




 **Raise a Song of Gladness**


Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.  
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!



 Loving God, you cause rain to fall on the just  
and the unjust. Hear our prayers for your  
church and the world.  
For the hungry and the overfed,


**May we have enough;**



 For the mourners and the mockers;

**May we laugh together;**



 For the victims and the oppressors,


**May we share power wisely;**



 For the peacemakers and the warmongers,


**May clear trust and stern love lead us to  
harmony;**



 For the silenced and the propagandists,


**May we speak our own words in truth;**



 For the unemployed and the overworked,


**May our mark on this earth be kindly and creative;**



 For the troubled and the secure,


**May we live together as wounded healers;**



 For the homeless and the pampered,

**May our homes be simple, warm, and welcoming;**



 For the vibrant and the dying,

**May we all die to sin and live to love.  
Amen.**



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*Nothing can trouble;  
nothing can frighten.  
Those who seek God shall never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble;  
nothing can frighten.  
God alone fills us.*

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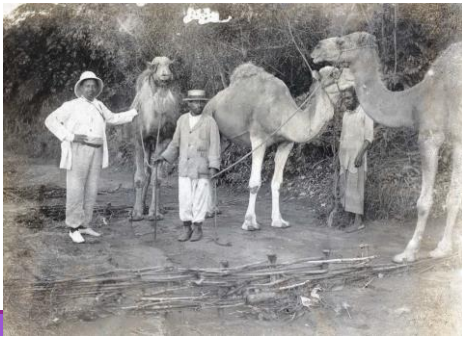


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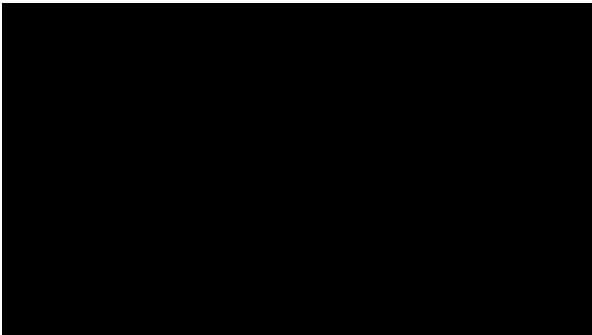



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 Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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 ...Marked, claimed, cleansed, and called, through the gift of baptism,  
**We are yours, O God.**

---


 ...Your fingers mark our foreheads with abiding grace, perfect freedom, holy truth. Through the gift of baptism,  
**We are yours, O God.**

---

 ...forgiven sinners, beloved children of the covenant. Through the gift of baptism,

**We are yours, O God.**

---

 Thanks and praise to you, O holy, triune God, today, tomorrow, and forever.

**We are yours, O God.**

**Amen.**

---



 I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry


I was there to hear your borning cry,

I'll be there when you are old.


I rejoiced the day you were baptized

To see your life unfold.


---

 I was there when you were but a child  
With a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
To find where demons dwell.


---

 When you heard the wonder of the Word,  
I was there to cheer you on.  
You were raised to praise the living Lord  
To whom you now belong.


---

 If you find someone to share your time  
And you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
From dusk till rising sun.


---

 In the middle ages of your life,  
Not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
Complete what I've begun.


---

 When the evening gently closes in  
And you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
With just one more surprise.


---

 I was there to hear your borning cry;  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
To see your life unfold.


---

 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
Come, thou Fount of every blessing;  
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.


---

 Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love!


---

 Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
 Hither by thy help I'm come;  
 And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
 Safely to arrive at home.


---

 Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
 Wandering from the fold of God;  
 He, to rescue me from danger,  
 Interposed his precious blood.

---


 O to grace how great a debtor,  
 Daily I'm constrained to be!  
 Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
 Bind my wandering heart to thee.

---

 Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,  
 Prone to leave the God I love;  
 Here's my heart; O take and seal it;  
 Seal it for thy courts above.

---



 **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah**


---

 Halle, halle, hallelu-jah!  
 Halle, halle, hallelu-jah!  
 Halle, halle, hallelu-jah!  
 Hallelujah! Hallelujah!


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 **God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me**

God, be the love to search and keep me;  
 God, be the prayer to move my voice;  
 God, be the strength to now uphold me:  
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ surround  
 me.

 **Bind to myself the Name of Holy,  
 Great cloud of witnesses enfold;  
 Prophets apostles, angels witness:  
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ surround  
 me.**

 **Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,  
 Flashing of lightning, strength of wind,  
 Depth of the sea to soil of planet:  
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ surround  
 me.**

 **Walking behind to hem my journey,  
 Going ahead to light my way,  
 And from beneath, above and all ways:  
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ surround  
 me.**

 **Christ in the eyes of all who see me,  
 Christ in the ears that hear my voice,  
 Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ surround  
 me.**

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