

Viva Voce

Hymn-knowledge-y

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Viva Voce

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

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Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Ideas for Using the Materials

Week 1

Hand out a hymnal and a copy of the *Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page* to each chorister.

Sing the hymn (as many or as few stanzas as you like).

Ask questions from the *Introductory Discussion* page.

Remind the choristers about the Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y certificate each of them will be earning at the end of the choir year, by memorizing the first stanza of each *Hymn-of-the-Month*.

Week 2

Hand out a hymnal and a copy of the *Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page* to each chorister.

Sing the hymn (as many or as few stanzas as you like).

Continue with or review questions from the *Introductory Discussion* page.

Hand out a copy of Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble to each chorister for work during rehearsal or as a take-home project.

Week 3

Hand out a hymnal and a copy of the *Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page* to each chorister.

Sing the hymn (as many or as few stanzas as you like).

Ask the choristers to tell you anything they can remember from the previous weeks' discussions about the hymn text, its writer and composer.

Hand out a copy of Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game to each chorister for work during rehearsal or as a take-home project.

Week 4

Hand out a hymnal.

Sing the entire hymn.

Ask any students who would like to do so to sing as a group, by memory, the first stanza of the hymn to earn this month's credit for his/her Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y certificate.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month:

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

Hymn Tune: LAUDA ANIMA
(Benedic Anima Mea), 1869

Text Writer: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847) was born in Scotland. He moved with his family to Ireland. He studied medicine first, then became a priest. He moved to the south of England, serving a parish in Brixham from 1824-1847. Another well-known hymn text by Henry Francis Lyte is *Abide with Me*.

Composer: John Goss (1800-1880), an English composer primarily of English cathedral music and hymnody, was an influential teacher, composer, writer and critic. He served as organist at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and as Professor of Harmony at Royal Academy of Music.

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;
To His feet Thy tribute bring!
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me His praise should sing?
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favour,
To our fathers in distress!
Praise Him still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless!
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Glorious in His faithfulness!

Father-like, He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows!

Frail as summer's flower we flourish:
Blows the wind, and it is gone.
But while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise the high eternal One!

Angels, help us to adore Him;
Ye behold Him face to face:
Sun and moon, bow down before Him;
Dwellers all in time and space,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
Praise My Soul the King of Heaven
Discussion Questions

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven* (as many or as few stanzas as you choose).
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.
Who wrote the hymn text?
Tell me something about the hymn text writer.
What other well-known hymn text did Henry Francis Lyte write?
What is the name of the hymn tune?
Who composed the hymn tune?
Tell me something about the composer.
4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

Who does the phrase, “ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven” describe?
What does the phrase, “To His feet Thy tribute bring?” mean?
What is the final phrase of the stanza?

STANZA 2 Questions

What is stated about the character of God in this stanza?
What is the final phrase of the stanza?

STANZA 3 Questions

What do we learn about what God does in this stanza?
What does the phrase, “Well our feeble frame He knows” mean?
What is the character attribute of God that is mentioned in the final phrase of this stanza?

STANZA 4 Questions

What does the fourth phrase of this stanza tell us about God?
Rephrase, ”God endures unchanging on” in your own words.
What is the final phrase of the stanza?

STANZA 5 Questions

Whom does the hymn writer suggest we ask to help us praise God?
What is the final phrase of the stanza?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven*.

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;
To His feet Thy tribute bring!
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me His praise should sing?
Praise Him! Praise Him!
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favour,
To our fathers in distress!
Praise Him still the same forever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless!
Praise Him! praise Him!
Glorious in His faithfulness!

Father-like, He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows.
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes,
Praise Him! praise Him!
Widely as His mercy flows!

Frail as summer's flower we flourish:
Blows the wind, and it is gone.
But while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Praise Him, Praise Him,
Praise the high eternal One!

Angels, help us to adore Him;
Ye behold Him face to face:
Sun and moon, bow down before Him;
Dwellers all in time and space,
Praise Him! praise Him!
Praise with us the God of grace!

C E R A G _____

S E A L G N _____

S A I R E P _____

L A N T R E E _____

S O O G R I U L _____

D A L E E H _____

B U T T I E R _____

S E L B S _____

C R Y M E _____

S U R D N E E _____

R A O E D _____

R R E E V F O _____

G N I S _____

M E A R D O S N _____

F O R E I G N V _____

I K G N _____

N A H V E E _____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Search

Text: *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven*
by Henry Francis Lyte

ALL the words in the first stanza of *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven* are included in this page. Can you find them *all*?

A	B	C	F	D	E	L	H	I	M	S	T
E	T	H	E	M	Y	I	R	L	O	I	R
X	O	I	E	H	I	K	B	N	R	N	I
M	L	S	T	S	M	E	R	G	A	G	B
B	U	V	S	H	E	A	V	E	N	L	U
T	G	E	K	S	O	U	L	G	S	M	T
C	B	H	I	S	F	E	A	V	O	R	E
R	S	A	N	Z	V	R	L	O	M	X	S
E	R	X	G	X	H	E	A	L	E	D	H
P	R	A	I	S	E	S	I	P	D	P	O
T	E	M	K	C	E	T	E	R	M	R	U
T	W	H	I	P	L	O	V	A	S	A	L
X	H	O	N	B	L	R	C	I	A	I	D
F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	S	J	S	R
O	M	B	R	C	W	D	B	E	K	E	O
P	R	A	I	S	E	D	E	R	D	M	B
G	M	Z	W	F	C	H	L	R	I	E	Y
M	Y	F	A	C	T	D	E	H	H	N	I
X	E	V	E	R	L	A	S	T	I	N	G

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Hymn Tune: **NICAEA**, 1861

Text Writer: **Reginald Heber** (1783-1826) was born in Cheshire, England. He attended Oxford University, where he was an award-winning student in English and Latin. He became Rector in a church in Shropshire. In 1823, he was appointed Bishop of Calcutta, India. Other well-known hymn texts by Reginald Heber are *Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken* and *Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning*.

Composer: **John Bacchus Dykes** (1823-1876), born in Kingston-upon-Hull, England, organist and composer of more than 300 hymn tunes, served as President of the Cambridge Musical Society while reading for a degree in Classics at the University of Cambridge. He served as curate in a parish in Yorkshire before becoming canon and then precentor of Durham Cathedral.

Text: Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
*Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.** (Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.)

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the *eye of sinful man** Thy glory may not see; (sinful human eye)
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Holy, Holy, Holy Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

(The director/leader will need a Bible.)

1. Have the choristers sing *Holy, Holy, Holy* (as many or as few stanzas as you choose).
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What other well-known hymn texts did Reginald Heber write?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the composer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

What does the phrase, “God in three Persons” mean?

What does the word, “Trinity” mean?

What are the attributes of God mentioned in this stanza?

(Read *Psalm 92:1-2.*) Which line of this stanza refers to this Psalm?

STANZA 2 Questions

Who are the “saints” referenced in this stanza?

What does the line, “casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea” mean? (Read *Revelation 4:4-11.*)

What does the final line of the stanza, “Who wert and art and evermore shalt be” mean?

What are *cherubim* and *seraphim*? (Answer: Angels whose assignments are to worship God and “attend to” God.)

STANZA 3 Questions

What “darkness” hides God?

What does the phrase, “Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see” mean? (Read the dialogue between Moses and God -- *Exodus 33:11-22.*)

What does the phrase, “There is none beside Thee” mean?

What are the perfect attributes of God mentioned in this stanza?

STANZA 4 Questions

What does the phrase “All Thy works shall praise Thy name” mean?

(Read *Psalm 19:1.*) Rephrase this idea in your own words.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Holy, Holy, Holy*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word **EVERY** time it appears in the text.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
*Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.** (Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.)

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the *eye of sinful man** Thy glory may not see; (sinful human eye)
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

YRLOG	_____	IITTNRY	_____
NDGOEL	_____	TSSNIA	_____
OEWRREP	_____	HIGYTM	_____
TYRPIU	_____	REMAHIPS	_____
CRIFLEUM	_____	EHRTE	_____
GILAFLN	_____	REDAO	_____
RHUBMICE	_____	EVOL	_____
LYHO	_____	GINROMN	_____
GNOS	_____	REVROMEE	_____
SNCWOR	_____	LYON	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Holy, Holy, Holy*
by Reginald Heber

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Holy, Holy, Holy* text from memory.
Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God _____!
Early in the _____ our song shall _____ to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, _____ and mighty,
God in _____ Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the _____ adore Thee,
Casting down their _____ crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and _____ falling down before Thee,
Which wert, and art, and _____ shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the _____ hide Thee,
Though the _____ of sinful man Thy glory may not see;

Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,

in power, in love, and _____.

Holy, holy, holy! _____ God Almighty!
All Thy _____ shall praise Thy _____, in earth, and sky, and _____;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and _____,
God in three Persons, blessed _____!

Lord	darkness	saints	almighty
morning	golden	name	works
mighty	rise	three	only
evermore	purity	trinity	merciful
seraphim	perfect	sea	eye

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

Hymn Tune: **DARWALL'S 148th**,

Hymn Text Source: ***Moral and Sacred Poems, 1744***

Text Writer: **Charles Wesley** (1707-1788) was born in Lincolnshire, England. He wrote over 6000 hymn texts! He was a leader in the Methodist movement, brother of Methodism's founder John Wesley, son of Anglican clergyman Samuel Wesley, father of musician Samuel Wesley and grandfather of composer Samuel Sebastian Wesley. Other well-known hymn texts by Charles Wesley include *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* and *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*.

Composer: **John Darwall** (1731-1789), born in Staffordshire, England, entered Cambridge University at age 14. He spent his life at St. Matthew's Parish in Walsall, where he was vicar. He was an accomplished amateur musician and writer of hymns and poetry. He wrote many tunes for the new versions of the Psalms by Nahum Tate and Nicholas Brady. This tune was composed for the inauguration of a new organ at his church.

Text: Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Mortals (*Rejoice*), give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore!
Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!

- . The Lord the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love:
When He had purged our stains He took his seat above.
Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!
- . His (*God's*) kingdom can not fail; He (*Christ*) rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys to death and hell to Christ the Lord are given. (*are to our Jesus given*)
Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!
- . Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord the judge shall come,
And take His servants up to (*To glorify the saints for*) their eternal home.
Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Rejoice, the Lord Is King Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

(The director/leader will need a Bible.)

1. Have the choristers sing *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* (as many/few stanzas as you choose).
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What other well-known hymn texts did Charles Wesley write?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the composer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 and Refrain Questions

What are the three actions of rejoicing mentioned in this stanza mean?

What do the words, “triumph evermore” mean?

What does it mean to “lift up your hearts”? Where do we usually hear this phrase in worship? (*Take time to explain the history and meaning of the Sursum corda.*)

What are some ways YOU can rejoice as you worship God?

STANZA 2 Questions

Who does the phrase, “the Savior reigns” mean?

What does the line, “purged our stains” mean? (Read *Isaiah 53:3-5*.)

STANZA 3 Questions

Why did Wesley write, “God’s kingdom can not fail”?

What does the phrase, “The keys to death and hell to Christ the Lord are given”? (Read *Revelation 1:17-18*.)

STANZA 4 Questions

Who is “our glorious hope”?

Rephrase the statement in your own words, “Our Lord the judge will come, and take His servants to their eternal home.”

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Mortals, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore!
Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!

The Lord the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love:
When He had purged our stains He took his seat above.
Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom can not fail; He rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys to death and hell to Christ the Lord are given.
Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord the judge shall come,
And take His servants up to their eternal home.
Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!
Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!

CIEEORJ _____

ROEAD _____

PUITRHM _____

SNAHKT _____

SINGER _____

GNIK _____

HURTT _____

OVEL _____

MIDONGK _____

VNEEHA _____

SEYK _____

PEOH _____

SOOLIRGU _____

MEOH _____

FILT _____

OCEIV _____

SHREAT _____

DUGEJ _____

RSETSANV _____

DRLO _____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*
by Charles Wesley

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* text from memory.

Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Rejoice, the Lord is _____! Your _____ and King _____!
Mortals, give _____ and _____, and _____ evermore!

- . The Lord the _____ reigns, the God of _____ and _____:
When he had purged our _____ he took his _____ above.
- . His _____ can not fail; He _____ o'er _____ and heaven;
The keys to _____ and _____ to Christ the Lord are _____.
- . Rejoice in glorious _____! Our Lord the _____ shall come,
And take his _____ up to their _____ home.

Lift up your _____! Lift up your _____!
Rejoice! Again I say, _____!

death	rules	seat	Lord
kingdom	stains	thanks	earth
love	King	Savior	judge
adore	triumph	servants	given
sing	rejoice	hearts	truth
hell	hope	eternal	voice

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night*

Hymn Tune: **WINCHESTER OLD**

Hymn Tune Source: melody from **The Whole Book of Psalms**, 1592

Text Writer: **Nahum Tate** (1625-1715) Nahum Tate was born in Dublin in 1652, the son of an Irish clergyman, the writer of a poem on the Trinity entitled *Ter Tria*. Nahum Tate graduated from Trinity College, Dublin with a BA in 1672. By 1676, he was writing for a living, while residing in London. In 1677, he changed the spelling of his surname to *Tate*, when he published a volume of poems. Tate is best known as a writer of plays, as well as for the famous *New Version of the Psalms of David* (1696), his collaborative work with Nicholas Brady. *As Pants the Heart* (Psalm 42), one of Tate's best texts, appeared in this collection. *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* appeared in print in a supplement to this same collection. Nahum Tate died in 1715 in Southwark, London, England.

Text: While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down, and glory shown around.

- “Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind;
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.”
- “To you, in David’s town, this day is born of David’s line
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be a sign:
- “The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:

“All glory be to God on high and on the earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease.”

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

(The director/leader will need a Bible.)

1. Have the choristers sing *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What other well-known hymn text did Nahum Tate write?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

What is the source of the hymn tune?

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text, after reading aloud Luke 2:8-14.

STANZA 1 Questions

Paraphrase Stanza 1.

What would be another way of saying, “glory shone around”?

STANZA 2 Questions

Paraphrase Stanza 2.

What would be another way of saying, “dread had seized their troubled mind”?

STANZA 3 Questions

Paraphrase Stanza 3.

What is, “David’s town”?

STANZA 4 Questions

Paraphrase Stanza 4.

What are swathing bands or swaddling clothes?

STANZA 5 Questions

Paraphrase Stanza 5.

What is a seraph?

STANZA 6 Questions

Paraphrase Stanza 6.

What does “good will from heaven to men” mean?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks by Night*
by Nahum Tate

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all ____ on the ground,
The ____ of the Lord came down, and ____ shown around.

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty ____ had seized their troubled mind;
“Glad tidings of great ____ I bring to you and all ____.”

“To you, in _____ town, this day is born of David’s line
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be a ____:

“The heavenly ____ you there shall find to human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in _____ bands, and in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the _____, and forthwith appeared a _____ throng
Of angels praising God, who thus addressed their _____ song:

“All glory be to God on ____ and on the earth be ____;
Good will henceforth from _____ to men begin and never cease.”

heaven	glory	seraph	high
dread	swathing	peace	joy
angel	seated	mankind	sign
joyful	David’s	shining	Babe

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *The Lord's My Shepherd*

Hymn Tune: **CRIMOND**, 1861

Text Source: *Scottish Psalter*, 1650

Composer: **Jessie Seymour Irvine** (1836-1887), born in Dunottar, Scotland, was the daughter of a parish minister in Dunottar, and later in Crimond, Scotland. In his 1997 book *Abide with Me: The World of Victorian Hymn*, Ian Campbell Bradley refers to Jessie Seymour Irwin as standing "in a strong Scottish tradition of talented amateurs ... who tended to produce metrical psalm tunes rather than the dedicated hymn tunes increasingly composed in England". It is believed that Irvine wrote the hymn tune while she was still in her teens.

HymnText: The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again;
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
Even for His own Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod
And staff my comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

The Lord's My Shepherd Discussion Questions

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

(The director/leader will need a Bible.)

1. Have the choristers sing *The Lord's My Shepherd*
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text source and composer.

What is the source of the hymn text?

What Psalm does this text paraphrase?

What is another well-known hymn text from the *Scottish Psalter* tradition?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the composer.

4. Use the following format to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

Have the choristers sing a stanza of the hymn.

Read the corresponding portion of Psalm 23.

Ask the choristers to paraphrase the text in their own words.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: ***This Is My Father's World***

Hymn Tune: **TERRA BEATA**

Text Writer: **Maltbie Babcock** (1858-1901) was born in Syracuse, New York. He was a Presbyterian minister who attended Syracuse University and Auburn Theological Seminary. Maltbie Babcock was also a musician; he played several instruments, including the organ. He directed his college orchestra, composed music and wrote poetry. Nothing of Babcock's was published during his life, but after his death, Babcock's wife Catherine published a volume of his poetry which contained *This Is My Father's World*.

Composer: **Franklin L. Sheppard** (1852-1930) was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was the valedictorian of his class at the University of Pennsylvania in 1872. He became the editor of the Presbyterian Board of Publications and Sabbath-School Work.

Text: This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done:
Jesus Who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heav'n be one.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

This Is My Father's World Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *This Is My Father's World*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer:

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the composer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text:

STANZA 1 Questions

What does the phrase, “music of the spheres” mean?

What are four “wonders” created by God that Maltbie Babcock lists in this stanza?

What are the sounds that you think of when you sing the phrase, “All nature sings...”?

STANZA 2 Questions

Read the first two lines of this stanza. Can you paraphrase these?

What does the phrase, “He shines in all that’s fair” mean?

What do you think the author meant when he wrote, “He speaks to me everywhere”?

STANZA 3 Questions

Read the third stanza. Can you paraphrase this stanza?

What does the phrase, “Jesus Who died shall be satisfied” mean?

What does the phrase, “And earth and Heav’n be one” mean?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *This Is My Father's World*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done:
Jesus Who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heav'n be one.

<i>HTFEAR</i>	— — — — —	<i>RIAF</i>	— — — —
<i>GORNTS</i>	— — — — —	<i>HEINSS</i>	— — — — —
<i>THWEI</i>	— — — —	<i>DROWL</i>	— — — — —
<i>SREDOWN</i>	— — — — —	<i>SCMUI</i>	— — — —
<i>GRINSTUL</i>	— — — — —	<i>SOLRAC</i>	— — — — —
<i>LEURR</i>	— — — —	<i>KESSI</i>	— — — —
<i>TABLET</i>	— — — — —	<i>REPESSH</i>	— — — — —
<i>HOWTURG</i>	— — — — —	<i>PRISEA</i>	— — — — —
<i>RETUNA</i>	— — — — —	<i>DEFISSITA</i>	— — — — —
<i>SKORC</i>	— — — —	<i>DHNA</i>	— — — —

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *This Is My Father's World*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *This Is My Father's World* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

This is my Father's world, and to my _____ ears
All nature _____, and round me _____ the _____ of the _____.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the _____
Of _____ and trees, of skies and _____;
His hand the _____ wrought.

This is my Father's world, the _____ their _____ raise,
The _____ light, the _____ white, _____ their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He _____ in all that's _____;
In the _____ grass I hear Him pass;
He _____ to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er _____
That though the _____ seems oft so strong, God is the _____ yet.
This is my Father's world: the _____ is not done:
Jesus Who died shall be _____,
And _____ and Heav'n be one.

earth	ruler	rings	birds
shines	thought	lily	seas
carols	satisfied	battle	spheres
morning	wonders	rocks	listening
wrong	declare	sings	forget
speaks	fair	rustling	music

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: ***Fairest Lord Jesus***

Hymn Tune: **CRUSADERS' HYMNN**

Hymn Text Source: ***Munster Gesangbuch*, 1677**

Hymn Tune Source: ***Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842**

Text Background: Little is known of the origin of this hymn text. There are unsubstantiated legends surrounding the hymn's origin. Some think that the hymn was sung by twelfth century German Crusaders, particularly by their children, as they traveled to the Holy Land. Another more plausible account, is that it was one of the hymns sung by followers of John Hus, a small group of Silesia (now Poland) Silesian Christians. The hymn tune was published in his *Schlesische Volkslieder* in 1842. The English adaptation first was published in Willis' *Church Chorals and Choir Studies* in 1850.

Text: Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
 O thou of God and man the Son,
 Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
 Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Fairest Lord Jesus Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

(The director/leader will need a Bible.)

1. Have the choristers sing *Fairest Lord Jesus*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.
 - What is the origin of the hymn text?
 - Tell me something about the hymn text background.
 - What is the name of the hymn tune?
 - What is the background of the hymn tune?
4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 and Questions

Read Matthew 28:18-20.

What does “ruler of all nature” mean?

What do the words, “my soul’s glory, joy and crown” mean?

STANZA 2 Questions

Read Psalm 19:1-4, Acts 14.15-17 and 17.24-29, Rom. 1.19-20.

What does the phrase “Jesus is fairer” mean?

What does the line, “who makes the woeful heart to sing” mean?

STANZA 3 Questions

Read Hebrews 1:1-4

What does the phrase “Jesus shines brighter/purer than all the angels” mean?

STANZA 4 Questions

What does the phrase, “Lord of the nations” mean?

Read Revelation 5:8-14. Of what is Christ worthy?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Fairest Lord Jesus*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine.

TRIFASE	_____	RICHHES	_____
SWAMEOD	_____	HERGTIRB	_____
ROSIVA	_____	HENISS	_____
LURRE	_____	RODANOTIA	_____
RHNOO	_____	VNEEHA	_____
EURRP	_____	NWORC	_____
FLOWUE	_____	RETUNA	_____
YROLG	_____	OYJ	_____
GLEANS	_____	RYASTR	_____
THERA	_____	DRLO	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Hymn Text Source: *Munster Gesangbuch*, 1677

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Fairest Lord Jesus* text from memory.
Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

_____ Lord Jesus, ruler of all _____,
O thou of God and man the _____,
Thee will I _____, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's _____, joy, and _____.

Fair are the _____, fairer still the _____
_____ in the _____ garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is _____
Who makes the _____ heart to sing.

Fair is the _____, fairer still the _____,
And all the _____ starry host:
Jesus shines _____, Jesus shines _____
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

_____ Savior! Lord of all the _____!
Son of God and Son of _____!
Glory and _____, praise, _____,
Now and _____ be thine.

<i>fairest</i>	<i>sunshine</i>	<i>seat</i>	<i>woeful</i>
<i>twinkling</i>	<i>nature</i>	<i>honor</i>	<i>forevermore</i>
<i>Son</i>	<i>purer</i>	<i>purer</i>	<i>adoration</i>
<i>glory</i>	<i>blooming</i>	<i>crown</i>	<i>robed</i>
<i>brighter</i>	<i>beautiful</i>	<i>moonlight</i>	<i>cherish</i>
<i>meadows</i>	<i>Man</i>	<i>woodlands</i>	<i>nations</i>

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: ***All Glory, Laud and Honor***

Hymn Tune: **ST. THEODULPH**

Text Writer: **Theodulph of Orleans** wrote *All Glory, Laud and Honor* while he was in prison, suspected of plotting against the emperor. Theodulph (born around 760) was abbot of a monastery in Firenze (Florence), Italy. In 781, Charlemagne appointed him Bishop of Orleans, France. However, when Charlemagne died, his son, Louis the Pious accused Theodulph of treason, and he was imprisoned in Angiers in 818.

Text Translator: **John Mason Neale** (1818-1866)

Composer: **Melchior Teschner** (1584-1635) was born in Silesia. He studied theology, philosophy, and music in Frankfurt. He held the position of Cantor of the Protestant Kirche zum Krippelein Christi in Fraustadt.

Text:

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels are praising thee on high;
And mortal men and all things created make reply.
The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
All Glory, Laud and Honor
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

(The director/leader will need a Bible.)

1. Have the choristers sing *All Glory, Laud and Honor*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

Where was the hymn text writer when he wrote the text?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the composer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

What are the three actions of praise mentioned in the opening of this stanza?

What do the words, “David’s royal Son” mean?

STANZA 2 Questions

Read the first two lines of this stanza. Can you paraphrase these?

What are three forms of worship mentioned in this stanza?

STANZA 3 Questions

Read the third stanza. Can you paraphrase this stanza?

What does the phrase, “Who in all good delightest” mean?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *All Glory, Laud and Honor*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels are praising thee on high;
And mortal men and all things created make reply.
The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

SDELBSE _____

ULDA _____

ERERDEME _____

LEASIR _____

RHOON _____

GNIK _____

LIDRENCH _____

GLEANS _____

GANRPSII _____

SHEERWB _____

SLAMP _____

SMYHN _____

LYDOME _____

OGDO _____

DATELEX _____

SPRISEA _____

RESARPY _____

COUSARGI _____

STHANME _____

LOYRA _____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *All Glory, Laud and Honor* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, _____, King!
To whom the _____ of _____ made sweet _____ ring.
Thou art the King of _____, thou David's _____ Son,
Who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and _____ One.

The company of _____ are _____ thee on high;
And _____ men and all things _____ make reply.
The people of the _____ with _____ before thee went;
Our praise and _____ and _____ before thee we present.

To thee before thy _____ they sang their _____ of praise;
To thee, now high _____, our _____ we raise.
Thou didst accept their _____; accept the _____ we bring,
Who in all good _____, thou _____ and _____ King.

<i>exalted</i>	<i>good</i>	<i>hymns</i>	<i>Redeemer</i>
<i>delightest</i>	<i>passion</i>	<i>children</i>	<i>created</i>
<i>lips</i>	<i>hosannas</i>	<i>mortal</i>	<i>gracious</i>
<i>blessed</i>	<i>praising</i>	<i>prayer</i>	<i>melody</i>
<i>angels</i>	<i>palms</i>	<i>anthems</i>	<i>praises</i>
<i>Hebrews</i>	<i>Israel</i>	<i>royal</i>	<i>prayers</i>

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE

Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *All Creatures of Our God and King*

Hymn Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Text Writer: St. Francis of Assisi (13th century) came from a wealthy family, but, after an illness as a young man, ministered to the poor. He is remembered for his love of animals. (circa 1225) wrote the hymn *Cantico di fratre sole* (*Canticle of Brother Sun*, circa 1225), the text source for this hymn, shortly before he died, but it was not published for almost 400 years.

Hymn Tune Source: Peter von Brachel, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623

Hymn Text: All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and let us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam:
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice:
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear, Make music for thy Lord to hear,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright, That givest man both warmth and light:
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day, Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, Let them His glory also show.
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart, Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, Praise God and on Him cast your care!
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And thou most kind and gentle Death, Waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou leadest home the child of God, And Christ our Lord the way hath trod.
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, And worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
All Creatures of Our God and King
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page
(The director/leader will need a Bible.)

1. Have the choristers sing *All Creatures of Our God and King*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

Where was the hymn text writer when he wrote the text?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

Who/what are directed to praise God in the first stanza?

What is the method of praise that all creatures are directed to use?

STANZA 2 Question

Who/what are directed to praise God in the second stanza?

STANZA 3 Questions

Who/what are directed to praise God in the third stanza?

How does water “make music” for God to hear?

STANZA 4 Questions

How does “mother” earth “unfold blessings” in praise of God?

How do flowers and trees reflect God’s glory?

STANZA 5 Questions

How does the act of forgiving someone serve to praise God?

Why is the act of “casting care” on God an act of praise for someone who is sad or grieving?

STANZA 6 Question

How is death an act of praise?

STANZA 7 Question

What does it mean to “bless” God and to “worship Him in humbleness”?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *All Creatures of Our God and King*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and let us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam:
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice:
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear, Make music for thy Lord to hear, O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright, That givest man both warmth and light:
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day, Unfoldest blessings on our way, O praise Him! Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, Let them His glory also show.
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart, Forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, Praise God and on Him cast your care!
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And thou most kind and gentle Death, Waiting to hush our latest breath, O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou leadest home the child of God, And Christ our Lord the way hath trod.
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, And worship Him in humbleness, O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, Three in One!
O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

REUSTECRA	_____	VECIO	_____
SHNIGUR	_____	PHROWIS	_____
ROSWOR	_____	OEGNDL	_____
WRESOLF	_____	IPNA	_____
SIGSBLENS	_____	HOREMT	_____
RESLIV	_____	TRAMWH	_____
RONM	_____	ISCUM	_____
HHSU	_____	SPRIEA	_____
MAGLE	_____	THRBIG	_____
TROCARE	_____	LOYRG	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *All Creatures of Our God and King*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *All Creatures of Our God and King* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your _____ and let us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou _____ sun with golden beam, Thou _____ moon with softer gleam:

O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou _____ wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that _____ in heaven along, O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou _____ morn, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of _____, find a voice:

O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou _____ water, pure and clear, Make _____ for thy Lord to hear, O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou fire so _____ and bright, That _____ man both warmth and light:

O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day, _____ blessings on our way, O praise Him! Alleluia!

The _____ and _____ that in thee grow, Let them His glory also show.

O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of _____ heart, _____ others, take your part, O sing ye! Alleluia!

Ye who long pain and _____ bear, Praise God and on Him cast your care!

O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And thou most kind and _____ Death, Waiting to hush our _____ breath, O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou leadest home the _____ of God, And Christ our Lord the way hath trod.

O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, And _____ Him in humbleness, O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, _____ the Father, praise the Son, And praise the _____, Three in One!

O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

worship

voice

sail

clouds

Spirit

sorrow

silver

rushing

givest

tender

fruits

gentle

flowing

masterful

rising

burning

latest

flowers

child

music

praise

unfoldest

forgiving

evening

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
*****Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Hymn Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG

Text Writer: Martin Luther (1483-1546) was a German (Saxony) professor of theology and priest who initiated the Protestant Reformation. He translated the Bible into the language of the people, which greatly impacted both German language and culture. His hymns influenced the future development of congregational singing in churches.

Hymn Tune Source: Martin Luther

Hymn Text: A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

(The director/leader will need a Bible and a dictionary.)

1. Have the choristers sing *A Mighty fortress Is Our God*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What were some of the hymn text writer's influences on how we worship today?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

What are the three synonyms given for God in the first three lines? Define these words as they pertain to the character of God.

Paraphrase Luther's description of Satan, found in lines 3-5.

STANZA 2 Question

What would happen to us if we relied on ourselves alone to fight evil?

Who is "the man of God's own choosing"?

What does the phrase *Lord Sabaoth* mean?

What does the statement "and he must win the battle" imply?

Paraphrase this stanza in your own words.

STANZA 3 Questions

What does the phrase "this world, with devils filled" mean?

Define the meaning of the statement, "We will fear not, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us."

Discuss the importance and meaning of the statement, "...his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him."

STANZA 4 Questions

What is the "word (which) ... abideth?

What does the statement, "the Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth", mean?

What is the comforting truth for all Christians summarized in this text?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.

TELTAB	_____	KRALWUB	_____
MURPHIT	_____	ATHOBSA	_____
ISTRIP	_____	HELERP	_____
MOKDING	_____	ETAH	_____
SILVED	_____	UTTRH	_____
RESLIV	_____	GENTSRTTH	_____
MEAN	_____	QUEAL	_____
RAFE	_____	FINCODE	_____
REWOPS	_____	LIKL	_____
MEBLERT	_____	MARED	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

A mighty fortress is our God, a _____ never failing;
Our _____ he amid the flood of _____ ills prevailing.
For still our _____ foe doth seek to work us woe;
His _____ and power are great, and armed with _____ hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own _____ confide, our _____ would be losing,
Were not the _____ man on our side, the man of God's own _____.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord _____, his name, from age to age the same,
And he must win the _____.

And though this world, with _____ filled, should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to _____ through us.
The Prince of _____ grim, we _____ not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his _____ is sure;
One little _____ shall fell him.

That word above all _____ powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the _____ are ours, thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and _____ go, this _____ life also;
The _____ they may kill; God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is _____.

striving

earthly

battle

devils

kindred

helper

forever

bulwark

mortal

body

Sabaoth

cruel

Darkness

word

doom

gifts

choosing

mortal

triumph

strength

ancient

craft

tremble

right

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *Now Thank We All Our God*

Hymn Tune: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Text Writer: Martin Rinckart (1586-1649) was born in Leipzig, where he was a chorister at St. Thomas Church, where Bach would later serve as cantor. Martin Rinckart became a clergyman, serving as Arch-Deacon (bishop) at Eilenberg. He wrote sixty-six hymns, but only one, *Now Thank We all Our God*, is well-known.

Hymn Tune Composer: Johann Crüger (1598-1662) was cantor and organist at the St. Nikolai Church in Berlin. He was also a composer and musicologist. He composed seventy-one chorales, a number of which are in use today as well-known hymn tunes.

Hymn Text: Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessedèd peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and Holy Ghost,
supreme in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
Now Thank We All Our God
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

(The director/leader will need a Bible and a dictionary.)

1. Have the choristers sing *Now Thank We All Our God*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

Using your hymnal, find some of the other hymn tunes penned by this composer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

What are the three parts of ourselves with which we can thank God?.

What are three reasons given in this stanza for us to thank God?

STANZA 2 Question

What does the word *bounteous* mean? What are some of its synonyms?

What are all the prayer requests of the hymn text writer mentioned in this stanza?

What does the phrase “keep us in his grace” mean?

What does the word *perplexed* mean? Why would you need God’s guidance when you are perplexed?

Paraphrase this stanza in your own words.

STANZA 3 Questions

This stanza is a form of *Doxology*; why?

Paraphrase this stanza in your own words.

GENERAL Question

Why do you think that this text has found its way into so many hymnals around the world and is still widely used and known today?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Now Thank We All Our God*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessedèd peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and Holy Ghost,
supreme in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

PEXERPELD	_____	HECER	_____
SOTGH	_____	CAPEE	_____
EROAD	_____	DROWL	_____
HENAVE	_____	VOLE	_____
LANERET	_____	REATH	_____
MEEPRUS	_____	SOWROUND	_____
SIRPAE	_____	SHNAD	_____
LISI	_____	SEVCIO	_____
UDIEG	_____	MARS	_____
RAGEC	_____	KHTNV	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Now Thank We All Our God*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Now Thank We All Our God* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Now _____ we all our God,
with _____ and hands and _____,
who _____ things hath done,
in whom his world _____;
who from our _____ arms
hath _____ us on our way
with _____ gifts of _____,
and still is ours today.

O may this _____ God
through all our _____ be near us,
with ever-_____ hearts
and blessed _____ to cheer us;
and keep us in his _____,
and guide us when _____,
and _____ us from all ills
in this _____ and the next.

All _____ and thanks to God
the Father now be _____,
the Son, and Holy _____,
_____ in highest heaven,
the one _____ God,
whom earth and heaven _____;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be _____.

<i>blessed</i>	<i>Ghost</i>	<i>praise</i>	<i>life</i>
<i>wondrous</i>	<i>love</i>	<i>voices</i>	<i>rejoices</i>
<i>perplexed</i>	<i>free</i>	<i>supreme</i>	<i>grace</i>
<i>mother's</i>	<i>heart</i>	<i>world</i>	<i>adore</i>
<i>peace</i>	<i>countless</i>	<i>eternal</i>	<i>given</i>
<i>bounteous</i>	<i>joyful</i>	<i>thank</i>	<i>evermore</i>

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

*****Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymn Tune: MENDELSSOHN

Text Writer: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), born in Epworth, Lincolnshire, England, attended Christ Church, University of Oxford. He spent much of his career as an itinerant minister. He and his brother John Wesley founded the movement which later became the Methodist denomination. Charles Wesley wrote more than 6000 hymns, including *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* and *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*.

Hymn Tune Composer: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) was born in Hamburg. He was a famous composer, conductor and pianist. He helped found the Leipzig Conservatory, and was later appointed Director of Music of the Academy of Arts in Berlin. He is best known to choristers for his composition of the well-known oratorios, *Elijah* and *St. Paul*.

Hymn Text: Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest Heav’n adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

OR

Hail the heav’ly Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in His wings.
Light and life to all He brings,
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

Using your hymnal, find some of the other hymn tunes penned by this composer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

What does the phrase, “God and sinners reconciled” mean?.

What does the phrase, “Join the triumph of the skies” mean?

STANZA 2 Question

Paraphrase each two-line portion of this stanza, discussing the meaning of each.

STANZA 3 Questions

What is the difference in the meaning of the phrases [Christ is] “born that we no more may die,” “born to raise us from the earth,” and “born to give us second birth”?

What does the description of Christ as the “Sun of Righteousness” mean?

GENERAL Question

Why do you think that this text has found its way into so many hymnals around the world and is still widely used and known today?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Hymn Text: Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest Heav’n adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

OR

Hail the heav’ly Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in His wings.
Light and life to all He brings,
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

MEMELUNA _____
SHELF _____
GSFORPNIF _____
THRBI _____
ERCYM _____
SWNIG _____
DELIVE _____
KHRA _____
BROWNNE _____
GHALNEI _____

LAHERD _____
HUMPTIR _____
GSEALN _____
LICECONDER _____
ALHI _____
ROADED _____
THIGL _____
CAPEE _____
RHEAT _____
NROB _____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* text from memory.

Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the _____ King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners _____!"
Joyful, all ye _____ rise,
Join the triumph of the _____;
With th'angelic _____ proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest Heav'n adored;
Christ the _____ Lord;
Late in time, _____ Him come,
_____ of a virgin's womb.
_____ in flesh the _____ see;
Hail th'incarnate _____,
Pleased with us in flesh to _____,
Jesus our _____.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

OR

Hail the heav'nly Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of _____!
_____ and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with _____ in His wings.
Mild He lays His _____ by,
Born that man no more may _____.
Born to _____ the sons of earth,
Born to give them _____ birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Mild He lays His _____ by,
Born that we no more may _____,
Born to _____ us from the earth,
Born to give us _____ birth.
Risen with _____ in His wings.
_____ and life to all He brings,
Hail the Sun of _____!
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

offspring
deity
healing
raise
second

newborn
glory
skies
righteousness
everlasting

light
behold
nations
veiled
Emmanuel

dwell
host
reconciled
Godhead
die

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
*****Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

Hymn Tune: ST. ANNE

Text Writer: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), known as the “Father of English hymnody”, wrote more than 750 hymns. He was born in Southampton, England, into a family of religious *Nonconformists*. Watts served as a pastor, helping to train preachers. Watts was known for his commitment to writing and including original songs of Christian experience in worship. Other famous Isaac Watts texts include *Joy to the World*, *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* and *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*. *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* is a paraphrase of Psalm 90.

Hymn Tune Composer: William Croft (1678-1727) was an English composer and organist. He was taught in the Chapel Royal by John Blow. He became organist of Westminster Abbey in 1708. In 1724, Watts published a collection of church music entitled *Music Sacra*. His most famous composition is the hymn tune *St. Anne*, written as a setting for the text *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*.

Hymn Text

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream, Bears all (our years) its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the opening day..

Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last, And our eternal home.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

O God, Our Help in Ages Past Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page; read them Psalm 90 from your Bible.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.
 - Who wrote the hymn text?
 - Tell me something about the hymn text writer.
 - What is the name of the hymn tune?
 - Who composed the hymn tune?
4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

- Can you paraphrase the first stanza?
- What are the four “definitions” of God in this stanza?

STANZA 2 Questions

- Can you paraphrase the second stanza?
- What does the phrase, “Sufficient is thine arm alone” mean?

STANZA 3 Questions

- Can you paraphrase the second stanza?
- What does the phrase, “From everlasting thou art God” mean?

STANZA 4 Questions

- Can you paraphrase the fourth stanza?
- What does the phrase, “Short as the watch that ends the night” mean?

STANZA 5 Questions

- Can you paraphrase the fifth stanza?
- What does the phrase, “They fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day” mean?

STANZA 6 Questions

- Can you paraphrase the sixth stanza?
- What are the two requests that the poet is addressing to God in this stanza?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream, Bears all (our years) its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the opening day..

Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last, And our eternal home.

LANTEER	-----
OBURSTEL	-----
PHLE	----
PHEO	----
MEIT	----
MATERS	-----
THACW	-----
ERDRO	----
THIGS	----
TASSIN	-----

DOSHWA	-----
SEENFED	-----
RESCUE	-----
THARE	-----
REMAF	-----
REDUN	-----
LNGROIL	-----
GINSIR	-----
STALB	-----
RETHELS	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

O God, our help in ages _____, Our _____ for years to _____,
Our _____ from the _____ blast, And our _____ home.

Under the _____ of Thy throne Thy _____ have dwelt secure;
_____ is Thine arm _____, And our defense is sure.

Before the _____ in order stood, Or earth _____ her frame,
From _____ Thou art God, To endless years the same.

A _____ ages in Thy sight Are like an _____ gone;
_____ as the watch that _____ the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever _____ stream, Bears all (our _____) its sons away;
They _____, forgotten, as a _____ Dies at the opening day..

Our God, our _____ in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our _____ while _____ last, And our eternal home.

alone	help	sufficient	hope
rolling	shelter	dream	evening
saints	past	received	shadow
short	everlasting	years	thousand
guard	stormy	eternal	hills
troubles	fly	come	ends

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
*****Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *In Christ There Is No East or West*

Hymn Tune: McKEE

Text Writer: William Arthur Dunkerley (1852-1941), was born in Manchester, England. He worked in France as a businessman for a brief period, but then returned to England to embark on a career as a full-time writer. He wrote more than forty novels and books of verse. Dunkerley wrote under the pseudonyms of John Oxenham and Julian Ross.

Hymn Tune Source: African-American spiritual, arranged Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949), born in Erie, Pennsylvania. He studied composition with Antonin Dvorak in New York. Burleigh wrote more than 300 works, including *Deep River*. He was one of the original members of ASCAP, and served as a member of the ASCAP board of directors.

Hymn Text

In Christ there is no East or West,
In Him no South or North;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

In Him shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord,
Close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, members of the faith,
Whatever your race may be!
Who serves my Father as His child
Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West,
In Him meet North and South;
All Christly souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
In Christ There Is No East or West
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *In Christ There Is No East or West*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who arranged the hymn tune?

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

Can you paraphrase the first stanza?

What is your understanding of the phrase “fellowship of love”?

STANZA 2 Questions

Can you paraphrase the second stanza?

What does the phrase, “high communion” mean?

In what way does serving Christ help bind Christians together around the world?

STANZA 3 Questions

Can you paraphrase the third stanza?

What does the phrase, “Who serves my Father as His child is surely kin to me” mean?

STANZA 4 Questions

Can you paraphrase the fourth stanza?

What does the phrase, “All Christly souls are one in Him throughout the whole wide earth” mean?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *In Christ There Is No East or West*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

In Christ there is no East or West,
In Him no South or North;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

In Him shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord,
Close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, members of the faith,
Whatever your race may be!
Who serves my Father as His child
Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West,
In Him meet North and South;
All Christly souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.

THARE	-----	STAE	-----
MANKDUHIN	-----	STIRHYCL	-----
STRICH	-----	STREAH	-----
VEOL	-----	DILCH	-----
ACRE	-----	STEW	-----
CESOL	-----	SHOUT	-----
LOUSS	-----	CRIEVES	-----
LEWOH	-----	LONGED	-----
SHNAD	-----	NIK	-----
THFIA	-----	IINNDGB	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *In Christ There Is No East or West*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *In Christ There Is No East or West* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

In Christ there is no East or _____,
In _____ no _____ or North;
But one _____ fellowship of _____
_____ the whole _____ earth.

In Him shall _____ hearts everywhere
Their _____ communion _____;
His _____ is the _____ cord,
Close _____ humankind.

_____ hands, then, members of the _____,
Whatever your _____ may be!
Who _____ my Father as His _____
Is surely _____ to me.

In Christ now meet both _____ and West,
In Him meet _____ and South;
All _____ souls are one in Him
Throughout the _____ wide _____.

service	Christly	East	find
North	golden	great	binding
serves	whole	kin	love
Him	race	West	faith
true	South	wide	high
throughout	child	join	earth

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
*****Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *Amazing Grace*

Hymn Tune: NEW BRITAIN

Text Writer: **John Newton** (1725-1807) was a sailor in the Royal Navy, a slave trader and then an English clergyman. He was ordained by the Church of England in 1764, and became the rector at Olney Church in Buckinghamshire, where he began collaborating with William Cowper, with whom he produced the famous book of hymn texts, *The Olney Hymns. Amazing Grace*, written to illustrate a sermon on New Year's Day of 1773, became popular in the United States in the early 19th century. Newton's epitaph, which he penned before his death, best sums up his life: "JOHN NEWTON, Clerk, Once an infidel and libertine, A servant of slaves in Africa, Was, by the rich mercy of our Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST, restored, pardoned, and appointed to preach the Gospel which he had long laboured to destroy."

Hymn Tune Source: In 1835 William Walker, compiler of Southern Harmony, paired Newton's text with a traditional song known as the hymn tune NEW BRITAIN, which was a mixture of two melodies, GALLAHER and ST. MARY, first published in the *Columbian Harmony* in 1829. The origins of these tunes are thought to be Scottish folk ballads, brought by immigrants to Kentucky and Tennessee.

Hymn Text

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
Amazing Grace
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *Amazing Grace*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and tune source.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

What do you know about the hymn tune?

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

Can you paraphrase the first stanza?

What is your understanding of the phrase “I once was lost but now am found”?

STANZA 2 Questions

Discuss the meaning of “grace”.

What does the statement, “Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved” mean?

STANZA 3 Questions

Can you paraphrase the third stanza?

What does the phrase, “Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home” mean?

STANZA 4 Questions

Discuss the meaning of this stanza, line by line.

What does it mean to you that God is your “shield” and your “portion”?

STANZA 5 Questions

To what is Newton alluding in Stanza 5?

What does the phrase, “We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’ve first begun” mean?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Amazing Grace*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

GNNIISH	-----
DASOUTHN	-----
DELISH	-----
NOGL	-----
DROW	-----
RAFE	-----
EWEST	-----
DUNSO	-----
UROH	-----
DNLBI	-----

DOOG	-----
RECUSES	-----
NOOPRIT	-----
SILOT	-----
SRENAS	-----
HATTUG	-----
CREWTH	-----
SORUPICE	-----
NUS	-----
DOFUN	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Amazing Grace*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Amazing Grace* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Amazing grace! How sweet the _____
That saved a _____ like me!
I once was lost, but now am _____;
Was _____, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my _____ to fear,
And grace my fears _____;
How precious did that grace _____
The hour I first _____!

Through many _____, toils and _____,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me _____ thus far,
And grace will lead me _____.

The Lord has _____ good to me,
His Word my _____ secures;
He will my _____ and Portion be,
As long as life _____.

When we've been there ten _____ years,
Bright _____ as the sun,
We've no less days to _____ God's praise
Than when we'd first _____.

thousand	shining	begun	sing
home	dangers	snares	safe
serves	whole	kin	love
relieved	heart	appear	believed
promised	shield	endures	hope
sound	found	wretch	blind

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
*****Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page

Hymn of the Month: *O Sacred Head Now/Sore) Wounded*

Hymn Tune: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN (PASSION CHORALE)

Text Source: Attributed to Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153, (*Salve caput cruentatum*);
translated from Latin to German by Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676), 1656;
translated from Latin to English by James W. Alexander (1804-1859), 1830.

Hymn Tune Source: Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612) in 1601; harmonized by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) in 1729.

Hymn Text (Presbyterian Hymnal)

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered, was all for sinners' gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
Look on me with Thy favor, vouchsafe to me Thy grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to Thee.

Hymn Text (The Hymnal 1982)

O sacred head, sore wounded, defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head, surrounded with mocking crown of thorn:
What sorrow mars thy grandeur? Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendor the hosts of heaven adore!

Thy beauty, long-desired, hath vanished from our sight;
thy power is all expired, and quenched the light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest, hide not so far thy grace:
show me, O Love most highest, the brightness of thy face.

In thy most bitter passion my heart to share doth cry,
with thee for my salvation upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved to stand thy cross beneath,
to mourn thee, well-beloved, yet thank thee for thy death.

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine for ever! and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never, outlive my love for thee.

My days are few, O fail not, with thine immortal power,
to hold me that I quail not in death's most fearful hour;
that I may fight befriended, and see in my last strife
to me thine arms extended upon the cross of life.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
O Sacred Head Now (Sore) Wounded
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *O Sacred Head Now (Sore) Wounded*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and tune source.
 - Who wrote the hymn text?
 - What language was the original language of the text?
 - What is the name of the hymn tune?
 - Who wrote the hymn tune?
 - Who harmonized the hymn tune as we sing it today?
4. Each week, have the choristers paraphrase a different stanza of the hymn text. Discuss the differences in the text as it is presented in the *Presbyterian Hymnal* and *The Hymnal 1982*. It might be interesting for the choristers to read the translation of the entire text. You can find this from several sources on the internet.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble {JYgdb%

Unscramble the words found in the text of *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered, was all for sinners' gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
Look on me with Thy favor, vouchsafe to me Thy grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to Thee.

OKOL	_____	DHAE	_____
DACRES	_____	DEHEWIG	_____
GIREF	_____	DREESFUF	_____
MEASH	_____	NESSIRN	_____
NIPA	_____	NIRFED	_____
YROG	_____	ROWBOR	_____
NORCW	_____	VUETOIL	_____
SNORTH	_____	EAGRC	_____
TYPI	_____	ORVAF	_____
LYROG	_____	GULAGENA	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble (JYgdb&)

Unscramble the words found in the text of *O Sacred Head Sore Wounded*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

O sacred head, sore wounded, defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head, surrounded with mocking crown of thorn:
What sorrow mars thy grandeur? Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendor the hosts of heaven adore!

Thy beauty, long-desired, hath vanished from our sight;
thy power is all expired, and quenched the light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest, hide not so far thy grace:
show me, O Love most highest, the brightness of thy face.

In thy most bitter passion my heart to share doth cry,
with thee for my salvation upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved to stand thy cross beneath,
to mourn thee, well-beloved, yet thank thee for thy death.

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine for ever! and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never, outlive my love for thee.

My days are few, O fail not, with thine immortal power,
to hold me that I quail not in death's most fearful hour;
that I may fight befriended, and see in my last strife
to me thine arms extended upon the cross of life.

CEFA	-----	SAPNOIS	-----
CHDQUEEN	-----	TAVLANOIS	-----
PRIEDEX	-----	DOLEBEV	-----
DISHVANE	-----	HATED	-----
GNILKY	-----	MORALTIM	-----
RUDARGEN	-----	FERIST	-----
WERDOLFE	-----	DEXDEENT	-----
PROLDENS	-----	LIQUA	-----
EVOL	-----	VETOLIU	-----
TINGNIFA	-----	GULAGENA	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

O sacred Head, now _____, with _____ and shame _____ down,
Now _____ surrounded with _____, Thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what _____ till now was Thine!
Yet, though _____ and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.

What Thou, my Lord, hast _____, was all for sinners' _____;
Mine, mine was the _____, but Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I _____ Thy place;
_____ on me with Thy _____, vouchsafe to me Thy _____.

What _____ shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest friend,
For this Thy dying _____, Thy _____ without end?
O make me Thine _____, and should I _____ be,
Lord, let me never, never _____ my love to Thee.

outlive	wounded	favor	transgression
bliss	sorrow	grief	weighed
forever	deserve	pity	fainting
look	gain	thorns	language
despised	scornfully	suffered	grace

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *Immortal, Invisible*

Hymn Tune: ST. DENIO

Text Writer: **Walter C. Smith** (1824-1908), born in Aberdeen, Scotland, and attended Marischal College at the University of Aberdeen and New College at the University of Edinburgh. He served as rector of two prominent Scottish churches, the Free Tron Church, Glasgow, and the Free High Church, Edinburgh. Smith was a prolific writer of both poems and hymn texts. His hymn texts were published in 1886 in a collection, *Hymns of Christ and the Christian Life*.

Hymn Tune Composer: **John Roberts** (1822-1877) was born near Aberystwyth, Wales. He is known by his Welsh name Ieuan Gwyllt (which translates as “Wild John”). He conducted choirs from age fourteen, and became a schoolteacher at age sixteen. He was ordained as a Calvinist Methodist minister. He founded the Welsh singing festival “Gymanfa ganu”. He was the compiler of the significant Welsh Calvinist Methodist hymnal published in 1874. John Roberts adapted the Welsh ballad (tune name JOANNA) as hymn tune (St. DENIO), publishing it first in 1839 in his hymnal, *Hymns of the Sanctuary*.

Hymn Text:

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

Unresting, unhaunting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest—to both great and small;
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish—but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O help us to see
Tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Immortal, Invisible Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *Immortal, Onvisible*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Who composed the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the hymn tune writer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

What do the words, “immortal” and “invisible” mean?

What does the phrase, “Ancient of Days” mean?

What is the important idea the hymn text writer is making in this stanza?

STANZA 2 Questions

What do the words, “unresting” and “unhasting” indicate about the character of God?

Why do you think the hymn text writer refers to God as “silent as light”?

Can you paraphrase this stanza?

STANZA 3 Questions

Can you paraphrase the first two lines of this stanza?

What does the phrase, “but naught changest Thee” mean and why is this an important concept for Christian believers?

STANZA 4 Questions

Why do angels adoring God “veil their sight”?

Can you paraphrase the final two lines of this stanza?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Immortal, Invisible*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

Unresting, unhaunting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest—to both great and small;
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish—but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O help us to see
Tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

SAINTNUMO	-----	NITGNURES	-----
SODCUL	-----	SODOSENG	-----
ARISONG	-----	NANTICE	-----
DELIVE	-----	TINSEL	-----
IVINGLE	-----	SCEJITU	-----
DROUSLENP	-----	DULA	-----
GSEALN	-----	SHROULIF	-----
BOLMOSS	-----	EVSALE	-----
SHRIPE	-----	SEWI	-----
BLEINSIIV	-----	SEYY	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Immortal Invisible*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Immortal, Invisible* text from memory.
Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Immortal, _____, God only wise,
In light _____ hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most _____, the _____ of Days,
Almighty, _____, thy great Name we praise.

_____, unhasting, and _____ as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy _____ like mountains high _____ above
Thy clouds which are _____ of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest—to both great and small;
In all life thou livest, the _____ life of all;
We blossom and _____ as leaves on the tree,
And _____ and _____—but naught _____ thee.

Great Father of _____, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore thee, all _____ their sight;
All laud we would _____: O help us to see
Tis only the _____ of light _____ thee.

<i>unresting</i>	<i>splendour</i>	<i>changeth</i>	<i>invisible</i>
<i>silent</i>	<i>veiling</i>	<i>flourish</i>	<i>glorious</i>
<i>justice</i>	<i>glory</i>	<i>wither</i>	<i>ancient</i>
<i>soaring</i>	<i>render</i>	<i>perish</i>	<i>inaccessible</i>
<i>fountains</i>	<i>hideth</i>	<i>true</i>	<i>victorious</i>

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

Hymn Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART

Text Writer/Source: Johann Jakob Schütz (1640-1690), *Christliches Gedenckbüchlein* (Frankfurt am Main, Germany: 1675) translated from German to English by Frances E. Cox, 1864. Johann Schütz was born and died in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. He studied law at Tübingen University, and then practiced law in Frankfurt. He published two books of hymn texts.

Hymn Tune Source: Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesänge* (Berlin: 1556)

Hymn Text:

Sing praise to God Who reigns above, the God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

What God's almighty power hath made His gracious mercy keepeth,
By morning glow or evening shade His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of His might, Lo! all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

Thus, all my toilsome way along, I sing aloud Thy praises,
That earth may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy Name give God all praise and glory;
Let all who own His power proclaim aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

What is the source of the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the hymn tune source.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

STANZA 1 Questions

What does the phrase, “God of power” mean?

What does the phrase, “God of love, the God of our salvation” mean?

What is the important idea the hymn text writer is making in this stanza?

STANZA 2 Questions

What does the phrase, “What God’s almighty power hath made His gracious mercy keepeth?” mean

What does the phrase, “Within the kingdom of His might, Lo! all is just and all is right” mean?

Can you paraphrase this stanza?

STANZA 3 Questions

Can you paraphrase the first two lines of this stanza?

What does the phrase, “as with a mother’s tender hand” mean?

STANZA 4 Questions

Can you paraphrase this stanza?

What does it mean to be “joyful in the Lord”?

STANZA 5 Questions

Can you paraphrase this stanza?

What does it mean to “cast each false idol from its throne”?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Sing praise to God Who reigns above, the God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

What God's almighty power hath made His gracious mercy keepeth,
By morning glow or evening shade His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of His might, Lo! all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is never far away, but through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

Thus, all my toilsome way along, I sing aloud Thy praises,
That earth may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy Name give God all praise and glory;
Let all who own His power proclaim aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

YROLG	_____
RUMRUM	_____
RENDET	_____
SNOWROUD	_____
TENSERP	_____
FLUYOJ	_____
CEVIO	_____
MLBA	_____
WOLG	_____
SSERPIA	_____

THRAE	_____
EMAN	_____
HEADS	_____
MOGNIGK	_____
CRYEM	_____
NDAH	_____
YDOB	_____
LODI	_____
GNSI	_____
YOTSR	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Sing praise to God Who reigns above, the God of all _____,
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our _____.
With _____ balm my soul is filled and every _____ murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

What God's almighty power hath made His gracious _____ keepeth,
By morning _____ or evening shade His watchful _____ ne'er sleepeth;
Within the _____ of His might, Lo! all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory.

The Lord is _____ far away, but through all grief distressing,
An ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and _____.
As with a mother's _____ hand, God gently leads the _____ band:
To God all praise and glory.

Thus, all my _____ way along, I sing aloud Thy praises,
That earth may hear the _____ song my voice unwearied raises.
Be _____ in the Lord, my heart, both _____ and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

Let all who name Christ's holy _____ give God all praise and glory;
Let all who own His _____ proclaim aloud the _____ story!
Cast each _____ idol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

salvation	false	soul	grateful
wondrous	Name	eye	chosen
joyful	toilsome	power	kingdom
creation	never	faithless	glow
tender	healing	mercy	blessing

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Hymn Tune: CWM RHONDDA (1907)

Text Writer/Source: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969) was an American pastor and writer who penned this text in 1930 for the dedication service of Riverside Church, New York.

Hymn Tune Composer: John Hughes (1873-1932) was a Welsh organist and hymn tune composer who published this tune in 1907. Named after the Rhondda Valley in Wales, this tune is the best – known hymn tune in Wales today.

Hymn Text:

God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy people pour Thy power.
Crown Thine ancient church's story,
Bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour, For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil 'round us
Scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways.
From the fears that long have bound us,
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days, For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness,
Bend our pride to Thy control.
Shame our wanton selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal, Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places,
Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces,
In the fight to set men free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
That we fail not man nor Thee, That we fail not man nor Thee.

Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore.
Let the search for Thy salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving Thee Whom we adore, Serving Thee Whom we adore.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
God of Grace and God of Glory
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *God of Grace and God of Glory*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

From what country does the hymn tune come?

Tell me something about the hymn tune composer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

REFRAIN Questions

In each different stanza the hymn text writer asks God to, “Grant us wisdom, grant us courage” for a different reason. What are those five reasons?

Paraphrase each reason and describe it in your own words.

STANZA 1 Questions

What does the phrase, “On Thy people pour Thy power” mean?

What does the phrase, “Crown Thine ancient church’s story” mean?

Can you paraphrase this stanza?

STANZA 2 Questions

Can you paraphrase the first two lines of this stanza?

What does the phrase, “Free our hearts to faith and praise”, mean?

Can you paraphrase this stanza?

STANZA 3 Questions

What are the three behaviors/attitudes that the text writer is asking for God to change in us?

How do these attitudes and behaviors cause us to “miss Thy kingdom’s goal”?

STANZA 4 Questions

What does it mean to “set our feet on lofty places”?

What does it mean to be “armored with all Christ-like graces”?

Can you paraphrase this stanza?

STANZA 5 Questions

What does it mean to ask God to “save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore”?

Can you paraphrase this stanza?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *God of Grace and God of Glory*. As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy people pour Thy power.
Crown Thine ancient church's story,
Bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour, For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil 'round us
Scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways.
From the fears that long have bound us,
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days, For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness,
Bend our pride to Thy control.
Shame our wanton selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal, Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places,
Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces,
In the fight to set men free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
That we fail not man nor Thee, That we fail not man nor Thee.

Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore.
Let the search for Thy salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving Thee Whom we adore, Serving Thee Whom we adore.

YROLG	_____	SILVE	_____
CARGES	_____	EFET	_____
MODSIW	_____	WOREP	_____
SENSALDG	_____	SHELSIF	_____
GEAUCRO	_____	REACHS	_____
GIILVN	_____	LOAG	_____
TYFOL	_____	LUOS	_____
ERFE	_____	CHIR	_____
LIAF	_____	TONNAW	_____
DREAMRO	_____	YOTSR	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *God of Grace and God of Glory* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy _____ pour Thy _____.
Crown Thine _____ church's story,
Bring her bud to glorious _____.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour, For the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil 'round us
_____ Thy Christ, assail His ways.
From the _____ that long have bound us,
Free our hearts to faith and _____.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the _____ of these days, For the living of these days.

_____ Thy children's warring madness,
Bend our _____ to Thy _____.
Shame our wanton _____ gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal, Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on _____ places,
Gird our lives that they may be
_____ with all Christ-like _____,
In the fight to set men _____.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
That we fail not man nor Thee, That we fail not man nor Thee.

Save us from _____ resignation
To the evils we _____.
Let the _____ for Thy salvation
Be our _____ evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving Thee Whom we adore, Serving Thee Whom we adore.

lofty	graces	deplore	scorn
armored	weak	fears	pride
search	living	selfish	power
praise	control	people	glory
cure	ancient	flower	free

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Hymn Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

Text Writer/Tune Composer: John Francis Wade (1711-1786) was a Catholic lay person, born in either Douay, France, or in England. He fled the Jacobean rebellion in 1745, moving to France. He taught music and copied plainsong chant and hymn manuscripts for his own use.

Hymn Text:

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him Born the King of Angels:

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, Begotten, not created:

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing!

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

O Come All Ye Faithful Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *O Come All Ye Faithful*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.
 - Who wrote the hymn text and tune?
 - Tell me something about the hymn text and tune writer.
 - What is the name of the hymn tune?
 - From what country does the hymn tune come?
4. Choose from the following discussion points to help the choristers learn the hymn text.
 - A. Read each stanza of the hymn and ask the choristers to paraphrase it.
 - B. Discuss the meaning of, “God from God, Light from Light eternal”.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *O Come All Ye Faithful*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.
Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.
Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him Born the King of Angels:

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, Begotten, not created:

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing!

SHELF	-----	YREV	-----
RATHEF	-----	BOWM	-----
DROW	-----	SHORAB	-----
RYOLG	-----	SHELSIF	-----
GRINMON	-----	TOGNETEB	-----
SLENGA	-----	LODHEB	-----
GNIS	-----	HITALUFF	-----
SCHIRO	-----	FLUYOJ	-----
ZINESCTI	-----	EMOC	-----
STEGHH	-----	ROADE	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *O Come All Ye Faithful* text from memory.

Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

O come, all ye faithful, ____ and ____!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and see him Born the King of

Refrain: O _____, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us _____ Him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of _____,
Lo, he _____ not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, _____, not created:

Yea, Lord, we _____ thee, Born this _____ morning;
_____, to thee be glory given!
____ of the Father, Now in _____ appearing!

heaven citizens begotten behold

exultation abhors angels come

light triumphant Jesus flesh

joyful happy word adore

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Hymn Tune: ROYAL OAK

Text Writer: **Cecil Frances Alexander** (1818-1995), was born in Dublin, Ireland, and was well known as a text writer by the 1840s. Her collection, *Hymns for Little Children*, had been printed in sixty-nine editions by the close of the nineteenth century. Other important hymn texts by Alexander are *There Is a Green Hill Far Away* and *Once in Royal David's City*.

Hymn Source: **ROYAL OAK** is thought to be named for a tree in Shropshire, England, where King Charles II hid during the Battle of Worcester in 1651. This tune is a folk song that may predate 1600. Martin Shaw arranged the tune as a hymn setting, publishing it in his collection *Song Time* in 1915.

Hymn Text:

REFRAIN: *All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings.

The purple headed mountain, The river running by,
The sunset and the morning, That brightens up the sky;

The cold wind in the winter, The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,— He made them every one:

The tall trees in the greenwood, The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water, We gather every day;

He gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Ideas for Using the Materials

Week 1

- Hand out a hymnal and a copy of the *Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page* to each chorister.
- Sing the hymn (as many or as few stanzas as you like).
- Ask questions from the *Introductory Discussion* page.
- Remind the choristers about the Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y certificate each of them will be earning at the end of the choir year, by memorizing the first stanza of each *Hymn-of-the-Month*.

Week 2

- Hand out a hymnal and a copy of the *Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page* to each chorister.
- Sing the hymn (as many or as few stanzas as you like).
- Continue with or review questions from the *Introductory Discussion* page.
- Hand out a copy of Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble to each chorister for work during rehearsal or as a take-home project.

Week 3

- Hand out a hymnal and a copy of the *Hymn-of-the-Month Information Page* to each chorister.
- Sing the hymn (as many or as few stanzas as you like).
- Ask the choristers to tell you anything they can remember by memory from the previous weeks' discussions about the hymn text, its writer and composer.
- Hand out a copy of Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game to each chorister for work during rehearsal or as a take-home project.

Week 4

- Hand out a hymnal.
- Sing the entire hymn.
- Ask any students who would like to do so to sing as a group, by memory, the first stanza of the hymn to earn this month's credit for his/her Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y certificate.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y
All Things Bright and Beautiful
Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *All Things Bright and Beautiful*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What are two other important hymn texts penned by this writer?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

What is the source of the hymn tune?

Tell me something interesting about the origin of the hymn tune name.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

A. Make a list of each God's creations mentioned in the hymn text; how many can you list by memory?

B. According to the text, why did God give us eyes and lips?

C. Make a list of God's creations you would include if you were writing a continuation of this hymn text.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *All Things Bright and Beautiful*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

*All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings.

The purple headed mountain, The river running by,
The sunset and the morning, That brightens up the sky;—

The cold wind in the winter, The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,— He made them every one:

The tall trees in the greenwood, The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water, We gather every day;—

He gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well.

FLUTIAUBE	-----	MERMUS	-----
SCARERUTE	-----	RENDAG	-----
SEIW	-----	RENTWI	-----
PSLI	-----	TUNESS	-----
SEYY	-----	LEPPRU	-----
TAGREH	-----	IVRRE	-----
RETAW	-----	REWOLF	-----
DEAMWOS	-----	DРИB	-----
SERET	-----	GNISS	-----
SESHUR	-----	ROLSOC	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *All Things Bright and Beautiful* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

*All things _____ and beautiful, All _____ great and small,
All things _____ and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.*

*Each little _____ that opens, Each little _____ that sings,
He made their _____ colors, He made their tiny _____.*

*The _____ headed mountain, The _____ running by,
The _____ and the morning, That brightens up the _____;*

*The cold wind in the _____, The _____ summer sun,
The ripe _____ in the garden,— He made them every one:*

*The tall _____ in the greenwood, The _____ where we play,
The rushes by the _____, We gather every day;—*

*He gave us _____ to see them, And _____ that we might tell,
How great is God _____, Who has made all things well.*

purple *bird* *meadows* *water*

pleasant *flower* *wings* *sunset*

trees *fruits* *glowing* *creatures*

wise *almighty* *river* *winter*

sky *eyes* *bright* *lips*

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation*

Hymn Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN

Text Writer: Joachim Neander (1650-1680), was born in Bremen, Germany and was a Reformed Church theologian and hymn text writer. Neander penned more than 60 hymns, designating melodies for many of them. This German text was translated into English in the 19th century by Catherine Winkworth.

Hymn Source: LOBE DEN HERREN is a tune originally from Stralsund, Germany. First published in 1665. Jochim Neander altered the tune in 1680 to fit his hymn text *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*. Bach used this melody in two of his cantatas, Cantata 57 and Cantata 137.

Hymn Text:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who over all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how how your desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the amen sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation*.

2. Have the choristers read the information page.

3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

What is the source of the hymn tune?

Tell me something interesting about the use of this hymn tune.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

A. What are the characteristics and actions of God that are praise worthy?

B. According to the text, what are some of the ways we are directed to respond to God?

C. Make a list of God's attributes you would include if you were writing a continuation of this hymn text.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who over all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how your desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the amen sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

MGHIALYT	-----	LEEOPP	-----
INASTAUHTE	-----	REPOSRP	-----
KROW	-----	NEDATT	-----
WANE	-----	NOTIRACE	-----
CRYEM	-----	REISSED	-----
RONEDP	-----	LOUS	-----
HHLTAE	-----	DALG	-----
SRPIAES	-----	RAEH	-----
THRABE	-----	FILE	-----
DDEENF	-----	ENDRIFEB	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *All Things Bright and Beautiful* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of _____!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy _____ and salvation!
All ye who _____, now to His _____ draw near;
Praise Him in glad _____.

Praise to the Lord, who over all things so wondrously _____,
Shelters thee under His _____, yea, so _____ sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how how your _____ e'er have been
Granted in what He _____?

Praise to the Lord, who doth thy work and thee;
Surely His and mercy here daily thee.
 anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He thee,

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me ____ Him!
All that hath life and _____, come now with praises before Him.
Let the _____ sound from His _____ again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

<i>reigneth</i>	<i>hear</i>	<i>people</i>	<i>ordaineth</i>
<i>desires</i>	<i>gently</i>	<i>health</i>	<i>amen</i>
<i>prosper</i>	<i>attend</i>	<i>wings</i>	<i>creation</i>
<i>ponder</i>	<i>temple</i>	<i>goodness</i>	<i>adoration</i>
<i>breath</i>	<i>befriend</i>	<i>adore</i>	<i>defend</i>

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *Ah, Holy Jesus*

Hymn Tune: HERZLIEBSTER JESU

Text Writer: Johann Heermann (1585-1647), was born Raudten, Silesia. When he survived a severe childhood illness, his mother committed herself to educating her son for the ministry. He became a Lutheran pastor and a writer of many hymn texts.

Hymn Tune Composer: Johann Crüger (1598-1662), was born in Bresen, Germany. He studied theology at the universities in Berlin and Wittenberg, and trained himself as a musician, serving as both teacher and cantor in Berlin. He composed concert works, wrote books on music education, and edited the most important German Lutheran hymnal of the 17th century.

Hymn Text:

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast Thou offended,
That man to judge Thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by Thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon Thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone Thee.'
Twas I, Lord, Jesus, I it was denied Thee!
I crucified Thee.

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
The slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;
For man's atonement, while he nothing heedeth,
God intercedeth.

For me, kind Jesus, was Thy incarnation,
Thy mortal sorrow, and Thy life's oblation;
Thy death of anguish and Thy bitter passion,
For my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay Thee,
I do adore Thee, and will ever pray Thee,
Think on Thy pity and Thy love unswerving,
Not my deserving.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Ah, Holy Jesus Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *Ah, Holy Jesus*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

A. Read the text of each stanza aloud; can you paraphrase the stanza in one sentence or question?

B. Is this an objective or subjective text? Why?

C. Make a list of the five events in Christ's life, listed in the third stanza, that were undertaken for us, God's children.

D. Can you define all the words in this text? Make a game of defining the More complex words of the text.

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Ah, Holy Jesus*.

As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word **EVERY** time it appears in the text.

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast Thou offended,
That man to judge Thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by Thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon Thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone Thee.'
Twas I, Lord, Jesus, I it was denied Thee!
I crucified Thee.

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
The slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;
For man's atonement, while he nothing heedeth,
God intercedeth.

For me, kind Jesus, was Thy incarnation,
Thy mortal sorrow, and Thy life's oblation;
Thy death of anguish and Thy bitter passion,
For my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay Thee,
I do adore Thee, and will ever pray Thee,
Think on Thy pity and Thy love unswerving,
Not my deserving.

GRINWESIVU	_____	DEFOFEDN	_____
THEDCERETNI	_____	DEFREFSU	_____
THADE	_____	DREPHHES	_____
YTIP	_____	TORMLA	_____
YPAR	_____	WORROS	_____
TIBRET	_____	ETAH	_____
PEESH	_____	SFEQ	_____
DEIFICURC	_____	CETFIDAFL	_____
YTIGUL	_____	EVALS	_____
DUEGJ	_____	DEDERTEN	_____

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Ah, Holy Jesus*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Ah, Holy Jesus* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Ah, _____ Jesus, how hast Thou offended,
That man to judge Thee hath in hate _____?
By foes _____, by Thine own rejected,
O most _____.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon Thee?
Alas, my _____, Jesus, hath undone Thee.'
Twas I, Lord, Jesus, I it was _____ Thee!
I _____ Thee.

Lo, the Good _____ for the sheep is offered;
The _____ hath sinned, and the Son hath _____;
For man's _____, while he nothing heedeth,
God _____.

For me, kind Jesus, was Thy _____,
Thy mortal _____, and Thy life's _____;
Thy death of _____ and Thy bitter passion,
For my salvation.

Therefore, _____ Jesus, since I cannot pay Thee,
I do adore Thee, and will ever _____ Thee,
Think on Thy _____ and Thy love unswerving,
Not my _____.

<i>oblation</i>	<i>slave</i>	<i>pity</i>	<i>shepherd</i>
<i>crucified</i>	<i>deserving</i>	<i>anguish</i>	<i>sorrow</i>
<i>intercedeth</i>	<i>suffered</i>	<i>derided</i>	<i>treason</i>
<i>pray</i>	<i>incarnation</i>	<i>pretended</i>	<i>holy</i>
<i>atonement</i>	<i>afflicted</i>	<i>denied</i>	<i>kind</i>

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Hymn of the Month: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

Hymn Tune: LYRICA DAVIDICA

Text Writer: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), leader of the Methodist movement and ordained Anglican clergyman, was born in Epworth, Lincolnshire, England, and attended Christ Church, Oxford University, where he earned degrees in classical languages and literature. He wrote more than 6000 hymns during his life; one of the best known of is *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*, published in *Hymns and Sacred Songs* by John and Charles Wesley in 1739. The hymn is based on a 14th century Latin hymn, translated into English and published in *Lyra Davidica* in 1708.

Hymn Tune Composer: LYRA DAVIDICA (1708), is a hymn tune that first appeared in the collection *Lyrica Davidica*, paired with the translation of the 14th century Latin text *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*. The composer is unknown.

Hymn Text:

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation hath procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia!
Praise Him, all you heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today Introductory Discussion

Materials Needed for Each Chorister:

Hymnal

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Hymn-of the Month Information Page

1. Have the choristers sing *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*.
2. Have the choristers read the information page.
3. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text writer and composer.

Who wrote the hymn text?

Tell me something about the hymn text writer.

What is the original source of the text?

What is the name of the hymn tune?

Tell me something about the source of the hymn tune.

4. Choose from the following questions to ask the choristers about the hymn text.

Stanza 1

Why is Easter referred to as *our* triumphant holy day?

What does "... did once upon the cross suffer to redeem our loss" mean?

Stanza 2

What is the reason we should sing hymns of praise?

What is given as the reason Christ "endured both the cross and grave"?

Stanza 3

What are "the pains which he endured"?

In the first three stanzas of this Easter text, reference is made to Christ's suffering and death; why would an Easter text refer so vividly to Christ's suffering and death?

Stanza 4

What is a name for the final stanza of this hymn, an exhortation to praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost?

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Word Scramble

Unscramble the words found in the text of *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*.
As you unscramble each word, find the word in the hymn text and circle it.

Note: some words appear more than one time in the text.

Circle the word EVERY time it appears in the text.

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation hath procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia!
Praise Him, all you heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

LARNETE	-----	SORCS	-----
EVENLAHY	-----	ERVAG	-----
TSHOG	-----	SHNYM	-----
EVOL	-----	EVAS	-----
GNIS	-----	DERMEE	-----
PISAN	-----	SOLS	-----
REDCROUP	-----	FREUSF	-----
REDDENU	-----	PATTIRHAUM	-----
GLASEN	-----	NERSI	-----
VAINTOLAS	-----	YLHO	-----

Hymn-KNOWLEDGE-y Memory Game

Text: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

Fill in the blanks with missing words from the *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* text from memory. Word choices appear at the bottom of this page.

Jesus Christ is _____ today, Alleluia!
Our _____ holy day, Alleluia!
Who did _____, upon the cross, Alleluia!
_____ to _____ our loss, Alleluia!

_____ of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who _____ the _____ and _____, Alleluia!
_____ to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the _____ which He endured, Alleluia!
Our _____ hath _____, Alleluia!
Now above the _____ He's King, Alleluia!
Where the _____ ever sing, Alleluia!

_____ we to our God _____, Alleluia!
Praise _____ as His love, Alleluia!
Praise Him, all you _____ host, Alleluia!
_____, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

<i>heavenly</i>	<i>eternal</i>	<i>above</i>	<i>once</i>
<i>redeem</i>	<i>pains</i>	<i>risen</i>	<i>triumphant</i>
<i>salvation</i>	<i>grave</i>	<i>angels</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>procured</i>	<i>sing</i>	<i>sky</i>	<i>sinners</i>
<i>suffer</i>	<i>endured</i>	<i>hymns</i>	<i>cross</i>