

# 41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!  
 2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,  
 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,  
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?  
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:  
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,  
 Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;  
 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;  
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;  
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
 it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,  
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.  
 and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.  
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of the hymn and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the

# Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure 42

(Psalm 145)

1 Your faith - ful - ness, O Lord, is sure in  
 2 The eyes of all are fixed on you; by  
 3 Lord, you are just in all your ways, and  
 4 My mouth shall speak your praise, O Lord; my

all your words, your gra - cious deeds; you gen - tly lift all  
 you their wants are all sup - plied; your o - pen hand is  
 kind in ev - ery - thing you do; for - ev - er near you  
 soul shall bless your ho - ly name; let all things liv - ing

bur - dened souls and well pro - vide for all our needs.  
 boun - ti - ful and ev - ery soul is sat - is - fied.  
 stand to hear and help all those who call on you.  
 join the song of praise, from age to age the same.

This paraphrase of verses from the latter part of Psalm 145 celebrates God's providential care for all creation, especially for those in any need or trouble. This anonymous German tune was apparently introduced to English hymnody by John Wesley in a 1742 music collection.

## 825 Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Refrain

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com - ing for to car - ry me home.

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com - ing for to car - ry me home. *Fine*

1 I looked o - ver Jor - dan, and what did I see com - ing for to car - ry me home?  
 2 If you get there be - fore I do, com - ing for to car - ry me home,  
 3 The bright - est day that ev - er I saw, com - ing for to car - ry me home,  
 4 I'm some - times up and some - times down, com - ing for to car - ry me home,

*to Refrain*  
 A band of an - gels com - ing af - ter me, com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,  
 tell all my friends I'm com - ing too, com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,  
 when Je - sus washed my sins a - way, com - ing for to car - ry me home. O,  
 but still my soul feels heaven - ly bound, com - ing for to car - ry me home. O.

While ostensibly based on Elijah's ascent into heaven (2 Kings 2:11), this African American spiritual also communicates the enslaved people's hope that they might find deliverance across a river (i.e. in the free states beyond the Ohio). Call-and-response singing enhances this piece.

## Lift High the Cross 826

Refrain

Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim  
 Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name. *Fine*  
 till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,  
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*to Refrain*  
 the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.  
 your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.  
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

TEXT: George William Kitchin, 1887; rev. Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916. alt.  
 MUSIC: G. F. Root, 1868.