

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 the original hymn is written 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

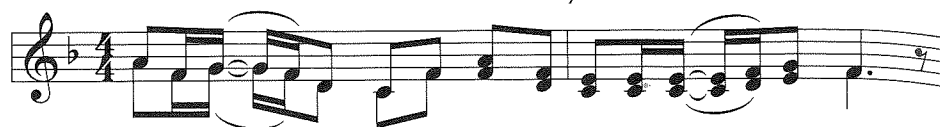
all your words, your gra - cious deeds; you gen - tly lift all
 you their wants are all sup - plied; your o - pen hand is
 kind in ev - ery - thing you do; for - ev - er near you
 soul shall bless your ho - ly name; let all things liv - ing

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.

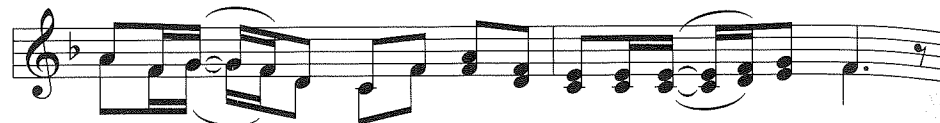
This paraphrase of verses from the latter part of Psalm 145 celebrates God's providential care for all creation, especially for those in any need or trouble. This anonymous German tune was apparently introduced to English hymnody by John Wesley in a 1742 music collection.

742

We Will Walk with God

Sizohamba naye

We will walk with God, my broth-ers; we will walk with God.

Si - zo - ham - ba na - ye, wo wo wo, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.

We will walk with God, my sis-ters; we will walk with God.

Si - zo - ham - ba na - ye, wo wo wo, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.

We will go re - joic - ing till the king - dom has come.

Ngom - hla wen - ja - bu - la, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.

We will go re - joic - ing till the king - dom has come.

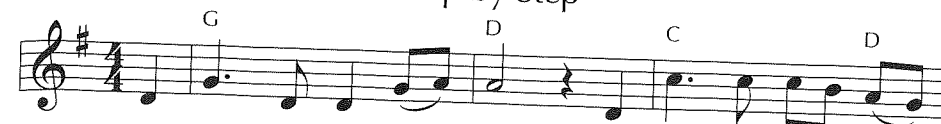
Ngom - hla wen - ja - bu - la, si - zo - ham - ba na - ye.

With its themes of commitment and sending, this energetic song from Swaziland works well for ending a time together, either an occasion of worship or some other gathering. The simple tune does not require supporting instruments but invites percussion and improvisation.

O God, You Are My God

743

Step by Step



O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise



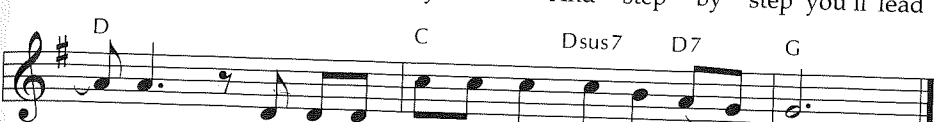
you. O God, you are my God, and I will ev-er praise



you. I will seek you in the morn - ing, and I will



learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead



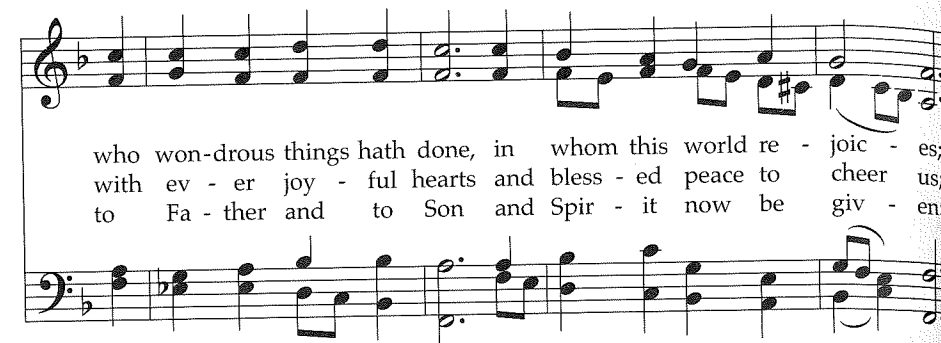
me, and I will fol-low you all of my days.

Though this refrain from a longer song is not a paraphrase of any particular psalm, the language in the first six lines has definite scriptural overtones (such as Psalms 31:14, 5:3; Deuteronomy 26:17). The final two lines sound more spontaneous and lead to a confident conclusion.

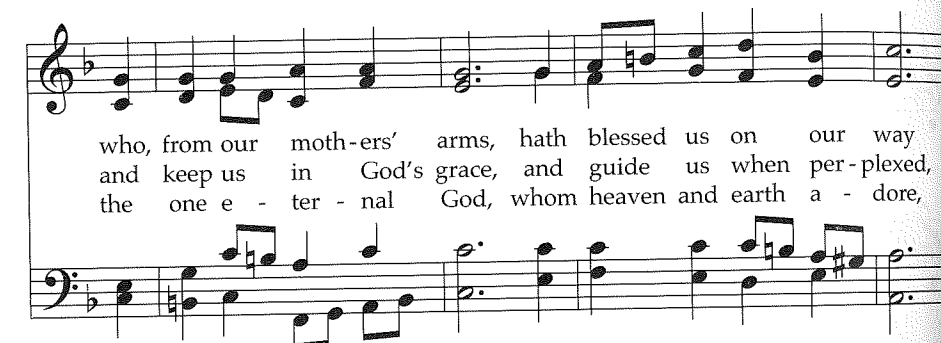
643 Now Thank We All Our God



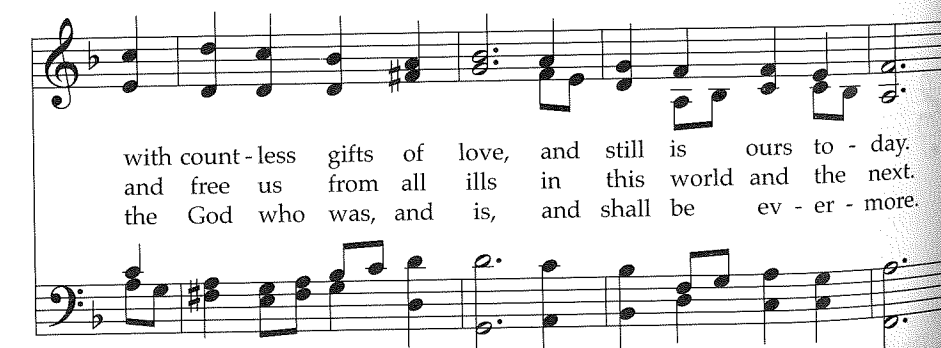
1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice,
 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,



who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
 to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:



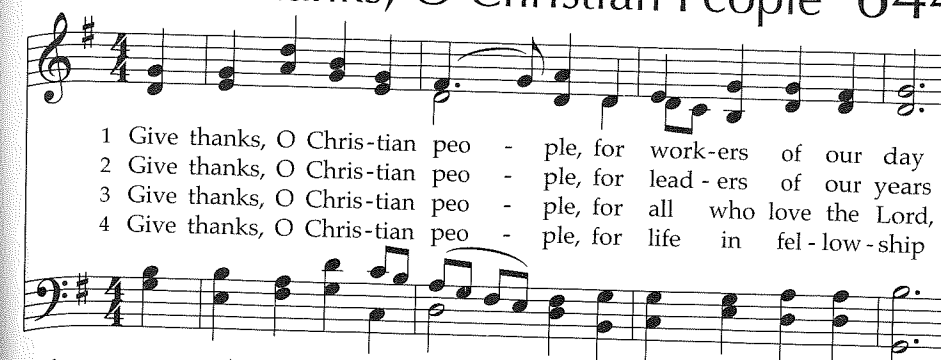
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,



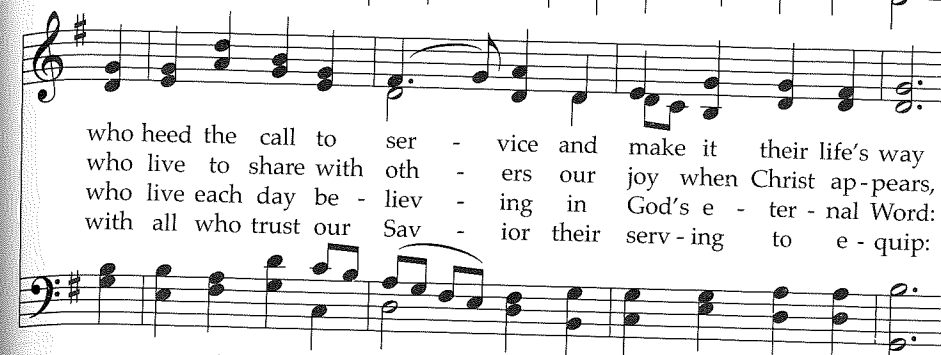
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ever more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

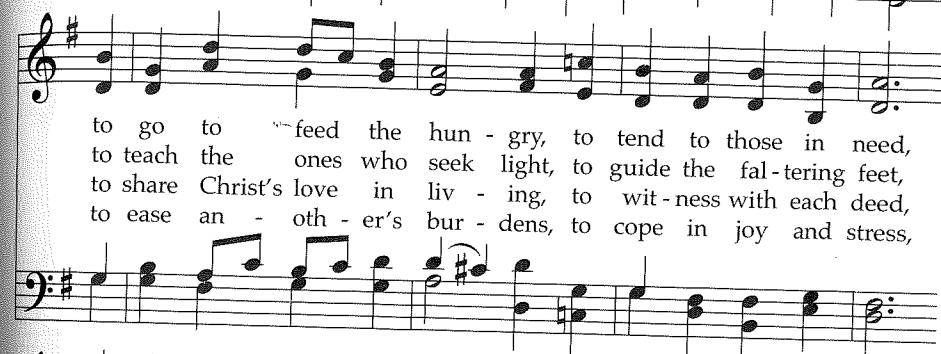
Give Thanks, O Christian People 644



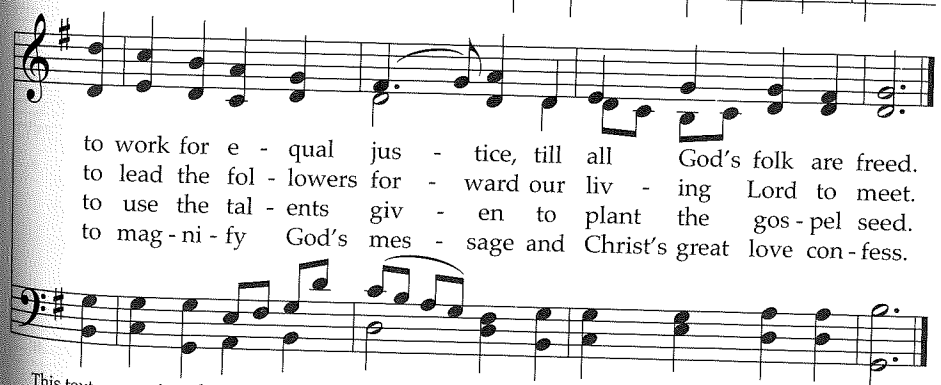
1 Give thanks, O Christian people, for workers of our day
 2 Give thanks, O Christian people, for leaders of our years
 3 Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord,
 4 Give thanks, O Christian people, for life in fellowship



who heed the call to service and make it their life's way
 who live to share with others our joy when Christ appears,
 who live each day believing in God's eternal Word:
 with all who trust our Savior their serving to equip:



to go to feed the hungry, to tend to those in need,
 to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the faltering feet,
 to share Christ's love in living, to witness with each deed,
 to ease another's burdens, to cope in joy and stress,



to work for equal justice, till all God's folk are freed.
 to lead the followers forward our living Lord to meet.
 to use the talents given to plant the gospel seed.
 to magnify God's message and Christ's great love confess.

This text was written by a Presbyterian director of Christian education in Washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.

TEXT: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1984
 MUSIC: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1984

ES: ELOC EIN KLEINER GOTT