

*changingMusic* Over the years, styles of worship music have varied greatly: unison chant, four part hymnody, folk melodies, tunes from classical music, spirituals, blues, rock, and pop. John Calvin said about stylistic choice in worship, "But love will best judge what may hurt or edify; and it if we let love be our guide, all will be safe."<sup>2</sup>

# Easter Hymns through church history

This selection of hymns<sup>1</sup> is ordered by when the hymn texts were written, beginning about 1500 years ago and coming up to 2001. Let us lift our voices to our risen King!

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| <p>6<sup>th</sup> c. <b>Welcome, Happy Morning!</b><br/>         Words by: Venantius Fortunatus, ca. 530-609.<br/> <i>This is one of the oldest Easter hymns in our hymnal.</i></p>   | <p><b>268</b> NOEL NOUVELET<br/>         traditional French melody</p>  |
| <p>7<sup>th</sup> c. <b>That Easter Day with Joy was Bright</b><br/>         Words: Early medieval Latin hymn, translated in <i>Hymns Ancient and Modern</i>.<br/> <i>The publication of Hymns Ancient and Modern in the mid 19th century brought many older Latin and Greek hymns to English speaking Christians.</i></p>  | <p><b>278</b> PUEL NOBIS NASCITUR<br/>         Medieval melody adapted by Michael Praetorius in 1609.</p>   |
| <p>8<sup>th</sup> c. <b>Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain</b><br/>         Words: John of Damascus, 8th century, translated by John Mason Neale, 1853.<br/> <i>John Mason Neale translated many Latin hymns into English during a mid-19th century. His work helped the church recover many forgotten older hymns, many of which are in our hymnal.</i></p>   | <p><b>266</b> ST. KEVIN<br/>         1872 by Arthur Sullivan, of the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.</p>  |
| <p>10<sup>th</sup> c. <b>Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem</b><br/>         Words: Fulbert of Chartres, ca. 975-1028, translated by Robert Campbell, 1850.<br/> <i>This is an early American hymn tune with a fugue in the second half of each verse.</i></p>   | <p><b>271</b> LYNNGHAM<br/>         Thomas Jarman, ca.1803.</p>   |
| <p>1490 <b>O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!</b><br/>         Words: Jean Tisserand, ca. 1490, translated by John Mason Neal, 1851.</p>  | <p><b>272</b> O FILII ET FILIAE<br/>         French melody, 17th century.</p>   |
| <p>1524 <b>Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands</b><br/>         Words: Martin Luther, 1524.<br/> <i>This hymn was earth-shattering; the Roman Catholic Church said that they'd have to rid Germans of their songs if Rome would ever be able to reverse the Reformed doctrines. Luther wrote it to directly challenged the Roman understanding of the Mass. Then and now, hymnody plays a large role in defining doctrine in the life of the church.</i></p> | <p><b>279</b> CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN,<br/>         medieval melody, arranged by Johann Walther, 1524, in the Wittenberg <i>Gesangbuch</i>, the first Reformation hymnal.</p> |
| <p>1862 <b>Alleluia! Alleluia!</b><br/>         Words: Christopher Wordsworth, 1862.</p>  | <p><b>283</b> EBENEZER<br/>         Thomas J Williams, 1890.</p>  |
| <p>1975 <b>Morning Sun</b><br/>         Words: James Ward, 1975.<br/> <i>The music for this hymn reminds us of the diversity of cultures from which our Lord Jesus has called us to be a people transformed to worship and serve Him.</i></p>   | <p><b>287</b> MUSIC ANNO DOMINI<br/>         James Ward, 1975</p>   |
| <p>2001 <b>In Christ Alone</b><br/>         Words: Keith Getty &amp; Stuart Townend, 2001. <i>This recent hymn reflects on all the riches we have "in Christ" and our glorious hope because He did rise to life again.</i></p>  | <p><b>(flip page over for words)</b> IN CHRIST ALONE<br/>         Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, 2001.</p>   |

Footnotes:

1. "Hymns" as we most often use the word refers to texts set to music, but the word refers to the lyrics. We have hymns today from many different times in church history, and we often don't know the "original" tune, so people have often set older lyrics to newer tunes.
2. John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion, vol. 2 (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1960), IV, 10, 30, 1208.