:
He will renew it every day,
for God will never those disown
who put their trust in Him alone.

HYMN 62

Formerly Augment Hymn 17

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

William M. Runyan, 1923

1. Great is Thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther;
there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;
Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
as Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.

- Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

- Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow –
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain (may be sung after last stanza only):

Great is Thy faith-ful-ness! Great is Thy faith-ful-ness!
Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;
all I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm,
Music: William M. Runyan,
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HYMN 63

Formerly Hymn 50

Hymn 63

Come, Lord Jesus! Maranatha!

Lauda Anima

John Goss, 1869

1. "Come, Lord Je-sus! Ma-ra-na-tha!"
pray the Spir-it and the Bride.
Come up-on the clouds of heav-en
with Your an-gels at Your side.
Ma-ra-na-tha! Come, Lord Je-sus!
ev-er-more with us a-bide.

2. Come, O Lord, with power and glory
and descend before our eyes
when the sounding of the trumpet
shall re-echo through the skies
and the voice of Your archangel
shall command the dead to rise.
3. When the sky is rent asunder
and Your face we shall behold,
when to every tongue and nation
You Your judgment will unfold,
death will be completely vanquished,
as Your Holy Word foretold.

4. Call the dead! Let them bear witness
to Your rule, O Lord renowned.
Call those once forced into silence,
those who once were judged unsound.
Lift up all who were downtrodden;
let them be with honour crowned.
5. When the tombs at last break open
and the throngs from far and near,
gathering in Your holy city,
in Your festal hall appear,
Lord, let us then not be missing,
though we're often tardy here.
6. Then let Your refining Spirit
us with flaming zeal endue.
May we wait with eager longing
for Your promise to come true
when You, Lord, with fire from heaven
all creation will renew.
7. No one knows the day or moment
when the Bridegroom shall appear.
Let us then be ever watchful;
may our lamps be bright and clear.
Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!
Your great Day is drawing near.

HYMN 64

Jesus Is Our Sure Defence
I Corinthians 15:35-58

Formerly Hymn 51

Hymn 64

Jesus, meine Zuversicht

Johann Crüger, 1653

1. Je-sus is our sure de-fence.
Why should we then fear or wav-er?
All our hope and con-fi-dence
rests on Him, the ris-en Sav-iour.
E-ven in our dark-est hour
He will shield us with His power.

2. We are flesh and must return
to the dust whence we were taken,
but we from the Scriptures learn
that from death we shall awaken:
We like buried seed that dies
shall unto new life arise.
3. What into the earth we sow,
standing at the graveside grieving,
is the seed that soon will grow,
glory from our God receiving.
He to every grain here sown
gives a body of its own.

4. What is weak and mortal here,
prey to illness and destruction,
shall with glorious power appear
in the hour of resurrection.
What today is sown disgraced
in great honour shall be raised.
5. God His own shall glorify
in a wondrous transformation:
Though not all of us may die,
all shall gain their full salvation
in the twinkling of an eye
when the Lord comes from on high.
6. When we hear the trumpet's sound
and the dead are raised immortal,
we shall see with joy profound
how the grave must serve as portal
leading past all woe and strife
into everlasting life.
7. Then the word shall be fulfilled,
once by ancient prophets spoken:
"See how Satan's might is quelled,
how the power of death lies broken.
Where, O death, is now your sting?"
Christ has conquered! He is King!
8. To our God be thanks and praise:
He through Christ made us victorious.
Be then steadfast all your days;
see how death's defeat assures us
that in Him who comes again
all your toil is not in vain.

HYMN 65

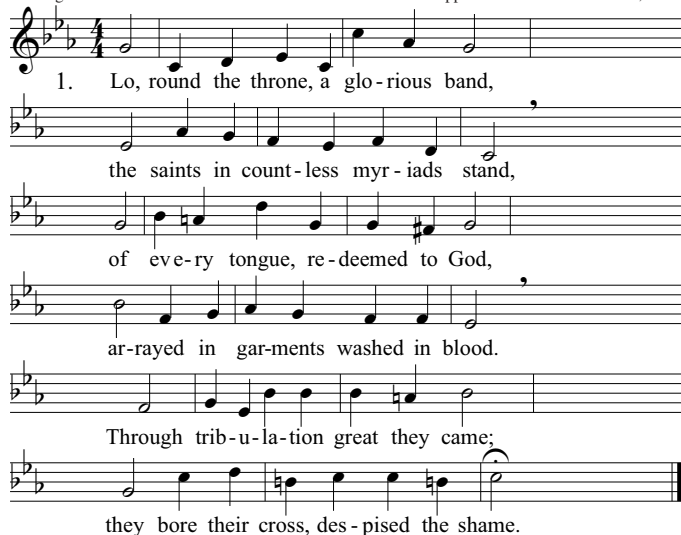
Lo, Round the Throne, a Glorious Band

Revelation 7:13-15 and 5:9-10

Formerly Hymn 52

Folkingham

Supplement to the New Version, 1708



1. Lo, round the throne, a glo-rious band,
the saints in count-less myr-iads stand,
of eve-ry tongue, re-deemed to God,
ar-rayed in gar-ments washed in blood.
Through trib-u-la-tion great they came;
they bore their cross, des-pised the shame.

2. From all their labours now they rest,
in God's eternal glory blest.
They see their Saviour face to face,
and sing the triumphs of His grace;
Him day and night they ceaseless praise,
to Him the loud thanksgiving raise:
3. "Worthy the Lamb, for sinners slain,
through endless years to live and reign;
Thou hast redeemed us by Thy blood,
and made us kings and priests to God."
O may we wage the glorious strife,
and win, like them, the crown of life.

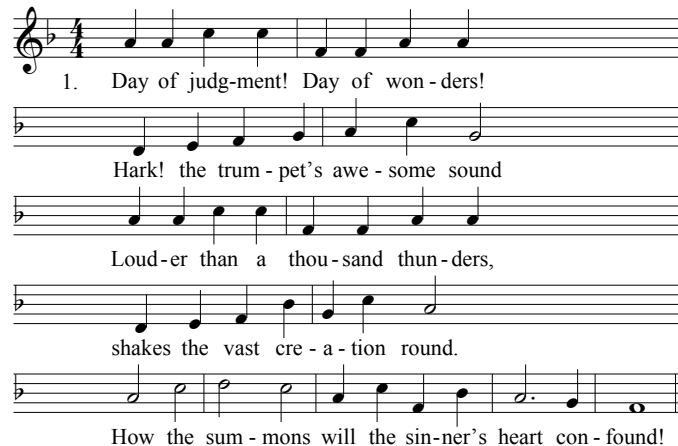
HYMN 66

Day of Judgment! Day of Wonders

Formerly Augment Hymn 19

Coronae

William H. Monk, 1871



1. Day of judg-ment! Day of won-ders!
Hark! the trum-pet's awe-some sound
Loud-er than a thou-sand thun-ders,
shakes the vast cre-a-tion round.
How the sum-mons will the sin-ner's heart con-found!

2. See the Judge, our nature wearing,
clothed in majesty divine;
you who long for His appearing
then shall say, "This God is mine!"
Gracious Saviour, own me in that day as Thine.
3. At His call the dead awaken,
rise to life from earth and sea;
all the evildoers, shaken
by His looks, prepare to flee.
Careless sinner, what will then become of thee?
4. But to those who have confessèd,
loved and served the Lord below,
He will say, "Come near, you blessèd,
see the kingdom I bestow;
you forever shall My love and glory know."

HYMN 67

Formerly Hymn 53

The Hope of Faith Shall Not Deceive Us

Rendez à Dieu

Geneva, 1543/1551



1. The hope of faith shall not de-ceive us;
the Sav-iour's words are true and sure.
Our friends on earth may fail and leave us,
but Je-sus' faith-ful-ness en-dures.
Who lim-its His do-min-ion ev-er?
He rules cre-a-tion from on high;
all that His love and grace en-deav-our
shall Him His pow-er not de-ny.

2. That hope must soften all our sorrow.
Come, fellow-pilgrims, heads then high;
for those who bide salvation's morrow
the hills are level, seas are dry.
O blessedness above all measure,
O joy when once all grief is banned.
There is our heart, there is our treasure,
when we are in the Promised Land.

HYMN 68

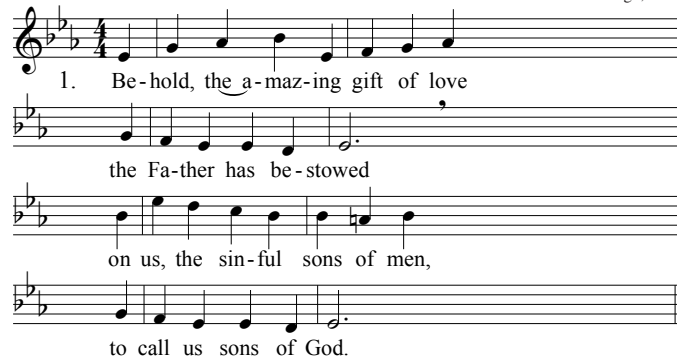
Formerly Hymn 54

Behold the Amazing Gift of Love

I John 3:1-3

Dundee

Edinburgh, 1615



1. Be-hold, the a-maz-ing gift of love
the Fa-ther has be-stowed
on us, the sin-ful sons of men,
to call us sons of God.

2. Concealed as yet this honour lies;
'tis to the world unknown,
for this world knew not Him who came
as God's eternal Son.
3. We are God's children here and now,
for He made us His own,
but what we shall hereafter be,
that He has not yet shown.
4. We know that when our Lord appears,
then we like Him shall be,
for then His face, Him as He is,
we shall in glory see.
5. Now everyone who has this hope,
which rests in Him secure,
from evil purifies himself
as He, our Lord, is pure.

HYMN 69

Formerly Hymn 55

Hymn 69

Lo, What a Glorious Sight Appeared

Revelation 21:1-8

St. Matthew

William Croft, 1708

1. Lo, what a glo-ri-ous sight ap-peared
be-fore ad - mir - ing eyes:
The for - mer seas had passed a - way,
the for - mer earth and skies.
From heaven the new Je - ru - salem came,
for Christ as bride pre-pared.
A voice re-sound - ing from the throne
these won - drous things de - clared:

2. “Now God in glory down to men
has moved His blest abode.
He dwells with them; His people they,
and He His people’s God.
His gracious hand shall wipe the tears
from every weeping eye,
for pain and grief shall be no more,
and death itself shall die.”

3. The One who sat upon the throne
said, “I make all things new!
Write down the words that you have heard,
for they are firm and true.
It is all done! Lo, by My power
is paradise restored.
I am the First, and I the Last,
the one eternal Lord.
4. “Come, all who thirst! To you I will
my healing waters give.
Drink from My fountain without price
and so forever live.
Blest is the man who, conquering,
his heritage has won,
for I will be his faithful God,
and he shall be My son.
5. “As for the vile and faithless ones,
those who My will defy,
they, flung into the burning lake,
the second death shall die.”
We, too, shall stand before the throne;
then shall our names be found
recorded in the book of life.
How shall our joy abound!

HYMN 70

Formerly Hymn 56

Hymn 70

Our Outer Nature Wastes Away

II Corinthians 4:16-5:5

Melita

John B. Dykes, 1861



1. Our out-er na-ture wastes a-way;
yet in-ward-ly, from day to day,
we are in You re - newed, O Lord.
Our suff-ering here is soon en-dured:
The har-vest it for us pre-pares
by far out-weighs our woes and cares.

2. A weight of glory, unsurpassed,
will then be ever ours at last,
for we find no security
in things that with our eyes we see;
for what is seen will fade away,
what is unseen will not decay.
3. We know that if our earthly tent
falls to the ground, all worn and rent,
our God as gift to us extends
a heavenly house not made with hands,
a building steadfast and secure
that will eternally endure.

4. The Spirit we as pledge possess
of everlasting blessedness.
So let us of good courage be;
our God Himself will make us free.
Let it be here and now our aim
to please Him and exalt His name.

HYMN 71

Formerly Hymn 57

Hymn 71

Thank the Lord and Come with Praise

St. George's Windsor

George Job Elvey, 1858

1. Thank the Lord and come with praise;
songs of ju-bi-la-tion raise
when the crop is gath-ered in
ere the win-ter storms be-gin.
God, our Mak-er, will pro-vide
for our wants to be sup-plied.
Let His peo-ple all con-fess
His un-chang-ing faith-ful-ness.

2. All this world is God's own field,
fruit unto His praise to yield –
wheat and tares, together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade and then the ear,
then shall golden grain appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
pure and wholesome wheat may be.

3. For the Son of Man shall come
and shall take His harvest home.
From His field He shall that Day
all offences purge away,
give His angels charge at last
into fire the tares to cast
but the fruitful grain to store
in His garner evermore.
4. Lord, we pray Thee, quickly come;
bear Thy final harvest home.
Gather Thou Thy people in,
freed from sorrow, freed from sin.
They, forever purified,
in Thy presence will abide.
Come with all Thy angels, come;
bear Thy glorious harvest home.

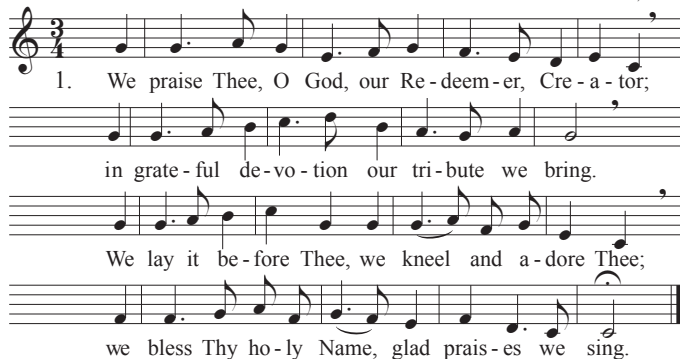
HYMN 72

Formerly Hymn 59

We Praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator

Kremsler

Haarlem, 1626



1. We praise Thee, O God, our Re-deem-er, Cre-a-tor;
in grate-ful de-vo-tion our tri-bute we bring.
We lay it be-fore Thee, we kneel and a-dore Thee;
we bless Thy ho-ly Name, glad prais-es we sing.

2. We worship Thee, God of our fathers, we bless Thee;
through life's storm and tempest our Guide hast Thou been.
When perils o'ertake us, escape Thou wilt make us,
and with Thy help, O Lord, our battles we win.
3. With voices united our praises we offer;
to Thee, great Deliverer glad anthems we raise.
Thy strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us;
to Thee, our great Redeemer, fore'er be praise.

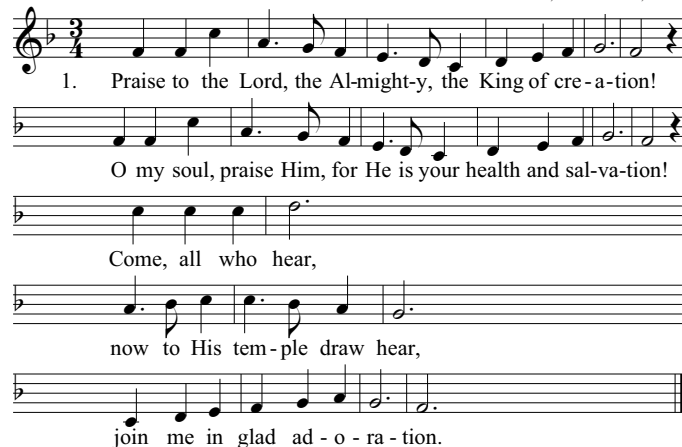
HYMN 73

Formerly Hymn 60

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe den Herren

Stralsund, 1665 / Halle, 1741



1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-a-tion!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and sal-va-tion!
Come, all who hear,
now to His tem-ple draw near,
join me in glad ad-o-ra-tion.

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning,
sheltering you under His wings, oh, so gently sustaining!
Have you not seen
all that is needful has been
sent by His gracious ordaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you.
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew
what the Almighty will do;
He with His love will befriend you.
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
sound from His people again.
Gladly forever adore Him!

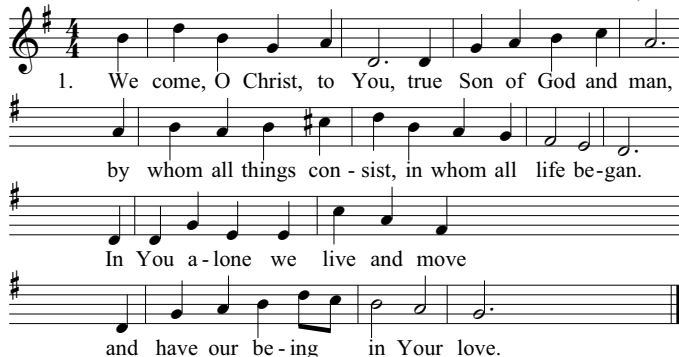
HYMN 74

Formerly August Hymn 1

We Come, O Christ, to You

Eastview

James V. Lee, 1959



1. We come, O Christ, to You, true Son of God and man,
by whom all things con - sist, in whom all life be-gan.
In You a-lone we live and move
and have our be-ing in Your love.

2. You are the Way to God, Your blood our ransom paid;
in You we face our Judge and Maker unafraid.
Before the throne absolved we stand;
Your love has met Your law's demand.
3. You are the living truth; all wisdom dwells in You,
the source of every skill, the one eternal True!
O great I AM! in You we rest,
sure answer to our every quest.
4. You only are true life – to know You is to live
the more abundant life that earth can never give.
O risen Lord! we live in You:
in us each day Your life renew!
5. We worship You, Lord Christ, our Saviour and our King;
to You our youth and strength adoringly we bring:
so fill our hearts that all may view
Your life in us and turn to You!

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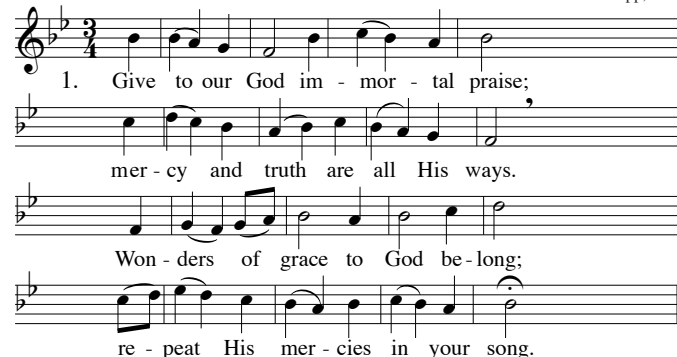
HYMN 75

Formerly Hymn 61

Give to Our God Immortal Praise

Wareham

William Knapp, 1738



1. Give to our God im - mor - tal praise;
mer - cy and truth are all His ways.
Won - ders of grace to God be-long;
re - peat His mer - cies in your song.

2. Give to the Lord of lords renown;
the King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure,
when lords and kings are known no more.
3. He built the earth, He spread the sky,
and fixed the starry lights on high.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat His mercies in your song.
4. He fills the sun with morning light;
He bids the moon direct the night.
His mercies ever shall endure,
when sun and moon shall shine no more.
5. He sent His Son with power to save
from guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat His mercies in your song.

Hymn 75

6. He through this world will guide His own,
and lead us to His ho - ly throne.
His mer - cies ev - er shall en - dure,
when this dark world shall be not more.

HYMN 76

Formerly Augment Hymn 26

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Azmon

Carl G. Gläser, 1828

1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing
my great Re - deem - er's praise,
the glo - ries of my God and King,
the tri - umphs of His grace!

Hymn 76

2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad,
the honours of Your name.
3. The name of Jesus calms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music to the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.
4. He breaks the power of reigning sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood avails for me.
5. He speaks, and, listening to His voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful broken hearts rejoice;
the humble poor believe.
6. Hear Him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
your loosened tongues employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour come;
and leap, you lame, for joy!
7. To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heaven.

HYMN 77


Formerly Hymn 62

Hymn 77

All Glory Be to Thee, Most High

Allein Gott in der Höh

Nikolaus Decius, 1539



1. All glo-ry be to Thee, Most High,
to Thee all ad - o - ra - tion;
in grace and truth hast Thou drawn nigh
to grant us Thy sal - va - tion.
Thou show - est Thy good will to men,
and peace shall reign on earth a - gain;
we praise Thy Name for - ev - er.

2. We praise Thee and in Thee we trust;
we give Thee thanks forever,
O Father, for Thy rule is just
and wise, and changes never.
Thy hand almighty o'er us reigns;
Thou doest what Thy will ordains.
'Tis well for us Thou rulest.

3. O Jesus Christ, our God and Lord,
Son of the heavenly Father,
O Thou, who hast our peace restored,
the straying sheep dost gather;
Thou Lamb of God, to Thee on high
out of the depths we sinners cry:
Have mercy on us, Jesus!
4. O Holy Spirit, precious Gift,
Thou Comforter unfailing,
from Satan's snare our souls uplift,
and let Thy power, availing,
avert our woes and calm our dread.
For us the Saviour's blood was shed;
we trust in Thee to keep us.

HYMN 78

I'll Thank Thee, O My God and Saviour
Evensong

Formerly Hymn 63

Die Tugend wird durchs Kreuz geübet

Halle, 1704

1. I'll thank Thee, O my God and Sav-iour,
and praise Thee in my e-ven-song.
The sun may set, but Thy great fa-vour
shalt Thou through dark-est night pro-long.
Thy help and grace were ev-er near us;
more than a fa-ther didst Thou care.
Thou Fount of bless-ing, Thou dost hear us;
Thy won-drous mer-cies I de-clare.

2. I know in whom my hope is founded
through ever-changing day and night.
Thou hast me with Thy love surrounded;
Thou art my Rock, I trust Thy might.
When once life's evening veils enshroud me,
I'll bring, though worn by ills and strife,
for every day Thou hast allowed me
Thee higher praise, O God of life!

HYMN 79

Ye Servants of God

Formerly Hymn 64

Lyons

J. Michael Haydn, 1770

1. Ye serv-ants of God,
your Mas-ter pro-claim,
and pub-lish a-broad
His won-der-ful Name;
the Name all vic-to-ri-ous
of Je-sus ex-tol;
His king-dom is glo-ri-ous
and rules o-ver all.

2. God ruleth on high,
almighty to save;
and still He is nigh –
His presence we have.
The great congregation
His triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation
to Jesus, our King.

Hymn 79

3. Sal - va - tion to God,
who sits on the throne!
Let all cry a - loud
and hon - our the Son;
the prais - es of Je - sus
the an - gels pro - claim,
fall down on their fac - es
and wor - ship the Lamb.

4. Then let us adore,
and give Him His right,
all glory and power,
and wisdom and might,
all honour and blessing,
with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing
for infinite love.

HYMN 80

Formerly Hymn 65

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun danket alle Gott

Johann Crüger, 1648

1. Now thank we all our God
with hearts, and hands, and voic - es,
who won - drous things has done,
in whom His world re - joic - es;
who from our moth - ers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with count - less gifts of love,
and still is ours to - day.

2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in His grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
of this world in the next.

Hymn 80

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3. All praise and thanks to God
the Fa-ther now be giv-en,
the Son, and Him who reigns
with Them in high-est heaven,
the one e-ter-nal God,
whom earth and heaven a-dore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be ev-er - more.

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27	1706, Isaac Watts; revised and supplemented	1529, Martin Luther, translated by Frederick H. Hedge, 1852
28	1523, Paul Speratus, composite translation, 1910; altered	52
29	ca. 820, Theodulph of Orleans, translated by John M. Neale, 1854; altered	1719, Isaac Watts
30	1524, Martin Luther, translated by Richard Massie, 1854; altered	53
31	1863, John S. B. Monsell; adapted and revised	1573, Joachim Magdeburg, translated by Benjamin Kennedy, 1863; altered
32	1739, Charles Wesley; altered	54
		1842, Jane E. Leeson; altered
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