

COME CHRISTIANS JOIN TO SING

Come, Christians, join to sing, Alleluia! Amen:
 Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
 Let all, with heart and voice, Before his throne rejoice;
 Praise is his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
 Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
 He is our Guide and Friend; To us he'll condescend;
 His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
 Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
 On heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore,
 Singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!
 Alleluia! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Worthy is the Lamb—the Lamb who was slain.
 He is worthy to receive power and riches and wisdom
 and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

**Blessing and honor and glory and power
 belong to the One sitting on the throne,
 and to Lamb forever and ever!**

—based on Revelation 5:12-13—

FATHER LONG BEFORE CREATION

Father, long before creation
 Thou hadst chosen us in love,
 And that love so deep, so moving,
 Draws us close to Christ above.
 Still it keeps us, still it keeps us.
 Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion,
 Yet our God is e'er the same;
 His compassion and His covenant
 Through all ages will remain.
 God's own children, God's own children
 Must forever praise His name.

God's compassion is my story,
 Is my boasting all the day;
 Mercy free and never failing
 Moves my will, directs my way.
 God so loved us, God so loved us
 That His only Son He gave.

Loving Father now before Thee
 We will ever praise Thy love,
 And our songs will sound unceasing
 'Til we reach our home above,
 Giving glory, giving glory
 To our God and to the Lamb;

A DEBTOR TO MERCY ALONE

A debtor to mercy alone,
 Of covenant mercy I sing;
 Nor fear, with Thy righteousness on,
 My person and offering to bring.
 The terrors of law and of God
 With me can have nothing to do;
 My Savior's obedience and blood
 Hide all my transgressions from view

The work which His goodness began,
 The arm of His strength will complete;
 His promise is yea and amen,
 And never was forfeited yet.
 Things future, nor things that are now,
 Not all things below nor above
 Can make Him His purpose forego,
 Or sever my soul from His love.

My name from the palms of His hands
 Eternity will not erase;
 Impressed on His heart it remains
 In marks of indelible grace.
 Yes, I to the end shall endure,
 As sure as the earnest is given
 More happy, but not more secure,
 The glorified spirits in heaven.

Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 34

Q92. What is God's law?

A. God spoke all these words: THE FIRST COMMANDMENT "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me." THE SECOND COMMANDMENT "You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments." THE THIRD COMMANDMENT "You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name." THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT "Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work— you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it."

THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT “Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving to you.”
THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT “You shall not murder.”
THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT “You shall not commit adultery.”
THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT “You shall not steal.”
THE NINTH COMMANDMENT “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”
THE TENTH COMMANDMENT “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

Q93. How are these commandments divided?

A. Into two tables. The first has four commandments, teaching us how we ought to live in relation to God. The second has six commandments, teaching us what we owe our neighbor.

Q94. What does the Lord require in the first commandment?

A. That I, not wanting to endanger my own salvation, avoid and shun all idolatry, sorcery, superstitious rites, and prayer to saints or to other creatures. That I rightly know the only true God, trust him alone, and look to God for every good thing humbly and patiently, and love, fear, and honor God with all my heart. In short, that I give up anything rather than go against God’s will in any way.

Q95. What is idolatry?

A. Idolatry is having or inventing something in which one trusts in place of or alongside of the only true God, who has revealed himself in the Word.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

—John 3:16–17, NRSV—

HERE IS LOVE

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
 loving-kindness as the flood,
 when the Prince of Life, our Ransom,
 shed for us His precious blood.

Who His love will not re—member?
 Who can cease to sing His praise?
 He can never be for—gotten
 throughout heav’n’s e—ternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion
 fountains opened deep and wide;
 through the floodgates of God’s mercy
 flowed a vast and gracious tide.
 Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
 poured incessant from above,
 and heav’n’s peace and perfect justice
 kissed a guilty world in love.

Let me all Thy love accepting,
 love Thee, ever all my days;
 Let me seek Thy kingdom only
 and my life be to Thy praise;
 Thou alone shalt be my glory,
 nothing in the world I see.
 Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me,
 thou Thyself hast set me free.

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me
 By Thy Spirit through Thy Word;
 And Thy grace my need is meeting
 as I trust in Thee, my Lord.
 Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring
 Thy great love and pow’r on me,
 Without measure, full and boundless,
 Drawing out my heart to Thee.

SERMON

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise him, all creatures here below;
 Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

COMMUNION

ALL MUST BE WELL

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well
 Free and changeless is His favor, all is well
 Precious is the blood that healed us
 Perfect is the grace that sealed us
 Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us
 All must be well

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well
 Ours is such a full salvation, all is well
 Happy still in God confiding

ALL MUST BE WELL cont.

Fruitful if in Christ abiding
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding
All must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well
On our Father's love relying
Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying
All must be well