

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark-ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Sing a New Song unto the Lord 276

(Psalm 98)

Refrain

Sing a new song un - to the Lord; let your song be
 sung from moun - tain's high. Sing a new song
 un - to the Lord, sing-ing hal - le - lu - jah!

1 Shout with glad - ness! Dance for joy! O come be -
 2 Rise, O chil - dren, from your sleep; your Sav - ior
 3 Glad my soul for I have seen the glo - ry

fore the Lord. And play for God on
 now has come. He has turned your
 of the Lord. The trum - pet sounds; the

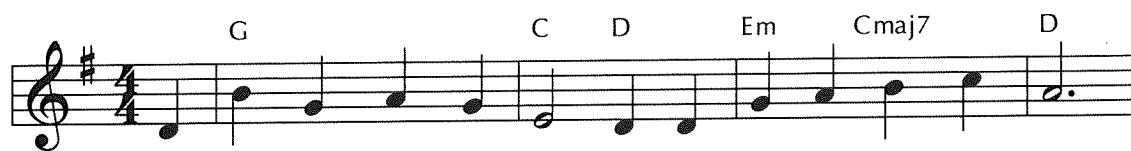
glad tam - bou-rines, and let your trum - pet sound.
 sor - row to joy, and filled your soul with song.
 dead shall be raised. I know my Sav - ior lives.

to Refrain

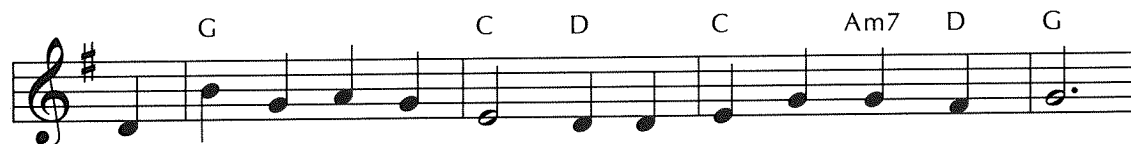
This loose paraphrase effectively conveys the joyful tone of Psalm 98, largely by incorporating allusions to many other Scriptures, such as Psalm 149:3, Romans 13:11, Psalm 16:9, 1 Corinthians 15:52, and Job 19:25. These familiar echoes help to give the text depth and breadth.

How Lovely, Lord

(Psalm 84)



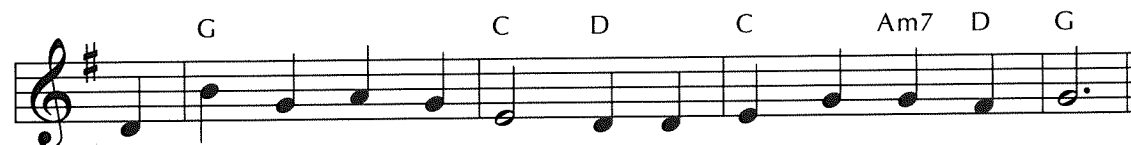
1 How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing place;
 2 In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle day
 3 A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O Lord Most High;



my soul is long-ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace.
 is bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray.
 you show - er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny.



The spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest;
 I'd rath - er keep the en - trance and claim you as my Lord
 The saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go,



and so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
 than rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
 and from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

The author of this text, a Presbyterian minister and educator, was humming this tune as he began to create a paraphrase of Psalm 84 that would emphasize the beauty and peace of God's house. The tune is named for the composer's oldest sister, who was his first piano teacher.

694 Great God of Every Blessing

1 Great God of ev - ery bless - ing, of faith - ful, lov - ing care,
2 Your Word is our sal - va - tion, the source of end - less grace,
3 Your Spir - it is our teach - er, the light that guides our search,

you are the fount of good - ness, the dai - ly bread we share.
in death and life ex - tend - ing your cov - e - nant em - brace.
trans - form - ing bro - ken peo - ple in - to the ho - ly church.

How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
In Christ we are one bod - y; each mem - ber has a part:
For feed - ing us with mer - cy, for wis - dom you im - part:

sin - cere - ly and com - plete - ly I of - fer you my heart.

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.