

405 Praise God for This Holy Ground

Capo 2: (D)

(G) (A) (Bm)

E A B C#m

1 Praise God for this ho - ly ground,
 2 Praise God in whose word we find
 3 Praise God who through Christ makes known
 4 Praise God's Spir - it who be - friends,
 5 Though praise ends, praise is be - gun

(Em7) (D/F#) (Em7) (Asus4) (A)
 F#m7 E/G# F#m7 Bsus4 B

place and peo - ple, sight and sound.
 food for bod - y, soul, and mind.
 all are loved and called God's own.
 rais - es, hum - bles, breaks, and mends.
 where God's will is glad - ly done.

Refrain (D) (G) (Em7) (A) (F#7) (Bm)
 E A F#m7 B G#7 C#m

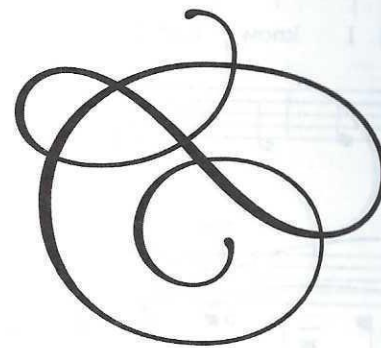
Hal - le-lu-jah! Hal - le-lu-jah! Hal - le-lu-jah! God's

(D) (Em7) (A7) (D)
 E F#m7 B7 E

good-ness is e - ter - nal.

Final ending

Although several passages in the Psalms come close to the wording of this refrain, none matches it exactly. The refrain serves as a summation of the stanzas, each of which is filled with multiple instances of God's providential mercy, and all of them are worth pondering.



49 The God of Abraham Praise

1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove,
 2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.
 3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,
 4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;

the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.

The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
 Es - tab - lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:

we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
 the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!

Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

50 Deep in the Shadows of the

1 Deep in the shad-ows of the past, far out from
 2 While oth-ers bowed to change-less gods, they met a
 3 From Ex - o - dus to Pen - te - cost the prom - ise c
 4 For all the writ - ings that sur - vived, for lead - ers,

some no - mads trav - eled with their God a - cross the
 in - vis - i - ble, with - out a name: "I AM WHAT
 while some, re - mem - ber - ing the past, re - cord - ed
 who sift - ed, cop - ied, and pre - served the Bi - ble

The dawn - ing hope of hu - man - kind by them was set
 and by their tents, a - round their fires in sto - ry, so
 or with their let - ters and la - ments, their proph - e - cy
 give thanks, and find its sto - ry yet our prom - ise, stre

a prom - ise call - ing them a - head, a fu - ture ye
 they praised, re - mem - bered, hand - ed on a past that pro
 re - cov - ered, kin - dled, and ex - pressed new hope for cha
 the mod - el of e - merg - ing faith, a - live with ho

This vivid text reminds us of two truths we often forget: how deeply our faith is rooted in the covenant with the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and how much we can learn from the tune began life as the setting for a family Christmas card.

330 Our Help Is in the Name of God

(Psalm 124)

Our help is in the name of God the Lord, the One who
 When e - vil seems to have the up - per hand, call on God's
 Praise God the Lord who hears the cap - tives' prayer. Like birds es -

made the heav - ens with a word, cre - a - tor of the
 name: the Lord, the great "I AM." When trou - bles rise and
 cap - ing from the fowl - er's snare we are set free; our

world, each liv - ing thing. Come, bless the Lord, lift up your
 all a - round gives way, re - mem - ber God stays with us
 prais - es now as - cend: "Blessed be the Lord: Cre - a - tor,

hearts and sing: "Our help is in the name of God the Lord."
 night and day. Our help is in the name of God the Lord.
 Sav - ior, Friend. Our help is in the name of God the Lord."

331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

(optional)

- 1 God of the a - ges, whose al - might - y
- 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the
- 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -
- 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day.

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
 Be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay:
 Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease.
 Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
 Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

As a means of fostering the continuity of Reformed tradition, this paraphrase of Psalm 124 has been created in the tune that was used for the French paraphrase of Psalm 124 in the 1551 Genevan Psalter. The early printers in English generally avoided such longer poetic forms.

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.