

Sing Scripture

New Songs from Scripture in Metre

THIRD EDITION



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FOREWORD

This third edition of Sing Scripture is the culmination of four years' work by the Special Committee on Praise which was set up by the Free Church of Scotland Plenary Assembly of November 2010. Part of the Committee's remit was "to investigate, collect and, if necessary, prepare from within the resources of the Church appropriate portions of Scripture, other than the 150 Psalms, in a form which accurately renders the thought of the original and is suitable for singing in public worship." This remit was passed to the Psalmody and Praise Committee by the 2014 General Assembly and the work carried on by a sub-committee.

The Committee has made every effort to collect and prepare versions of Scripture passages which comply with the above criteria within the constraints of metre and rhyme, using well known metres. These songs differ from most other Scripture paraphrases and from Scripture-based hymns in that they attempt to represent the meaning of the selected Scripture portions as fully and accurately as possible without undue expansion or omission. Where expansion has been necessary for reasons of rhyme or metre, Scriptural truth from the context or from similar passages has been expressed. Some omissions were necessary for lyrical reasons, without distorting the overall meaning of the passage.

The length of the songs has been determined largely by the natural structure and length of the Scripture passages rendered. Convenient sections for singing are indicated at the foot of the longer songs. Appropriate tunes are recommended at the head of each song.

Following the pattern of the Psalms, the passages selected contain not only words of direct prayer to and praise of God, but also teaching about God's character, his dealings with us in providence and grace and our response to him. In singing these songs we show forth and extol the wonders of God's sovereign salvation in Christ by the Holy Spirit, bringing glory to him and instruction, comfort and assurance to his people.

To help in singing certain words where two syllables or two words should be sung in the time of one, the two syllables are underlined (e.g. trial in 61, stanza 5; In the in 32, stanza 2). Where there may be uncertainty as to how some words should be sung, elisions are marked with an apostrophe (e.g. cov'nant

and Isr'el in 9, stanza 1). Where a vowel which is normally silent has to be pronounced, it is marked with a grave accent (e.g. blessèd in 54, stanza 2).

This edition adds 23 new Scripture songs to the collection. An appendix has also been added containing two newly composed hymns about the covenant and baptism.

The Committee is grateful to those who have originated these and previous songs, which were then revised and edited by the Committee. Thanks are also due to those who have reviewed the songs and sent in helpful comments and suggestions.

Our prayer is that these portions of Scripture in verse will enrich our understanding of God's grace in Christ and will be used by God for his own glory.

Donald M MacDonald

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Messiah's birth foretold

34 Bishopthorpe, v 4-6 **72** Martyrs, **95** St Magnus

1. No longer will there be despair
for those who were distressed
In Zebulon and Naphtali,
by wicked foes oppressed.
2. For God had humbled them in wrath,
but he will set them free
And honour Gentile Galilee,
by Jordan and the sea.
3. The people who in darkness walked
have seen a glorious light,
For light has dawned on those who lived
in shadow of the night.
4. You spread the nation's borders wide
and made their joy abound;
Such joy is brought when harvest comes
or spoils of war are found.
5. For you have conquered all their foes,
destroyed their enemy;
You shattered their oppressor's yoke
and set your people free.
6. The soldier's boot designed for war,
the garment rolled in blood
Will all be fuel for the fire,
the burning wrath of God.

7. Because to us a child is born,
to us a son is given
And on his shoulders he will bear
the rule of earth and heaven.
8. Called Wonderful and Counsellor,
Almighty God is he;
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace
his name will ever be.
9. Long will he rule on David's throne,
his kingdom will increase
Without an end, and he will bring
an everlasting peace.
10. With justice and with righteousness
his reign he will fulfil;
The LORD Almighty in his zeal
will carry out his will.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-3 with 7-10)

The Messianic age

125 Petersham

1. The dry land and the wilderness
will burst forth into bloom
Like flowers that blossom in the spring,
with joy instead of gloom.
Like Sharon, Carmel, Lebanon
in glory they will shine;
They'll see the splendour of the LORD,
his majesty divine.
2. So strengthen now the feeble hands,
support the knees that fail
And say to those with fearful hearts,
"Be strong and do not quail:
Your God will surely come to you
with vengeance on all those
Whose sins deserve his punishment;
he'll save you from your foes."
3. Then will the blind eyes see again,
the deaf ears start to hear;
Then will the mute tongue sing for joy
and lame folk leap like deer.
With water in the wilderness
and streams in desert ground
The burning sand will be a pool
where bubbling springs are found.

4. Papyrus, grass and reeds will grow
 where jackals once held sway.
A mighty highway will be there,
 it's called the Holy Way;
No wicked fool, or unclean folk,
 will walk that holy ground;
No lion or ferocious beast
 will on that road be found.
5. But only the redeemed will walk
 the Way of Holiness;
The ransomed of the LORD will come
 back home with thankfulness.
They'll enter Zion with a song,
 eternal joy their crown;
Gladness and joy will fill their hearts,
 no grief will cast them down.

Comfort for God's people

254 St Catherine, **255** St Petersburg

1. Comfort my people, says your God.
Speak softly to Jerusalem.
Proclaim their sentence is complete,
God's punishment paid out to them
In double measure is received,
Their sinful guilt is now relieved.
2. A voice calls in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of God the LORD
And in the desert waste make straight
A royal highway for our God,
For every valley shall be raised
And every mount and hill abased.
3. The rough ground shall be levelled off,
The rugged place become a plain.
The glory of the LORD will be
Revealed to all mankind again,
Because the mouth of God, the LORD,
Has spoken and declared his word.
4. All people surely are like grass,
Their glory like the flowers that fall,
Because the LORD's breath blows on them:
This destiny awaits us all.
Grass withers and the flower decays,
But our God's word will stand always.

God's strength for the weak

49 Dunfermline, **83** St Anne

1. Why do you say, O Israel,
and why do you complain,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
I plead my cause in vain”?
2. Do you not know? Have you not heard?
Eternal is the LORD,
Creator of the earth and heavens
by his almighty word.
3. He will not weary or grow tired;
his mind is fathomless.
He strengthens weak and weary ones
and makes their power increase.
4. Young men may stumble and may fall,
they will grow tired at length;
But those who hope in God the LORD
will go from strength to strength.
5. They'll soar as if on eagles' wings`
and mount up ever higher;
They'll run and they will never faint,
they'll walk and never tire.

*The Servant of the LORD***130** St Matthew

1. "Here is my Servant," says the LORD,
 "in whom I take delight,
My chosen one, whom I uphold
 by my right hand of might.
My Spirit I will put on him
 and justice he'll bring forth
To all the nations of the world,
 all peoples of the earth.
2. "He will not argue in the streets,
 nor will he loudly shout;
A damaged reed he will not break
 or smould'ring wick snuff out.
He'll bring forth justice faithfully
 and he will not withdraw
Till justice on the earth is done
 and nations trust his law."
3. This is the word of God the LORD,
 Creator of the earth,
The heav'ns above and all in them;
 he gives all creatures breath:
"I've called you in my righteousness,
 I'll hold you by the hand
And give you as a covenant
 for people of the land,

4. "A light for nations of the world
to give the blind their sight,
To free the pris'ners and to give,
to those in darkness, light.
I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I'll not share.
The former things have come to pass,
new things I now declare."

God's promise of protection**229** Ebenezer, Dim ond Jesu (*Praise! 424*)

1. This is what the LORD our God says,
 he who formed you, Israel,
He who formed the line of Jacob,
 he who knows and loves you well:
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you,
 I have called you by your name;
You are mine, for I have saved you
 and have freed you from all blame.

2. “When you pass through deep flood waters,
 I’ll be with you all the way;
When you cross fast-flowing rivers,
 they will not sweep you away.
When you pass through fiery trials,
 in the fire don’t be afraid,
For the flames will not consume you;
 I’ll be there to give you aid.

3. “I’m the LORD, your God and Saviour,
 Holy One of Israel;
I give people for your ransom,
 nations and their lands as well.
For you are my precious treasure
 and on you I’ve set my love;
I have given you great honour
 from my holy place above.

4. "Do not fear, for I am with you,
I will bring your children home,
Gather them from all directions,
nevermore to stray or roam.
Bring to me my sons and daughters,
everyone who bears my name,
Whom I made for my own glory
and created for my fame."

The suffering Servant

37 Caithness, **41** Coleshill, **71** Martyrdom, **93** St Kilda

1. Behold the Servant of the LORD,
exalted to the sky!
Because in wisdom he will act,
he will be raised on high.
2. But many were appalled at him –
disfigured was his face,
His form more marred than anyone's
within the human race.
3. So, many nations will he cleanse
and kings will be struck dumb,
For they will hear and understand
new things when he has come.
4. Who has believed what we have said
or understood our word?
To whom on earth has been revealed
the strong arm of the LORD?
5. He grew up like a tender shoot,
a root from arid ground;
In him no majesty of form,
no beauty could be found.
6. Rejected and despised was he
in suffering and pain;
We hid our faces from the sight,
with horror and disdain.

7. But surely he took up our pains,
our sorrows he has borne;
Yet we esteemed him cursed by God,
afflicted, pierced and torn.
8. But for our sins he was condemned,
for our transgressions bruised;
He brought us healing, peace with God,
though wounded and abused.
9. We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
we wanted to be free;
And yet the LORD has laid on him
all our iniquity.
10. He was afflicted and oppressed,
yet not a word he said,
In silence like a sheep that's shorn
or lamb to slaughter led.
11. An unjust judgement he endured,
to death he was condemned.
Of his descendants who can speak?
He met a sinner's end.
12. He died along with wicked men;
with rich men was his grave.
Though innocent in word and deed,
he died our souls to save.
13. It was God's will to bruise his flesh;
he put his soul to grief,
And as an off'ring for our sins
from guilt he brings relief.

14. His offspring he will surely see
and live long in the land;
The perfect will of God the LORD
will prosper in his hand.

15. After his suff'ring he will see
light and be satisfied.
Believing that he died for sin,
we will be justified.

16. Because he bore his people's sins,
the LORD will make him great;
Because he died the sinner's death,
he'll victory celebrate.

17. For he has shed his precious blood
and suffered in our place;
The sins of many he has borne
and intercedes in grace.

(Convenient sections for singing are
verses 1-3, 4-8, 9-13, 14-17 OR 1-6, 7-12, 13-17)

God's will accomplished

154 Herongate, **160** Melcombe

1. Seek God while he is to be found,
Call on the LORD while he is near;
Let sinners leave their evil ways,
Forsake their thoughts, repent and hear.
2. So let them turn towards the LORD;
He will have mercy on them all,
For if they seek the LORD our God,
He'll freely pardon when they call.
3. "Because my thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways those of the LORD,
As heaven is high above the earth
My thoughts surpass your thoughts," says God.
4. "See how the rain and snow descend
And make the earth its harvest yield,
Providing bread for you to eat
And seed to scatter in the field.
5. "So is my word that I send forth,
For it will not return in vain;
It will accomplish my desire
And will fulfil my plan and aim."

The new covenant

259 Bunillidh, **263** Psalm 118 (9 8 9 8 D)

1. The LORD declared, "The time is coming
when a new cov'nant I will make
With Isr'el and the house of Judah,
to save them for my own name's sake.
2. "It will not be like the old covenant
with their forefathers long ago,
When I had led them out of Egypt
and given them my law to know.
3. "Although I was a husband to them
my covenant they disobeyed;
They disregarded my commandments,
though I was there to give them aid.
4. "But I will make with them this covenant:
I'll put my law within their mind
And write it on their heart forever;
to me their heart will be inclined.
5. "No longer will they teach their neighbours
and say to them, 'Come, know the LORD,'
Because all people then will know me,
as they will hear and trust my word.
6. "Yes, from the least up to the greatest,
on them my mercy I will pour;
I will forgive all their transgressions,
and will recall their sins no more."

*Restoration and renewal***228** Blaenwern

1. This is what the Sovereign LORD said
to the house of Israel,
“Not for yours, but for my name’s sake
I will bring you home to dwell,
Though among the many nations,
where I scattered you abroad,
You profaned my name by sinning
against me, the holy God.
2. “I will show my name is holy,
I, whom nations may despise,
I, the LORD God who is Sovereign,
will do this before their eyes:
I will bring you from the nations
home to live in your own land;
I will gather you and save you
with my own almighty hand.
3. “I will sprinkle you with water,
I will wash and make you clean
From rebellion and uncleanness
and idolatry obscene.
I will give you a new spirit,
I will give you a new heart;
I’ll remove your heart that’s stony
and a heart of flesh impart.

4. "I will put my Spirit in you,
that you may keep my decrees
And obey my laws and statutes,
for my cov'nant will not cease.
To the land I gave your fathers
I will bring you from abroad;
You will dwell there as my people,
I will always be your God.
5. "I'll deliver you from famine,
crops abundantly supply;
You will be disgraced no longer,
all your needs I'll satisfy.
You'll repent of all your evil
and detest your sin and shame.
I, the Sovereign LORD will do it
for the glory of my name."

*The mountain of the LORD***57** Glasgow

1. The mountain of God's holy place
in future days will stand
Above the highest of the hills
and mountains in the land.
2. To it the nations of the world
with joy will make their way:
"Come to the mountain of the LORD
and to his house," they'll say.
3. "God will instruct us in his ways
that we may walk in them."
The LORD will send his holy word
out from Jerusalem.
4. Between strong nations he will judge;
his verdict they will hear.
To ploughshares men shall beat the sword,
to pruning-hooks the spear.
5. The nations will not take up arms
or train for war again;
Then all will live at home in peace,
free from the fear of men.
6. This is the promise of the LORD,
whom nations may ignore,
But we will walk in his great name
now and for evermore.

What the LORD requires

259 Bunillidh, **260** Les Commandemens de Dieu

1. What shall I bring the LORD in worship,
as I approach Almighty God?
What sacrifices shall I offer
as I bow down before the LORD?
2. Will endless gifts secure his favour,
burnt sacrifices offered whole?
Or shall I offer up my firstborn
to cleanse transgression from my soul?
3. But what is good the LORD has showed you:
this is required by God the LORD,
That you act justly and love mercy
and humbly walk before your God.

*God brings the exiles home***221** Stuttgart, **222** Sussex

1. Sing the praise of God, O Zion;
 Israèl, lift up your voice!
May your hearts be glad and joyful,
 let Jerusalem rejoice!
2. For the LORD removed your judgement,
 put to flight your enemy;
Israel's King, the LORD, is with you
 and from fear will set you free.
3. So take courage, O Jerus'lem!
 Zion, do not be afraid,
For the LORD your God is with you,
 strong to save and give you aid.
4. He will be delighted in you,
 he will calm you with his love,
And rejoice in you with singing
 from his holy place above.
5. "I will take away the sorrow
 which attends your festal days,
For to you they are a burden,
 and a deep reproach always.
6. "I will deal with your oppressors
 and will save those who are lame;
I will gather all the exiles,
 giving praise instead of shame.

7. “I will bring you home from exile” –
thus the word of God the LORD –
“To be honoured by the nations,
when your fortunes are restored.”

*Jesus calls the weary***128** Resignation

1. Before the people Jesus said,
 "O Father, now to you,
The Lord of heaven and of earth,
 I give the thanks that's due;
To child-like hearts it was your will
 your secrets to reveal,
But from the wise and learned minds
 these matters to conceal.
2. "The Father gives all to the Son,
 by whom alone he's known;
The Son now chooses to reveal
 all that he has been shown.
So come to me all you who toil,
 by weariness oppressed;
Lay all your burdens now on me
 and I will give you rest.
3. "Take up my yoke and learn from me
 a meek and humble mind,
And so your weary, troubled souls
 relief and peace will find.
The yoke that I will place on you
 is easy, mild and fair;
The burden that I give to you
 will not be hard to bear."

*The Lord's Supper***166** Rockingham

1. The supper table being spread,
The Saviour of the world took bread;
He blessed it, giving thanks to heaven,
And broke it that it might be given.
2. "This is my body," Jesus said,
"Dear friends, receive and eat this bread."
Then, taking up a cup of wine,
He thanked and praised God for this sign.
3. "Each one of you this cup must share;
My covenant I here declare,
For in this cup my blood is given
That many may have sins forgiven.
4. "And after you have drunk this wine,
I'll taste no more fruit of the vine
Until I drink with you again
To celebrate my Father's reign."

*Good news of great joy***119** Winchester

1. While shepherds guarded all their flock
 near Bethlehem by night,
An angel of the Lord appeared
 in glorious heavenly light.
2. “Don’t be afraid!” he said to them,
 as terror gripped their mind;
“I bring good news which gives great joy
 to you and all mankind.
3. “To you in David’s town today
 is born, of David’s line,
The Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,
 and this shall be the sign:
4. “The new-born Baby you shall find
 to human view displayed,
All warmly wrapped in strips of cloth
 and in a manger laid.”
5. Then with the angel suddenly
 appeared a heavenly throng
Of angels giving praise to God,
 as they proclaimed in song:
6. “All glory be to God on high,
 while on the earth be peace;
To all on whom his favour rests
 his grace shall never cease.”

Jesus announces his mission

53 Evan, **62** Harington, **94** St Leonard (Smart)

1. Jesus returned to Galilee
filled with the Spirit's power.
He taught in all their synagogues;
his fame grew hour by hour.
2. In Nazareth, where he'd grown up,
and on the Sabbath day,
He went into the synagogue
in which he used to pray.
3. To read the Scriptures he stood up
and took Isaiah's scroll;
To find this passage he began
the parchment to unroll:
4. "I have the Spirit of the Lord,
for he anointed me
To preach the gospel to the poor
and set the prisoners free,
5. "To make blind people see again,
to free all those oppressed
And to proclaim God's favoured time,
the year the Lord has blessed."
6. He then went on to say to them,
"The Scripture written here
Has been fulfilled this very day,
as you can see and hear."

You must be born again

205 All For Jesus, **212** Love Divine, **211** Laus Deo

1. Jesus said to Nicodemus:
Truly I declare to you,
People cannot see God's kingdom
if they are not born anew.
2. This is how to gain an entrance
to God's kingdom here on earth:
People must be born of water
and the Spirit in new birth.
3. For the Spirit brings forth spirit,
flesh gives birth to flesh of men,
So my words should not surprise you,
that you must be born again.
4. For the wind blows where it pleases;
you may hear, but cannot tell
Where it comes from, where it's going;
so with Spirit birth as well.
5. Truly everything we tell you
is what we have seen and known,
But you still reject our witness,
all that we have said and done.
6. When I speak on earthly matters,
you do not believe my word.
When I teach you truth from heaven,
will you trust what you have heard?

7. None has ever entered heaven
but the one who came from there,
From the heights of heaven's glory;
he, the Son of Man, is here.
8. Just as Moses raised the serpent,
so must he be raised on high,
That whoever comes to trust him
will have life and never die.
9. God so loved this world of sinners
that he gave his only Son;
All who trust him shall not perish –
life eternal has begun.
10. God has sent his Son from heaven
to this world of shame and sin
Not to punish or condemn us,
but to save the world through him.
11. They are not condemned who trust him,
but those who have not believed
Stand condemned, because they have not
God's beloved Son received.
12. This is now their condemnation:
to this world has come the light;
But they have preferred the darkness,
for their actions are not right.
13. Those who live lives that are truthful
willingly come to the light,
Where their deeds are shown quite plainly
to depend on God's great might.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-8 and 9-13)

The Bread of Life

278 Chilton Foliat, **281** Ellers

1. "I am the bread of life," our Lord declared,
"Come and your hunger I will satisfy.
Believe in me and never thirst again –
Eternal living water I'll supply.
2. "Some who have seen me do not yet believe;
All whom my Father gives will come to me.
They'll surely come and trust in me alone;
Whoever comes I'll never drive away.
3. "I came from heaven not to do my will,
But that my Father's will I might obey:
Not one of those he's given will I lose,
But I will raise them up at the last day.
4. "For this is God the Father's will for me,
That all who look in faith to me, the Son,
Shall have the blessing of eternal life
And I will raise them when this age is done."

Jesus' words of comfort

221 Stuttgart, **217** St Andrew (Thorne)

1. Do not let your hearts be troubled,
let your hearts from care be free.
You believe in God the Father;
also now believe in me.
2. In my Father's house are many
dwelling-places for his own;
I am going to make ready
for each one of you a home.
3. If not so, I would have told you;
now I have to go away.
I'll return to bring you with me;
you will ever with me stay.
4. I'm the way that you must follow
and the truth and life alone.
No-one comes to God the Father
but through me, the only Son.
5. If you truly come to know me,
you would know my Father too;
But from now on you do know him,
for he has been seen by you.
6. Those who see me see the Father,
so how can you ever say,
"Show us now who is the Father?"
I've been with you every day.

7. Do you not believe my teaching
that the Father is in me
And that I am in the Father
now and for eternity?
8. All the words that I say to you
do not come from me alone,
But the Father, living in me,
does the work which is his own.
9. Now believe me when I tell you
that the Father is in me
And that I am in the Father;
trust me when his works you see.
10. Truly, all those who believe me
will do all the works I've done
And they will do even greater,
when I'm in my Father's home.
11. When you pray to God in heaven,
ask the Father in my name;
I will do all that you ask me
and his glory will proclaim.

(Convenient sections for singing are 1-4 and 5-11)

Jesus the true vine

201 Chalfont Park, **203** Orlington

1. "I am the true vine," Jesus said,
"My Father tends the vine:
The fruitless branch he cuts away,
He prunes the fruitful, that it may
produce more fruit in time.
2. "Now you already have been cleansed:
my word has been applied.
Remain in me, as I in you:
A branch cut off can bear no fruit;
in me you must abide.
3. "You are the branches, I the vine.
If you remain in me
And I in you, you'll bear much fruit;
Apart from me you have no root,
your life would fruitless be.
4. "If you do not remain in me
and if my word you've spurned,
You're like a branch that's thrown away:
It withers in the heat of day
and in the fire is burned.
5. "If you indeed remain in me
and if you keep my word,
All that you ask for will be given –
Much fruit to praise your God in heaven –
disciples of your Lord.

6. "Just as the Father has loved me,
so also I loved you.
Now in my love you must remain;
All my commands you must maintain
and to my love be true.
7. "As I obeyed my Father's will
and in his love remain,
So my commands you must obey
And in my love remain each day;
in you my joy will reign.
8. "So will your joy be made complete.
Now this is my command:
Love one another from the heart
As I have loved you from the start,
as God the Father planned.
9. "There is no greater love than this,
that one should for his friends
Lay down his life that they may live.
For you, my friends, my life I give;
now keep all my commands.
10. "No longer servants, you are friends.
A servant does not know
The private business of his lord;
But I've taught you my Father's word
and shown the way to go.
11. "You have not chosen me, my friends,
but I have chosen you
To bear much fruit that will remain;
Now ask the Father in my name
and what you ask he'll do."

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-5, 6-11)

Justification and reconciliation

27 Ayrshire, **59** Glenluce, **67** Kilmarnock, **83** St Anne

1. Because we have been justified
through faith in Jesus Christ,
We now have peace with God through him,
who has been sacrificed.
2. Through him we now have access to
this grace in which we stand
And we rejoice in this great hope:
God's glory is at hand!
3. Not only so, but we rejoice
in suffering and pain;
By this we learn to persevere,
and this will be great gain.
4. For as we persevere in life,
our characters will grow,
Producing in us Christian hope
and this we surely know:
5. This hope will never disappoint,
for God sent from above
His Holy Spirit in our hearts
to fill them with his love.
6. When we were weak and without strength,
at God's appointed hour
Christ died for the ungodly ones
to save them from sin's power.

7. It's rare for anyone to die
to save a righteous man,
Although to save a good man's life
there might just be someone.
8. But God has proved his love for us,
the sinful human race,
In that while we were still in sin,
Christ suffered in our place.
9. Now since we have been justified
by Jesus' precious blood,
Much more shall we be saved through him
from the just wrath of God.
10. As rebels we were reconciled
to God through his Son's death;
Now reconciled, we shall be saved
by Jesus' life through faith.
11. Moreover we rejoice in God
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Through whom we have been justified
and reconciled to God.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-5, 6-11)

Dead to sin, alive in Christ

32 Belmont, **61** Gräfenberg, **97** St Minver, **102** Salzburg

1. Shall we agree with those who say,
 "Since we are saved by grace,
Let us go on and sin the more,
 that grace may more increase"?
2. By no means, for we died to sin!
 So then how can it be
That we continue in our sin,
 its guilt and misery?
3. Do you not know that all of us
 who were baptised in Christ
Were also, by the grace of God,
 into his death baptised?
4. Thus, when baptised, we died with him
 and we were buried too,
So that, as he was raised to life,
 we rise to life anew.
5. For if we have been joined to him
 in death, so also we
Shall in his resurrection life
 be joined eternally.
6. And this we know, that our old self
 with him was crucified,
So that our sinful nature might
 be wholly nullified.

7. Therefore we should no longer live
within sin's slavery,
For everyone who died with Christ
from sin has been set free.
8. Now if we died with Jesus Christ,
with him we'll live and reign;
Since Christ has risen from the dead,
he cannot die again.
9. He died to sin once and for all
and broke sin's mastery;
So now he lives to God on high
through all eternity.
10. Thus count yourselves as dead to sin,
no longer in its power;
But rather be alive to God
in Jesus hour by hour.
11. So therefore do not let sin reign
in your life on the earth;
Do not give in to its desires –
resist them to the death!
12. And do not offer up yourselves
to sin and wickedness;
But rather give yourselves to God
to serve in righteousness.
13. You have been brought from death to life
and sin now has no place
To master you, because you are
not under law but grace.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-7, 8-13)

Life in the Holy Spirit

- v 1-3 St Theodulph (*Praise! 407*)
v 4-7 Passion Chorale (*Praise! 439*)
v 8-10 Day of Rest (*Praise! 677*)

1. There is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ,
Because our Saviour Jesus
for sin was sacrificed;
And now the living Spirit
from law has set us free –
The law of sin and dying –
to live eternally.
2. The law itself was powerless
to save us from our sin,
Because our human nature
is ruled by sin within.
But God himself has acted
by sending his own Son,
To die as a sin offering
and so the victory's won.
3. He came in human nature
and human sin condemned,
Because his life was perfect,
obedient to the end,
So that the law's requirements
in us are met in full,
As we live by the Spirit,
not under sin's dark rule.

4. Those who persist in living
by what the flesh requires
Have set their minds to follow
what sinful flesh desires;
But those led by the Spirit
live lives of righteousness
And set their minds to follow
the Spirit's holiness.
5. The mind of sinful nature
is death with no release;
The mind ruled by the Spirit
is life and health and peace.
The sinful mind opposes
God's law with all its might;
Controlled by sin, it cannot
please God or do what's right.
6. All those who have God's Spirit
are not controlled by sin,
But by the Holy Spirit,
who lives by faith within.
If anyone is lacking
Christ's Spirit in their heart,
They don't belong to Jesus;
in him they have no part.
7. If Christ indeed is in you,
your body dies through sin;
Your spirit lives because of
God's righteousness within.
Since God has raised up Jesus,
his Spirit lives in you
And to your mortal body
he will give life anew.

8. We have an obligation
that we the flesh deny,
For if we are ruled by it,
in sin we all will die;
But if the Spirit helps us
to put to death our sin,
We will have life eternal
and so the victory win.
9. All those led by God's Spirit
from sin have been set free;
We are God's sons and daughters,
freed from sin's slavery.
The Spirit of adoption
is given by the Lord
And we cry, "Abba, Father,"
as children of our God.
10. The Spirit testifies with
our spirits here on earth
That we are now God's children
by right of the new birth;
And if we are his children,
each one with Christ an heir,
We join now in his sufferings
and will his glory share.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-3, 4-7, 8-10)

*Present suffering, future glory***192** Crüger, Passion Chorale (*Praise!* **439**)

1. Our present grief and suff'rings
are not to be compared
With the eternal glory
that for us is prepared.
With eager expectation
of what is now concealed,
Creation longs to see us,
God's children thus revealed.
2. Creation now is subject
to ruin and decay,
For God has made it subject,
in hope that on that day
Creation will be freed from
corruption's slavery
And join with all God's children
in glorious liberty.
3. As in the pains of childbirth
the whole creation groans
With us who are awaiting
adoption as God's sons –
Redemption of our bodies
is what we long to see;
The firstfruits of the Spirit
are now our guarantee.

4. When we received salvation
 this hope became our own;
As yet we do not see it
 and so we wait and groan.
Though not yet our possession
 we hope expectantly
For our complete redemption
 and wait most patiently.

5. To help us in our weakness
 the Holy Spirit pleads;
We don't know what to pray for
 and so he intercedes.
With groans beyond expressing,
 God's purpose to fulfil,
He prays for all God's people
 according to God's will.

God's sovereign salvation**191** Aurelia, Morning Light (*Praise!* **45**)

1. We know that God works all things
his purpose to fulfil
For good to all who love him,
called in his perfect will;
These also were predestined –
foreknown by him each one –
To be conformed in likeness
to Jesus, God's own Son.
2. The Son became the firstborn
among his family
Of brothers and of sisters
to share his destiny.
All those God has predestined
he called and justified –
Gave them a righteous standing –
and also glorified.
3. What shall we say in answer?
If God is on our side,
Who then can be against us?
For Christ the Son has died!
And if God did not spare him,
but gave him for us all,
Will he not also give us
all things both great and small?

4. Who can bring accusations
against God's chosen ones?
Since God has justified them,
who is it that condemns?
For Christ has died to save them
and risen to life again;
At God's right hand in heaven
he intercedes for them.
5. Who then shall sever us from
the love of Christ our Lord?
Shall persecution, hardship,
or poverty or sword?
For God's sake – it is written –
we face death every day
Like sheep without protection,
for slaughter led away.
6. No, even in these sufferings
we're more than conquerors;
Through Jesus Christ who loved us
we fear no evil force.
We have this strong conviction
that's based upon God's word:
We cannot be cut off from
the love of Christ our Lord.
7. No angels, powers or demons,
not life or even death,
the present or the future
and neither height nor depth –
No power in all creation
can cut us off from God,
From his love that's eternal
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-3, 4-7)

The wisdom of God

213 Marching, **222** Sussex

1. Oh, the depth of all the riches
of God's wisdom, knowledge, grace!
How unsearchable his judgements
and his paths we cannot trace.
2. Who has known God's mind and purpose?
Who has given him advice?
Who has ever given to him
and received from him the price?
3. All things come from him and through him,
to him they return again;
So to him be all the glory
now and evermore! Amen.

Our true and proper service

Day of Rest (*Praise! 677*), St Theodulph, (*Praise! 407*)

1. In view of all God's mercies
 revealed in Jesus Christ,
To God present your bodies,
 a living sacrifice,
In holiness committed,
 well-pleasing to our God,
Your true and proper service
 and worship of the Lord.
2. And be conformed no longer
 to this world and its way;
Instead you must be transformed,
 your mind renewed each day,
For then you will be able
 to test and prove God's will
As pleasing, good and perfect,
 which he will yet fulfil.
3. You must not think more highly
 of self than how you ought,
But think with sober judgement,
 just as you have been taught,
According to the measure
 of faith that God has given
To you and each believer
 by grace sent down from heaven.

4. As in a human body
each member plays its part
In keeping with its function,
which God planned from the start,
So we make up, though many,
one body in the Lord,
Belonging to each other
according to his word.
5. The gifts we have are different,
depending on God's grace,
Which he has lavished on us,
and each one has its place;
So let us use our gifting
in following God's word
To serve our fellow creatures
and glorify our Lord.

The message of the cross

278 Chilton Foliat, **282** Elrig

1. The message of the cross is foolishness
To all those dying in their sinfulness,
But to us being saved by Christ the Lord
It is the wisdom and the power of God.
2. Because it has been written in God's word,
"I will destroy the wisdom of the world,
The wise man's understanding I'll frustrate",
This world's philosophy can have no weight.
3. According to the wisdom of our God
The world through wisdom did not know the Lord;
But God was pleased to save those who believed
The "foolish" message which they have received.
4. The Jewish people want to see great signs,
The Gentiles look for wisdom with their minds;
But we proclaim Christ crucified to all –
A stumbling-block to Jews which makes them fall.
5. To other peoples it is foolishness;
But to those called by God in his great grace,
Both Jews and Gentiles who believe the Lord,
Christ is the wisdom and the power of God.
6. The foolishness of God, who is the Lord,
Is wiser than the wisdom of the world,
God's weakness greater for eternity
Than human strength and power can ever be.

Love is the greatest

228 Blaenwern, Love Divine (Zundel) (*Praise!* **30A**)

1. If I speak in human language
 or declaim with angel's tongue
Without love, my words are empty,
 like a cymbal or a gong.
If I have prophetic insight,
 knowing mysteries from above,
If my faith can move a mountain,
 I am nothing without love.
2. Even though I give my body
 to be burned up in the flame,
Or give all to help the needy,
 without love it's all in vain.
Love is kind and love is patient,
 does not envy, does not boast,
Is not proud or rude or selfish;
 love will never count the cost.
3. Love does not resort to anger
 or keep records of a slight;
Love does not rejoice in evil,
 but delights in truth and right.
Love will always give protection,
 love will trust and never fear;
Love will always hope with patience,
 love will always persevere.

4. Love will never fail or falter;
prophecy will cease one day,
Tongues will waste away to silence,
knowledge too will pass away.
For our knowledge is but partial,
prophecy is partial too;
When perfection comes in fulness,
imperfection fades from view.
5. When a child, I talked just like one,
reasoning as children would;
I put childish ways behind me,
when I grew to adulthood.
Now we see a pale reflection,
which in outline we can trace;
When perfection comes in glory,
then we shall see face to face.
6. Now I do indeed have knowledge,
but its limits I must own;
Then I shall know all things fully,
even as I'm fully known.
Now these three remain for ever
in the earth and heaven above,
Faith and hope and love eternal;
greatest of them all is love.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-3, 4-6)

The resurrection

316 Foundation, **318** St Denio

1. Remember the gospel which you have received
Through hearing the preaching in which you believed.
By it you are saved if you hold to it fast;
Stand firm on God's word or your faith will not last.
2. Of greatest importance this witness we bear:
Christ died for our sins as the Scriptures declare;
In the tomb he was buried, but rose the third day
According to Scripture, his power to display.
3. He met his disciples, just as he had said,
Thus proving to them that he rose from the dead:
First Peter, the twelve, those who answered his call,
Then James, the five hundred and finally Paul.
4. Since Christ has been raised from the dead, so will we;
The trumpet will herald a great mystery:
The living will change in the blink of an eye,
The dead will be raised up to glory on high.
5. Corruptible flesh then immortal will be,
For death has been swallowed in Christ's victory.
So where now, O death, is the vict'ry you boast
And where is your sting now your power has been lost?
6. For sin is death's sting and the law is sin's power,
But Christ will deliver us in death's dark hour;
So thanks be to God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who gives us the vict'ry through his sacrifice.

7. So, brothers and sisters, stand firm in the Lord;
Let nothing remove you from faith in his word
And give yourselves fully to work in his name:
Your labour in Jesus is never in vain.

Comfort for sufferers

192 Crüger, Ewing (*Praise! 971*), Passion Chorale (*Praise! 439*)

1. Blessed be the God and Father
 of Jesus Christ our Lord,
The Father of compassion
 and of all comfort, God,
Who comforts us in trouble,
 so that we then may bring
God's comfort to all others,
 in times of suffering.
2. For just as Jesus' suff'ring
 to our lives overflows,
So also through Christ Jesus
 our comfort onward flows
To others in their suff'ring
 to help them in distress,
So that in their salvation
 they might grow and progress.
3. So, when we suffer trouble,
 God's comfort we receive,
Which we then share with others,
 their burdens to relieve.
They grow in perseverance
 as they our suff'rings bear,
And so our hope is strengthened
 as they our comfort share.

4. While facing stress and pressure
 beyond our strength to bear,
As under a death sentence
 and tempted to despair,
We knew this had a purpose,
 so self-reliance fled
And now we trust God only,
 who gives life to the dead.

5. From such a deadly peril
 he has delivered us
And he will yet deliver,
 for in him is our trust.
As many others join us
 in prayer and praise to God,
We thank him for his favour,
 his gracious gift bestowed.

Hope of resurrection

123 Kinlochewe, **130** St Matthew

1. We do not preach about ourselves,
but Jesus Christ as Lord;
We're called to serve for Jesus' sake,
as we proclaim his word.
For God who said, "Let there be light,"
into our hearts has shone
The light to know God's glory in
the face of Christ his Son.
2. We have this precious treasure now
in simple jars of clay,
To show that power belongs to God,
not us in any way.
We are hard pressed on every side,
but are not crushed by care;
We are perplexed by many things,
but never in despair.
3. We suffer persecution too,
but are not left alone;
We are struck down, but not destroyed
because of Christ, God's Son.
For in our body we must bear
the marks of Jesus' death,
So that his life may be revealed
in us while we have breath.

4. "I have believed, and therefore speak,"
is written in the scroll;
With that same faith we too believe
and speak with heart and soul.
We know that he who raised the Lord
from death will raise us too
To be with Christ and all the saints,
for ever in his view.
5. All this is for our benefit,
so that the grace of God
May reach to many, to the praise
and glory of the Lord.
So, therefore, we do not lose heart,
although we waste away
In outward form, yet inwardly
we are renewed each day.
6. Our light and fleeting sufferings,
however great or small,
Achieve for us a glorious crown
which far outweighs them all.
We focus not on what is seen,
for it will soon be past,
But on the unseen things of God,
which will for ever last.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-3, 4-6)

Our heavenly dwelling

254 St Catherine, **255** St Petersburg

1. We know that if the earthly tent
We live in now should be destroyed,
We have a building made by God,
Whose promise cannot be made void,
A house not built by human hands,
Eternal in the heavens it stands.
2. Meanwhile we groan and long to be
Clothed with our promised heavenly home,
Because, when clothed, we shall not be
Found to be naked and alone.
This home's not built by human hands,
Eternal in the heavens it stands.
3. While we are in this earthly tent,
We feel our burden and we groan;
We do not wish to be unclothed,
But would put on our heavenly home.
So what is mortal, prone to strife,
Will then be swallowed up by life.
4. God made us with this end in view,
That we should gain a heavenly home;
His Spirit is our guarantee,
A pledge of what is yet to come –
A house not built by human hands,
Eternal in the heavens it stands.

The ministry of reconciliation

224 Dominus Regit Me,
How Deep The Father's Love For Us (*Praise!* **426**)

1. If any person is in Christ,
there is a new creation;
The old has gone, the new has come
because of God's salvation.
He reconciled us to himself
through Christ's propitiation
And gave to us the ministry
of reconciliation.
2. For God in Christ was to himself
this dark world reconciling,
Not reckoning to our account
our sins which were defiling.
So we are Christ's ambassadors,
on his behalf appealing:
Be reconciled to God through Christ,
who is God's love revealing.
3. For us God made the sinless One
to be sin as sin-bearer,
So that in him we might become
God's righteousness for ever.
We urge you then on God's behalf:
Accept his invitation,
Because this is the time of grace,
the day of his salvation.

Children and heirs of God

102 Salzburg, **118** Wiltshire

1. We all are children of our God
 through faith in Jesus Christ,
For all who were baptised in him
 have clothed themselves with Christ.
2. In him there's neither Jew nor Greek,
 there's neither slave nor free,
There's neither male nor female now:
 in Christ there's unity.
3. Those who belong to Jesus Christ,
 are truly Abraham's seed,
According to God's promises,
 and heirs of God indeed.
4. While heirs are children under age,
 in status like a slave,
Although they own the whole estate,
 full power they do not have.
5. They're under guardians and trustees
 until maturity;
So we were children, subject to
 this dark world's slavery.
6. But when the time had fully come,
 God sent his only Son,
Born of a woman, under law,
 to save us, every one.

7. He has redeemed those under law
and he has set them free;
Adoption rights of sons are ours
with glorious liberty.
8. Because we are God's children now,
Christ's Spirit he has given,
Who "Abba, Father", cries for us
and lifts our hearts to heaven.
9. And so we are no longer slaves,
in thrall to this world's cares;
Because we are God's children now,
he made us also heirs.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-6 and 6-9)

Life by the Spirit

226 Abbot's Leigh, **229** Ebenezer

1. We were called to live in freedom;
do not use this liberty
To indulge the sinful nature,
though from law we've been set free.
But in love serve one another;
the whole law is in this word:
As yourself, so love your neighbour.
This sums up the law of God.
2. So, I say, live by the Spirit
and you will not gratify
The desires of sinful nature;
human lusts you will deny.
For the flesh, our sinful nature,
fights against the Spirit's will,
But the Spirit works within us,
that we may God's law fulfil.
3. Hate the acts of sinful nature,
which are evident to all:
Impure thoughts and words and actions
and on false gods do not call.
Shun all hatred, rage and envy,
drunkenness and selfishness;
For with these you cannot enter
God's own realm of righteousness.

4. But the fruit of God's own Spirit
is love, joy and faithfulness,
Peace and kindness, goodness, patience,
self-control and gentleness;
And the Spirit, working in us,
will produce this fruit each day,
For no law forbids these virtues,
as we walk God's holy way.

5. All those who are in Christ Jesus
sinful flesh have crucified
With all its desires and passions
and their own wills have denied.
Since we live by God's own Spirit,
let us keep in step with him,
Shunning pride and strife and envy
and all tendency to sin.

*In love predestined***191** Aurelia, Day of Rest (*Praise! 677*)

1. Blessed be the God and Father
of Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who blessed us by the Spirit
in Christ, the living Word.
Before the world's foundation,
in Christ and by his might
He chose us to be holy
and blameless in his sight.
2. In love he had predestined,
through Jesus Christ his Son,
That we become his children,
adopted, one by one
According to his pleasure
and in his sovereign will,
To praise his grace most glorious,
his purpose to fulfil.
3. This grace is freely given
in Christ, beloved by God,
In whom we have salvation,
redemption through his blood:
Our sins are all forgiven
according to God's grace
That he has lavished on us,
the favour of his face.

4. With grace he gives us wisdom
and understanding too,
As he reveals the mystery
of what he's planned to do;
According to his pleasure,
his purposes and will
In Jesus Christ our Saviour
he'll certainly fulfil.
5. His plan will reach fulfilment
when time has reached its end;
According to God's purpose
Christ Jesus will descend.
Then God will gather all things
in heaven and earth as one
Under the rule and headship
of Jesus Christ, his Son.
6. In him we have been chosen
according to his will,
Predestined in his purpose,
which he will yet fulfil,
That we who hope in Jesus
might praise his glorious grace
And, having been made holy,
appear before his face.
7. Since you have heard the gospel,
the true and saving word,
And come to faith in Jesus,
you are in Christ the Lord;
The promised Holy Spirit
is both the pledge and seal
of what you will inherit,
as he will yet reveal.
8. The Spirit is our warrant,

the pledge and guarantee,
Of our complete redemption
for all eternity;
For we are God's possession,
redeemed by Jesus' blood
To praise, adore and worship
the glory of our God.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-4, 5-8)

Prayer for the God's wisdom and power

Craiglockhart (see page 123), St Theodulph (*Praise!* 467)

1. May God, the glorious Father
 of Jesus Christ our Lord,
Give us the Holy Spirit
 of wisdom and the word –
The word of revelation –
 so we may come to know
Our God and Saviour better
 and in our faith may grow.
2. O may we be enlightened
 within our inner heart
To know the hope eternal
 for which we're set apart,
The riches of the glory
 of his inheritance
In all his holy people,
 who by his power advance.
3. His power in the believer
 defies comparison;
It's like the strength exerted
 in raising Christ his Son:
He from the dead has raised him
 to sit at his right hand,
Supreme in earth and heaven,
 all things at his command.

4. Above all rule and power
and all authority,
All titles and dominions
now and eternally,
God made him head of all things,
that here the church may be
His body and his fulness.
He fills reality.

Raised with Christ

314 Buccleuch, **318** St Denio

1. We all in our sins and transgressions were dead,
Because in the ways of the world we were led
By Satan, the prince of the power of the air,
Who causes rebellion in hearts everywhere.
2. We, all of us, once lived our lives in that way
And gratified sinful desires every day;
Our natures were sinful, we chose the wrong path
And so, like the rest, we were under God's wrath.
3. But God, who is rich in his mercy and love,
Has raised us with Christ, who is seated above.
He gave us new life when still dead in our sin;
By grace we are saved and we glorify him.
4. God raised us with Christ to the heavenly place,
To seat us with Jesus and show forth his grace –
Extravagant love of the mercy of God,
His kindness to us through Christ Jesus our Lord.
5. For we have been saved by grace through faith alone,
The free gift of God and not through what we've done,
Not through our good works, so that no one can boast;
If that were the case, then we all would be lost.
6. For we are God's workmanship, in Christ made new,
So that in Christ Jesus good works we may do;
For this very purpose God saved us from sin,
That doing good works we may glorify him.

Prayer for the Spirit's power

255 St Petersburg, 256 Surrey

1. Before the Father's throne in heaven,
From whom all fatherhood is given,
We kneel and pray that, by his grace
And glorious riches, he would place
His powerful Spirit in our hearts,
As he to us his strength imparts;
2. That Christ within our hearts may live
Through faith, with roots in love to give
The power to grasp, with all the saints,
How high and deep, without restraints,
Is Christ's great love, how wide and long,
A love eternal, firm and strong.
3. Our prayer is that we may be filled
With God's rich fulness, faith instilled
To know the love of Christ transcend
All human knowledge without end;
The love of Christ is ours to know
That we might to God's fulness grow.
4. And now, to him whose boundless power
Is working in us hour by hour,
To him who for us can achieve
Much more than what we could conceive,
May glory in the church remain
Through Christ forevermore! Amen.

Put on the full armour of God

316 Foundation, **315** Datchet

1. Be strong in the Lord and the power of his might;
Put on God's full armour so that you can fight
Against the dark forces in Satan's command
And so in this world for the Lord take your stand.
2. Our struggle is not against mere flesh and blood,
But forces of evil arrayed against God:
The rulers and potentates of this dark world,
The weapons of wickedness Satan has hurled.
3. So let us put on the full armour of God,
Resources of heaven designed by the Lord,
So that in the day when great evils abound
We firmly resist them and thus stand our ground.
4. Stand firm, with the belt of truth clasped on your waist,
The breastplate of righteousness strapped to your chest.
Your vigilant readiness never should cease,
Your feet shod to witness the gospel of peace.
5. Take faith as the shield for protecting your heart
To put out the flames of each devilish dart.
Salvation's strong helmet receive from the Lord
And take up the sword of the Spirit, God's word.
6. To pray in the Spirit at all times take care,
Presenting all kinds of petitions in prayer;
With this in your mind be alert as you pray,
While you intercede for the saints every day.

Prayer for fellow-workers

191 Aurelia, Nettleton (*Praise!* **586**), Wolvercote (*Praise!* **19A**)

1. With joy and glad remembrance
I thank my God for you,
My partners in the gospel
and fellow-workers true;
From the first day I knew you,
I've asked the Lord above
That he would grant you richly
his grace and peace with love.
2. Of this you can be certain
that God's good work in you
He never will abandon,
but he will see it through
And bring it to completion,
so that we shall arise
Prepared for Christ's returning,
the day of Jesus Christ.
3. It's right that I should love you –
I have you in my heart –
For in my chains and suffering
by grace you've played your part,
Defending and confirming
the gospel of our Lord.
I love you in Christ Jesus –
God can confirm my word.

4. I pray your love may flourish,
develop and abound
In knowledge and discernment,
with insight so profound
That you'll be pure and blameless
when Christ comes back again,
Filled with Christ's fruit that's righteous,
to praise God's glorious name!

Humiliation and exaltation of Christ

81 Richmond, **102** Salzburg, **111** Torwood

1. Adopt the attitude of Christ,
 who, though in nature God,
Did not insist upon his rights
 as equal with the Lord.
2. He made himself of no account,
 he took a servant's form;
In human likeness Jesus Christ
 into this world was born.
3. He showed himself in human form,
 he took the lowest place,
Obedient to the point of death,
 the cross and its disgrace.
4. God therefore raised him to the heights,
 gave him the highest name,
Exceeding every name in worth,
 that all might him acclaim,
5. That at the name of Jesus Christ
 each knee should humbly bow
Of those in heaven and on earth
 and in the depths below,
6. And every tongue should then confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
So God the Father ever will
 in glory be adored.

Rejoice in the Lord**34** Bishopthorpe, **66** Jackson

1. Rejoice at all times in the Lord!
“Rejoice!” is God’s command.
Show gentleness to everyone:
the Lord is near at hand.
2. Do not be anxious or weighed down
by worry’s heavy load;
But in your prayers, with thankfulness,
bring your requests to God.
3. The peace of God, which far transcends
all human thought and word,
Will keep your hearts and minds secure
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
4. Now what is noble, true and right,
all virtues of this kind –
The lovely, pure, praiseworthy, good –
let these things fill your mind.
5. Whatever you have learned and seen
when you received God’s word
Put into practice and you’ll know
the God of peace, the Lord.

The supremacy of Christ

280 Dunblane Cathedral, **297** Woodlands

1. Christ is the image of the unseen God
And over all creation the firstborn;
For all things were created by his word,
From him they took their being and their form.
2. All things in heav'n, on earth, seen and unseen,
All thrones and pow'rs and rulers of the earth
And all authorities in earth and heav'n
By him and for his glory had their birth.
3. For he existed from eternity,
Before created things had yet begun;
All things are held together by his power
For he alone is God's eternal Son.
4. So that in all things he might be supreme,
Christ of the church, his body, is the head.
In him God's fulness dwells eternally;
He's the beginning, firstborn from the dead.
5. And God was pleased through him to reconcile
All things in heav'n and on the earth to God
By making peace through Christ's own sacrifice
Upon the cross, on which he shed his blood.

Freedom in Christ

229 Ebenezer, Dim ond Jesu (*Praise! 424*)

1. Just as you received Christ Jesus
as your Saviour and your Lord,
So continue living in him,
learning of him through his word,
Rooted and built up in Jesus,
strengthened in the faith he taught,
Overflowing with thanksgiving,
for the grace that he has brought.
2. See that no one takes you captive
through this world's philosophy,
Which is hollow and deceptive
and can never set you free;
For it comes from human wisdom
and tradition, greatly prized,
Based on this world's false ideas
rather than on Jesus Christ.
3. For in Christ the Godhead's fulness
lives embodied evermore
And in Christ you have this fulness,
who is Head of every power.
In him you have circumcision,
not the work of human hand
As the sign of the old covenant,
carried out at God's command.

4. But through Christ your sinful nature
is put off and cast aside,
Circumcision of the spirit
done for us by Christ who died;
For we died with him in baptism,
with him we were buried too
And, through faith in God's great power,
raised with Christ to life anew.
5. When we still were dead in spirit
in our trespasses and sin,
God made us alive with Jesus
and gave us new life within.
He forgave all our transgressions,
cancelling the written code
With its rules and regulations,
reconciling us to God.
6. So the law, which was against us,
was fulfilled in Jesus Christ,
When upon the cross he nailed it
as he there was sacrificed.
He disarmed the evil powers,
forcing them to suffer loss;
Openly he showed their downfall
in his triumph on the cross.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-4, 5-6)

The resurrection of believers

Slane (*Praise! 732*)

1. Brothers and sisters, know this from God's word
That for all those who have died in the Lord
We should not mourn like the world in its grief –
They have no hope due to their unbelief.
2. For we believe Jesus rose from the dead;
God will bring with him all those whom he led.
All who have fallen asleep in the Lord
Will rise with Jesus, who gave us his word.
3. He has declared that when he comes again
We who survive in the world and remain
Shall not precede those who died in the Lord;
This we may learn from his own precious word.
4. For Christ himself will come down out of heaven
With voice of archangel's loud command given;
Then will God's trumpet sound forth a loud call,
Those dead in Christ will be raised first of all.
5. After that those who are left alive here
Will meet the Lord with them high in the air;
So we will be evermore with the Lord.
Let us encourage ourselves with this word.

*Christ's second coming***315** Datchet, **319** Walther

1. About times and seasons, we know this is right:
The Lord will return like a thief in the night;
While people are saying, "We're safe and at peace."
Destruction will come and their lives then will cease.
2. But you, my dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
Are not in the dark to be greatly surprised,
For we are the children of day and of light,
We do not belong to the dark or the night.
3. So don't be like those who through sleep are inert;
Instead let us be self-controlled and alert.
The slothful and drunken may sleep through the night,
But we who are sober belong to the light.
4. So put on the breastplate of faith and of love,
The hope of salvation your helmet above;
For God did not call us to suffer his wrath,
But saved us through Jesus to walk in his path.
5. Christ Jesus has died in our place for our sin,
That, waking or sleeping, we may live with him;
So then, be encouraged by looking above
And build up each other in faith and in love.

Salvation for the worst of sinners

191 Aurelia

1. Here is a faithful saying
and worthy of belief:
Christ came to save poor sinners,
of whom I am the chief;
But for that very reason
to me was mercy shown,
That, through the worst of sinners,
his patience might be known.

2. This shows that every sinner
who will in Christ believe
Will, through his boundless mercy,
eternal life receive.
Now to the King eternal,
immortal and unseen,
The only God, be glory
for evermore. Amen.

How the church should pray

Londonderry Air (*Praise!* 942)

1. Let pray'rs, requests, thanksgiving, intercession
be made for all as our priority,
for those who rule and all who are in government,
that we may know peace and tranquillity;
so may we live with dignity and godliness,
for this is good and pleasing in God's sight.
Our Saviour God desires for all humanity
salvation and sure knowledge of what's true and right.
2. For there is one true God and one who mediates
between this God and all the human race –
the man Christ Jesus died for all as ransom,
as witnessed in the proper time and place.
Because of this, apostles were appointed
as heralds, speaking truth with honesty,
that they might teach true faith to all the nations;
so let us pray in faith and holy unity.

*Call to godly living***230** Hyfrydol

1. Let us all, as God's own people,
flee from greed and worldliness
And pursue faith, love, endurance,
meekness, goodness, righteousness.
Taking hold of life eternal,
fight the good fight of the faith,
Having made the good confession,
whether facing life or death.
2. In the sight of God the Father,
he who gives new life to all,
And of Christ, the faithful witness,
let us heed this urgent call:
Let us keep all his commandments,
from all fault and failure free,
Until Jesus Christ's appearing,
fixed in time by God's decree.
3. God, the blessed and only Ruler,
Lord of lords and King of kings,
He alone is the Immortal,
clothed in light beyond all things,
Far above the reach of humans
and invisible to them:
So to him be might and honour
now and evermore. Amen.

The inspiration of Scripture

66 Jackson, 98 St Paul

1. Continue in what you have learned
and what you have believed,
Because you know from whom you heard
the gospel you received.
2. From childhood you have known the truth,
God's holy written word,
Through which you come to saving faith
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
3. All Scripture is breathed out by God
and has great usefulness
To teach, rebuke, correct and train
in paths of righteousness.
4. And so God's people are equipped
by learning from his word
To do good deeds of every kind
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The blessed hope

Passion Chorale (*Praise!* **439**)

1. The grace of God that saves us
to all has been revealed.
It teaches us resistance –
to evil not to yield,
To quell our worldly passions,
control our lusts that rage
And live lives that are godly
and upright in this age.
2. This blessed hope we look for,
as promised in God's word,
The glorious appearing
of Jesus Christ our Lord;
He is our God and Saviour,
who died to save from sin
And purify his people
to serve and worship him.

Saved by grace

Craiglockhart (see page 123), Day of Rest (*Praise! 677*)

1. At one time we were foolish
and disobeyed the Lord,
Enslaved by all the pleasures
our passions can afford;
Deceived by their false promise,
we lived in enmity
With everyone around us
in hate and jealousy.
2. But when God's love and kindness
towards us was made known,
He purchased our salvation
not through good works we've done,
But in his grace and mercy
he saved us from our sin,
Renewed us by his Spirit
and cleansed our hearts within.
3. For our regeneration
the Holy Spirit came,
Poured out upon us freely
through Christ our Saviour's name;
So, justified by mercy,
we have this hope through grace,
As heirs of life eternal,
that we shall see his face.

4. This saying is trustworthy
and therefore should be stressed,
So that our lives may honour
the faith we have professed;
So let us be committed
to doing what is right,
For this is useful for us
and pleasing in God's sight.

The supremacy of the Son

228 Blaenwern

1. Long ago God spoke through prophets
often and in many ways;
By his Son he now has spoken
to us in these latter days.
And his Son God has appointed
heir of everything that is,
For through him he has created
heav'ns and earth – they all are his.
2. He's the radiance of God's glory,
exact image of the Lord,
All created things sustaining
by his own most powerful word.
After he had worked salvation,
cleansing us from all our sin,
He sat down beside the Highest
in the place reserved for him.
3. He surpasses all the angels
both in glory and in fame,
For to him alone is given
the unique and highest name.
Angels are but serving spirits,
bowing down before his throne,
Which will last through endless ages,
for he is the Father's Son.

*Jesus the great high priest***282** Elrig, **283** Eventide

1. We have a great high priest beyond the sky,
Jesus the Son of God who lives on high.
So let us hold the faith that we profess;
Our great high priest knows all our weaknesses.
2. For he was made like us in every way:
Like us he faced temptation day by day,
Yet never sinned in thought or word or deed;
He sympathises with us in our need.
3. Therefore let us approach the throne of grace,
Let us have confidence to seek God's face;
So we receive his mercy as we plead
And grace to help us in our time of need.
4. High priests like Aaron from the human race
Were representatives before God's face;
Since they were sinners, they could sympathise,
But for their sins they had to sacrifice.
5. None took this honour on himself alone,
But God appointed Jesus, his own Son;
The office of the great high priest he bore,
Just like Melchizedek for evermore.
6. While Jesus lived among us on the earth,
He prayed that God would save his soul from death;
His earnest cries and loud requests were heard,
Because he was devoted to the Lord.

7. Although a son, yet he learned to obey
Through what he suffered all along life's way;
In human nature perfect is our Lord,
He saves for ever all who heed his word.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-3, 4-7)

Running the race of faith

Heber (*Scottish Psalms* **184**), v 1-3 Nettleton (*Praise!* **586**),
v 4-8 Wolvercote (*Praise!* 19A)

1. See how we are surrounded
by witnesses of old,
Who lived by faith before us
through sufferings untold!
Let us with perseverance
and patience run the race,
Throw off the sin that hinders,
the weight that slows our pace.
2. Let's fix our eyes on Jesus,
of faith the pioneer,
Who authors and completes it
and helps us persevere:
To gain the joy before him
the shameful cross he bore;
Now on God's throne in heaven
he reigns for evermore.
3. Consider his endurance
of men controlled by sin
And do not become weary
or lose your strength within;
As with your sin you struggle,
you've not yet shed your blood.
Do not forget this promise
to every child of God:

4. My child, do not treat lightly
the discipline of God
And do not be discouraged
by warnings from the Lord.
Because he loves his children,
all those who have believed,
He disciplines and chastens
each one he has received.
5. If we endure this hardship
as discipline from God,
We'll know that we are truly
the children of the Lord.
For every loving father
will discipline his son;
If God does not rebuke you,
you're not among his own.
6. We all had human parents,
who disciplined us too;
For this they were respected,
they did the best they knew.
But when God disciplines us,
he does it for our good,
That we may share his likeness,
in holiness renewed.
7. No discipline seems pleasant,
it's painful at the time;
But later it produces
the fruit of grace divine:
It yields a pleasing harvest,
its fruit will never cease
And those who undergo it
know righteousness and peace.

8. So let the weak be strengthened
 and feeble ones made strong,
Because upon faith's journey
 the way is hard and long;
Make straight the path beneath you,
 So that the wounded soul
May neither stray nor stumble,
 but rather be made whole.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-4, 5-8)

*Jesus the great Shepherd***22** Diademata, Leominster (*Praise! 26*)

1. Now may the God of peace
 who raised up from the dead
The one great Shepherd of the sheep,
 Jesus our sovereign head,
Who shed his precious blood
 to save a sinful race
By the eternal covenant
 of God's unfailing grace –

2. May he equip our souls
 and work in us his will,
That his good pleasure in our lives
 he may indeed fulfil
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
 to whom be glory given
Throughout the ages still to come
 for evermore. Amen.

Adapted from the version by Nick Needham and used with permission.

*The blessing of obedience***232** Psalm 42, **234** Saltash

1. Let us all be quick to listen,
slow to speak and slow to wrath,
For our anger would prevent us
walking in God's righteous path.
Let us, therefore, shun all evil,
impure actions which abound;
Humbly heed God's word implanted,
which can make you safe and sound.
2. Do not merely listen to it,
or you'll find yourself deceived;
Rather do all that God tells you
in the word that you received.
Anyone who merely listens
to it and does not obey
Is like one who in a mirror
sees his face and goes away.
3. He forgets just what he looks like;
but whoever reads God's word
As the perfect law of freedom,
not forgetting what they heard
And obeying God's commandments,
while continuing to read
All God's will revealed in Scripture,
will be blessed in every deed.

4. Those who claim to be religious
but do not watch what they say
Labour under self-deception;
and hypocrisy holds sway.
Pure religion that is faultless,
pleasing to our Father, God,
Is to care for widows, orphans,
shunning evil spread abroad.

New birth to a living hope

34 Bishopthorpe, **44** Crediton, **78** Nativity, **95** St Magnus

1. Blessed be the everlasting God
and Father of our Lord.
For his great mercy shown in Christ
he is to be adored.
2. For he has given us new birth
and hope that cannot die
Through Jesus rising from the dead
to God's right hand on high.
3. To us a great inheritance
through Jesus has been given,
Which cannot perish, spoil or fade,
reserved for us in heaven.
4. Through faith in him we shall be kept,
protected by his power
Until our full salvation dawns,
revealed in the last hour.
5. Because of this we have great joy,
though, for a little while,
We often have to suffer grief
from every kind of trial.
6. These trials come so that our faith,
of greater worth than gold,
May pass the test when tried by fire
and lead to joy untold.

7. So shall great honour, glory, praise
be given to our God,
When from the heavens Jesus comes,
revealed as Christ the Lord.
8. Although we cannot see him now,
we love him for his grace;
Through faith in Jesus we rejoice,
for we shall see his face.
9. In all our trials we rejoice,
as we receive the goal
Of our belief in Jesus Christ –
the saving of the soul.

Called to be holy

191 Aurelia, Ewing (*Praise! 971*), Wolvercote (*Praise! 19A*)

1. Concerning our salvation,
the prophets spoke of old
About God's grace appearing,
just as they had foretold.
They longed to know the timing
of when this would take place,
As by the Holy Spirit
they spoke about God's grace.
2. They said that Christ would suffer
and then be glorified,
That we might have salvation,
as they had prophesied.
While heaven's holy angels
desire to understand,
We now have heard the gospel
preached at the Spirit's command.
3. Prepare your minds for action
and practise self-control;
Let hope of Christ's returning
with grace inspire your soul.
Now as obedient children
you must not be conformed
To those desires you followed
when you were uninformed.

4. Just as the One who called you
is holy, so must you
Be holy in your lifestyle
and pure in all you do.
In Scripture it is written
and stands forever true:
“Since I, your God, am holy
you must be holy too.”
5. Since you call on a Father
who judges everyone
With justice that’s impartial
for everything they’ve done,
Live out your lives as strangers
as long as you are here;
Do not give in to evil,
but live with reverent fear.
6. It was not gold or silver,
which perish and decay,
That purchased your redemption
from your life’s former way,
The life which your forefathers
had taught you to maintain
And keep all its traditions,
which proved to be in vain.
7. But this was your redemption:
the precious blood of Christ,
The Lamb who had no blemish,
for sin was sacrificed;
For this he had been chosen
before the world was made,
Then at the time appointed
he came to give us aid.

8. It was through this Christ Jesus
you came to faith in God,
Who from the dead has raised him
in glory as the Lord;
Now as we trust in Jesus
and his atoning blood,
Our faith and hope are steadfast
in the eternal God.
9. Since you have been made holy
by following God's word,
You dearly love your brothers
and sisters in the Lord.
So love each other deeply,
sincerely from the heart;
Be careful to be holy,
from evil stay apart.
10. For you've been given new birth
from seed that cannot die,
The living word that's lasting,
the word of God Most High.
All human life is fleeting,
it withers like a flower;
God's word preached in the gospel
endures for evermore.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-4, 5-7, 8-10)

Christ the Cornerstone

207 Cross of Jesus, **212** Love Divine, v 1-6, 6-13 **228** Blaenwern

1. Let us rid ourselves of malice,
drive deceit far from our mind
With hypocrisy and envy,
slander too of every kind.
2. Let us crave, like newborn babies,
pure milk of God's Word as food,
Growing up in our salvation,
tasting that the Lord is good.
3. For we come to the Lord Jesus
as the true and living Stone,
Spurned by men but by God chosen,
precious as his very own.
4. So, like living stones, we also
now are being built on Christ,
As God's house, a holy priesthood,
offering our sacrifice.
5. Sacrifices of the spirit,
which we offer up to God,
He accepts, because they're offered
through the Saviour, Christ the Lord.
6. Scripture says, "I lay in Zion
my own precious Cornerstone;
They will not be disappointed
who believe in him alone."

7. So to us who are believers
precious is this Cornerstone;
But by him the unbelieving
will be crushed and overthrown.
8. For they disobey the message
and reject it utterly;
Thus they stumble at the gospel
and fulfil their destiny.
9. But we are a chosen people,
royal priesthood, holy race,
To our God alone belonging,
that we may declare his praise.
10. For he called us out of darkness
into his amazing light,
So that we may share his glory
and be saved from sin's dark night.
11. We who once were not a people
now are God's own chosen race;
We who once received no mercy
now have mercy through his grace.
12. Let us then, as faithful pilgrims,
live as strangers on the earth
And abstain from sinful passions
which would bring our souls to death.
13. Let's do good among the nations;
though on us they lay false blame,
When they see our righteous actions,
they will glorify God's name.

(This may be sung in two sections, 1-5 and 6-13,
or in double stanzas 1-6 and 6-13)

The day of the Lord

128 Resignation, **130** St Matthew

1. Above all we must understand
that in the latter days
There will be those who scoff at God
and follow evil ways.
“Where is this ‘coming’,” they will say,
“that should take place some day?
For, since creation, everything
goes on the same old way.”
2. But they forget the earth and heavens
existed by God’s word
And that the earth was once destroyed
by water sent by God.
By that same word the present world
is destined for the fire
Of judgement on ungodly ones
in God’s just, righteous ire.
3. Do not forget this truth, dear friends,
that with the Lord a day
Is like a thousand years, while they
in moments pass away.
He is not slow to keep his word
and he will not relent;
His will is not that we be lost,
but that we all repent.

4. The day, the great day, of the Lord
will come just like a thief;
The earth and heav'ns will be destroyed
and none will find relief.
Since everything will be destroyed,
how careful we should be
To live out holy, godly lives
and wait expectantly.
5. We eagerly await that day,
when, in the fiery heat,
The heav'ns above will disappear,
earth's ruin be complete.
For we look forward with this hope,
based on his promises:
He'll make a new earth and new heavens,
the home of righteousness.
6. So while we wait expectantly,
let us avoid all sin,
Strive to be holy, free from blame
and be at peace with him.
And let us always bear in mind
the patience of the Lord,
Which means salvation for all those
who learn to trust his word.
7. Since we already know all this,
let us be on our guard,
Lest we resort to evil ways
and wander from the Lord.
Grow in the grace and knowledge of
our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
To him be glory evermore;
so let it be, O God.

(Convenient sections for singing are verse 1-3 and 4-7)

Walk in the light

128 Resignation, **129** St Asaph

1. This is the message we declare,
the Lord's word which we heard,
That God is light and that there is
no darkness in the Lord.
Now if we claim that we love him,
but walk in darkness yet,
We lie and do not live as those
who in the truth are set.
2. But if we do walk in the light,
as he is in the light,
We will have fellowship with those
who love what's true and right.
And so the blood of Christ, God's Son
will cleanse us from all sin.
But if we say we have not sinned,
we have no truth within.
3. If we confess our sins, then God,
in his just faithfulness,
Forgives our sins and cleanses us
from all unrighteousness.
But if we say we have no sin,
we claim God tells a lie;
Thus we resist his holy will,
as we his word defy.

4. God's will is that we do not sin,
but if, in fact, we sin,
We have the righteous Jesus Christ,
our Advocate with him.
As an atoning sacrifice
he shed his precious blood
for our sins and the whole world's sins,
to reconcile to God.

Children of God

26 Argyle, 52 Ericstane, 86 St Columba

1. How great the Father's love for us,
how graciously bestowed,
That we, though sinners, should be called
the children of our God!
2. And that indeed is what we are!
The world ignores our claim,
Because it did not recognise
the Saviour when he came.
3. Dear friends, we are God's children now,
and what we yet shall be
Will not be fully known by us
until eternity.
4. But this we know: he will appear;
we shall be like him then,
For we shall see him as he is,
when he comes back again.
5. All those who have this hope in Christ
in him will be secure,
And so will purify themselves
as he himself is pure.

God is love

Clarendon (*Christian Hymns 2, 715*), **318** St Denio

1. Let's love one another, for love comes from God
And all those who love have been born of the Lord.
But those without love do not know God above,
For he has revealed in his word, "God is love".
2. And this is the way God has shown us his love:
He sent his own Son to this world from above
To live here among us and save us from sin,
That we may have life everlasting through him.
3. We know this is love, not that we first loved God,
But he has loved us and his Son shed his blood
To turn away from us God's wrath due to sin,
So we to his family may now enter in.
4. Dear friends, since our God has so loved us, I say,
We too ought to love one another this way.
Though none has seen God, if we love those we meet,
Then God lives in us and his love is complete.
5. We know that he lives in us and we in him:
He gave us his Spirit who now lives within.
We know and we testify: God sent his Son,
The Saviour who's able to save everyone.
6. All those who acknowledge that Christ is God's Son
Will live in their God as he lives in each one.
We know and rely on the love of our God,
For he lives in us and we live in our Lord.

7. Because God is love, which in us is complete,
We boldly may stand before his judgement seat;
Because by his grace we become like him here,
His love, which is perfect, drives out every fear.
8. For fear has to do with our sins' punishment,
But to deal with our sins the Lord Jesus was sent;
Because God first loved us, we love him the more
And bow down before him to praise and adore.
9. If we hate each other, but say we love God,
We lie and neglect the command of the Lord,
For if we don't love men and women we've seen,
We cannot love God, who by us is unseen.
10. For we have received this command from the Lord:
Whoever professes and claims to love God
Must love all their brothers and sisters the same,
For they are God's children and love his great name.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-5 and 6-10)

*Glory to God***244** Regent Square

1. Now to him whose power is able
to protect our stumbling feet,
And prepare our souls for glory
there with joy our King to meet
So that we may stand before him
faultless at his judgement seat –
2. To the only God our Saviour,
through our Lord Christ Jesus' name,
Be dominion, power, glory,
majesty and matchless fame,
From before the world's foundation,
now and evermore the same.

© Nick Needham

Jesus Christ the faithful witness

178 Before the Throne, **145** Doversdale, **175** Walton

1. May grace and peace be yours from God,
Who is and was and is to come,
The seven spirits round the throne
And Jesus the Anointed One.
2. His witness is forever true,
Forever faithful to his Word;
He is the firstborn from the dead,
Of all earth's kings the sovereign Lord.
3. His love to us shall never end,
From sin he freed us by his blood.
He raised us high as kings and priests
To serve his Father and his God.
4. O let all glory and all power
Be his for evermore, Amen!
Look! He is coming with the clouds
And every eye will see him then.
5. All those who pierced him will be there;
All people groups from every land
Will deeply mourn because of him.
May God fulfil what he has planned!
6. The Lord God is the first and last,
Both Alpha and Omega he,
Who is and was and is to come;
Almighty he will ever be.

The Lamb in the midst of the throne

226 Abbot's Leigh, **230** Hyfrydol

1. See a Lamb in heaven standing!
See him there as though once slain!
From the throne he reigns triumphant,
where the elders form his train,
Where the living creatures gather
round the Lamb whose horns and eyes
Are God's Spirit in his fulness,
sent where earth's far limit lies.
2. Then the scroll by God is given
to the Lamb, while all around
Creatures and the elders worship,
bowing low towards the ground,
Raising high their bowls of incense,
fragrant with believers' prayers,
Sounding forth their harps' sweet music,
as their new song fills the air.
3. "You, O Lord, alone are worthy
to unfasten seals and scroll;
By your death your blood has purchased
men for God and made them whole,
From all nations, tongues and peoples;
you have made them priests for God,
Called to be his faithful servants,
kings through all the earth abroad."

4. See! The heavenly choir is singing,
 thousands and ten thousands strong,
Angels round the throne where elders
 and the living creatures throng.
Loud their voices sing together:
 "Worthy is the Lamb once slain
To receive wealth, power and glory,
 wisdom, honour, strength and fame."
5. Listen now as all the creatures
 who to heaven and earth belong,
In the depths and on the waters,
 join in one harmonious song:
"Praise and honour, power and glory,
 be to God enthroned as King.
To the Lamb be praise forever."
 "Amen", let all creatures sing!

Gathered all before the Lamb**227** Austrian Hymn, Lux Eoi (*Praise! 177*)

1. See! Around the throne in heaven
gathered all before the Lamb
Stands a multitude unnumbered,
drawn from every tribe and clan,
Every nation, every language,
dressed in robes of shining white,
Waving palms with shouts of triumph
to salvation's God of might.
2. Loud before the throne their voices
praise the God of saving grace,
Praise the Lamb while all the elders
join the creatures in their praise;
All around them are the angels
worshipping towards the throne,
Falling down upon their faces,
as they shout "Amen" as one.
3. "Praise and glory, thanks and wisdom,
honour, strength and sovereign might
Be to God, our God, for ever,
his by everlasting right."
Then is heard the elder's question:
"Who are these all clothed in white?
From what regions have they journeyed
to this place before God's sight?"

4. "Great was once their tribulation,
through it they've been brought by God,
White their robes, for they have washed them
in the Lamb's life-cleansing blood.
So before the throne of heaven
in God's presence they are found,
And they serve him in his temple,
day and night their praises sound.
5. "God upon the throne of heaven
over them will spread his tent.
Never will they thirst or hunger,
nor will scorching sun torment.
For the Lamb enthroned will lead them,
as their Shepherd bring them near
To the springs of living water;
from their eyes God wipes each tear."

The song of Moses and of the Lamb

2 Bucer, 3 Carlisle

1. A great and awesome sign
in heaven is set forth,
As seven angels bearing plagues
bring wrath upon the earth.
2. With them God's holy wrath
has now been made complete.
A fiery sea of glass appears
before God's judgement seat.
3. Struck down is Satan's beast,
his image and his name;
The victors stand with harps in hand
God's praises to proclaim.
4. They sing what Moses sang,
the servant of the Lord;
Their voices also to the Lamb
in song all praise accord:
5. "Great are your deeds, O Lord,
the God of sovereign might,
Most awe-inspiring are your works,
your ways are true and right.
6. "Of all the ages King,
who will not fear your name?
And who, O Lord, can ever cease
your glory to proclaim?

7. "To you, Most Holy One,
all nations will come near
And, for your righteous acts revealed,
will worship you in fear."

The wedding of the Lamb

226 Abbot's Leigh, **230** Hyfrydol

1. Hear in heaven a great crowd shouting,
 "Hallelujah, praise the Lord!
Let salvation, power and glory
 be ascribed alone to God.
True and just are all his judgements;
 earth's corrupter stands condemned:
God avenges all his martyrs
 in the fire that has no end."
2. All the elders, all the creatures
 fall face down and worship God
As the One enthroned in heaven,
 crying, "Amen, praise the Lord!"
From the throne a voice is calling,
 "All you servants, praise God's name,
Small and great, all you who fear him,
 his renown and praise proclaim."
3. Hear a sound like roaring waters,
 like loud thunder echoing,
As great crowds cry, "Hallelujah!
 Our Almighty God is King.
Let us then be glad and joyful,
 let the Lord be glorified!
For the Lamb comes to his wedding,
 ready for him is his bride."

4. She was given finest linen,
 bright and clean, which signified
Each believer's righteous actions,
 good deeds of the sanctified.
Blessed are those who are invited
 to the wedding of the Lamb!
All these words are true and faithful
 from our God, the great I AM.

*The new creation***228** Blaenwern, Ode to Joy (*Praise! 98A*)

1. John on Patmos saw this vision:
 heaven and earth had disappeared,
In their place the new creation,
 in which sea no more appeared.
Sent from God, the Holy City
 new Jerus'lem, like a bride,
Came prepared, adorned from heaven,
 to be at her husband's side.
2. Then he heard a voice from heaven
 loud and clear this message give,
"Now God's home is with his people,
 with them he will ever live.
They will always be his people,
 God is with them as their head.
He will wipe away for ever
 every tear their eyes have shed.
3. "Never more will death afflict them,
 nor will crying, grief or pain;
Former things are gone for ever,
 never to appear again."
God said from the throne of heaven,
 "See, I'm making all things new.
Write the words that you are hearing,
 they are faithful, right and true.

4. "I am Alpha and Omega,
the Beginning and the End.
All these things have been completed;
to my teaching now attend.
To all people who are thirsty
water freely I'll supply;
From the spring of living water
all their needs I'll satisfy.
5. "Those who overcome what's evil
will inherit all that's good;
They will be my sons and daughters,
I will ever be their God.
But for all the disobedient,
sinners who do not have faith,
Is the lake of burning sulphur;
this will be the second death."
6. Then he saw the Holy City,
new Jerus'lem, sent by God,
Coming down from heaven, shining
with the glory of the Lord,
Like a jewel, clear as crystal,
long and wide and very tall,
With the tribal names of Israel
on twelve gates set in its wall.
7. This great wall had twelve foundations,
on them was inscribed the name
Of each one of the apostles,
twelve apostles of the Lamb.
Built foursquare, the Holy City,
made of purest gold which shone,
Stood upon these twelve foundations,
set with every precious stone.

8. In the city stands no temple,
for its temple is the Lamb
With the Sovereign God Almighty,
the eternal, great I AM.
Neither sun nor moon is needed,
for God's glory gives it light
And the Lamb shines on the city,
where there will be no more night.
9. In this light will walk the nations,
mighty kings their splendour bring,
And the gates of pearl lie open
for the nations' offering.
Entry is not for the wicked
or the liar causing strife,
But for those whose names are written
in the Lamb's own book of life.

(Convenient sections for singing are verses 1-5, 6-9)

75.

NUMBERS 6:24-26

The Aaronic Blessing

AARONIC BLESSING

Music by Colin Rogerson 1952-

mp
May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make His face to shine on you and be

mp

5
mf
gra - cious un - to you May the Lord lift up His coun - te - nance, His

mf

9
mp *p*
coun - te - nance u - pon you, and give you peace.

mp *p*

Music © 2006 Colin Rogerson

Prayer for wisdom and power of God

CRAIG LOCKHART 7 6 7 6 D

Melody by Donald M. MacDonald, 1944-

Harmony by Evelyn R. Larter, 1943-

1. May_ God, the glo - rious Fath - er_ of_ Je - sus Christ our Lord,
 2. O_ may we be en - light ened_ with - in our in - ner heart
 3. His_ power in the be - liev - er_ de - fies com - pa - ri - son;
 4. A - bove all rule and pow - er_ and all au - tho - ri - ty,

Give_ us the Ho - ly Spi - rit_ of_ wis - dom and the word -
 To_ know the hope e - ter - nal_ for_ which we're set a - part,
 It's_ like the strength ex - er - ted_ in_ rais - ing Christ, his Son;
 All_ ti - tles and do - min - ions_ now_ and e - ter - nal - ly,

The_ word of re - ve - la - tion_ so_ we may come to know
 The_ rich - es of the glo - ry_ of_ his in - her - i - tance
 He_ from the dead has raised him_ to_ sit at his right hand,
 God_ made him head of all things, that_ here the church may be

Our_ God and Sa - viour bet ter, and_ in our faith may grow.
 In_ all his ho - ly peo ple, who_ by his power ad - vance.
 Su - preme in earth and hea ven, all_ things at his com mand.
 His_ bod - y and his ful - ness_ He_ fills re - a - li - ty.

*Music © 2013 Free Church of Scotland***ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE SONGS**

Luke 1:46-55 (Mary's Song)	<i>Praise!</i> 185
Luke 1:67-79 (Zechariah's Song)	<i>Praise!</i> 293
Luke 11:2-4 (The Lord's Prayer)	<i>Mission Praise</i> 550

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ACCESS TO TUNES

The majority of tunes recommended in this publication are found in the music editions of *Sing Psalms*, Free Church of Scotland, 2003. Others are found in the music edition of *Praise!*, Praise Trust, 2000, and many other hymn books.

There are a number of websites where audio versions of most of the tunes recommended can be played. These include hymnary.org and cyberhymnal.org, but one of the easiest ways of hearing is to use a search engine and type in the name of the tune!

By paying for an annual licence from Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI) and subscribing to sites sponsored (for example, by the Praise Trust, Christian Hymns, Jubilate and Mission Praise), mp3 audio versions and sheet music of many of the tunes are readily available.

APPENDIX

BAPTISMAL HYMNS

3. *The covenant and baptism* 7 6 7 6 D

192 Cruger, Heber (*Scottish Psalmody* **184**)

1. We thank God for the cov'nant
 he made with Abraham
 To be his God for ever,
 the LORD, the great I AM,
 To give him many children,
 to be their God as well,
 And they would be his people,
 with whom he'd always dwell.
2. In token of these blessings
 God gave a covenant sign,
 Applied to all male infants
 born into Abraham's line.
 The blessings of the covenant
 would only be enjoyed
 If they, like him, were faithful,
 but it was never void.
3. When Abraham's faith was tested
 by offering his son,
 God taught him substitution
 before the deed was done:
 Instead of his son, Isaac,
 a ram was sacrificed,
 A picture of salvation
 through faith in Jesus Christ.

4. God also made this promise,
 when Abraham passed the test:
Through one of his descendents
 all nations would be blessed.
We know that this descendent
 is Jesus Christ our Lord,
Through whom we share the blessing
 as promised in his word.
5. Now Jesus has redeemed us
 through his own precious blood,
The blood of the new covenant
 which reconciles to God.
The sign and seal is baptism
 with water and the word,
Which signifies salvation
 and union with the Lord.

Donald M. MacDonald (1944–)
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191 Aurelia

1. We praise God for his cov'nant
 with Abr'ham long ago
To give him many children,
 so that the world may know
That he would bless all nations
 through One from Abraham's line;
In token of these blessings
 God gave a covenant sign.
2. Now Jesus has redeemed us
 through his own precious blood,
The blood of the new covenant,
 which reconciles to God.
The sign and seal is baptism
 with water and the word,
Which signifies salvation
 and union with the Lord.
3. The promise we inherit
 is for our children too;
So we, in faith, baptise them
 and teach them what to do:
By training and example
 we bring them up for God
And pray that, by his Spirit,
 they'll come to know the Lord.
4. So may our God, the Father,
 the Spirit and the Son,
Pour out his gracious blessing
 on what we here have done,
So that this child of covenant,
 his/her God may come to know
Through living faith in Jesus
 and in his grace may grow.

OR (if more than one baptism)

4. So may our God, the Father,
 the Spirit and the Son,
 Pour out his gracious blessing
 on what we here have done,
 So that these covenant children,
 their God may come to know
 Through living faith in Jesus
 and in his grace may grow.

5. Now may we all here present
 as witnesses today
 Resolve, as God enables,
 from this day on to pray
 For all baptised as children
 that they, along with us,
 May know God's covenant blessings,
 his grace most glorious.

Donald M. MacDonald (1944–)
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