

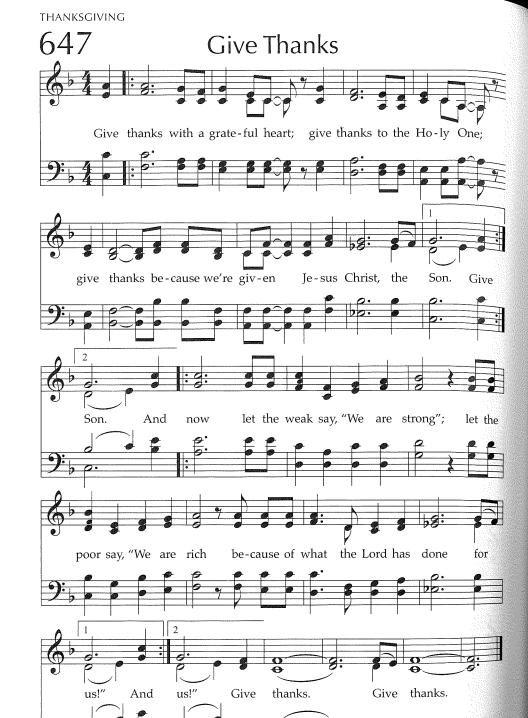
Written for the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth, this text sums up his liturgical theology, ending each stanza with his motto: *Cor meum tibi offero, Domine, prompte et sincere.* By moving from plural to singular the stanzas show how corporate faith becomes personal piety.

Change My Heart, O God

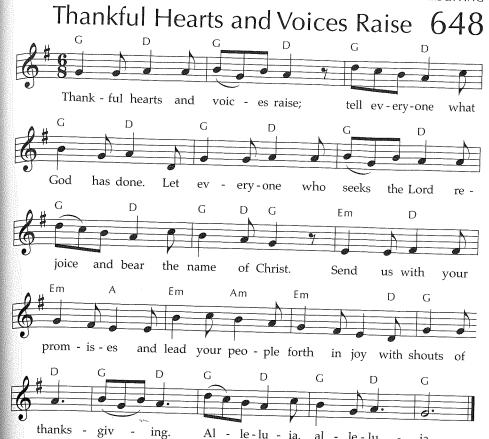
695



The central image of the potter and the clay in this text comes from Isaiah 64:8 (and there is a similar reference in Jeremiah 18:1–6), while the petition for a changed heart is similar to Psalm 51:10. Such readiness to do God's will is a significant feature of the spiritual life.



Drawing on language from 2 Corinthians 6:10 and 12:10 as well as Psalm 126:3, this short and repetitive song can be easily memorized. The simple vocabulary makes it suitable for multigenerational use, reminding all ages how gratitude for God's goodness changes our perspective.



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu

This canticle for use at the close of worship comes from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) and is included here in honor of the full communion agreement between the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It concludes with echoes of Isaiah 55:12.

## 715 The Earth Belongs to God Alone



This text emerged from a study of the attention in Levitical laws to the well-being of the land, especially by calling for fallow periods, or "land sabbaths," to preserve the soil. 2 Chronicles 36:21 even suggests that the Babylonian exile may have resulted from abusing the land.

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716



- 1 God, whose giv ing knows no end ing, from your rich and
- 2 Skills and time are ours for press ing toward the goals of
- 3 Trea sure, too, you have en trust ed, gain through powers your



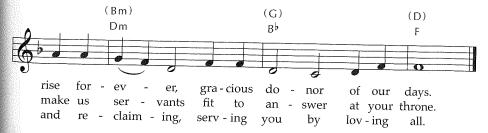
end - less store, na-ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost-ly Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac-es grace con-ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to



grave's cross, shat - tered door: by we turn joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly spread the gos - pel O - pen wide word. our hands in



to you, of-fering up our - selves in praise; thank-ful song shall la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents, shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

SIMMONS