

HYMN DISCOVERY™

Exploring Timeless Hymns of Faith
with Elementary-Age Children
Volume 1

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Edited by Mary Ruth Marshall and James Barnard

The enclosed Enhanced CD contains audio files and PDF files.
The CD can be played in a regular CD player or through your computer.



This symbol indicates a track number on the CD for the listening version and accompaniment version of the songs. Only the first stanza of each hymn has been recorded. Subsequent stanzas may be sung using the accompaniment tracks.



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Introduction

Hymn Discovery is a new series from Growing in Grace Children's Music Resources designed to provide elementary-age children with the opportunity to explore timeless hymns of faith loved by congregations of every denomination in a way that is fun and engaging as well as age-appropriate. The eight hymns included in this first volume include favorites for every season as well as titles perfect for Thanksgiving, Christmas, Palm Sunday and Easter.

The *Hymn Discovery* book and materials on the Enhanced CD are completely reproducible. Print as many of the materials as you need for your children.

The book includes a variety of resources so that no two activities are too similar. For every title, a teaching page with puzzle answer keys and additional information is followed by a hymn sheet corresponding to the *Celebrating Grace Hymnal*, and a plethora of puzzles, fun facts, activities, instrumental accompaniments, related scripture, and dramatic readings. Witness these tried-and-true hymns come to life, instilling children with musical and character concepts that will remain with them for a lifetime.

On the Enhanced CD are demonstration and accompaniment recordings as well as color copies of all instrumental accompaniments and activities for your convenience.

Made with the same careful attention to age-appropriate concepts and spiritual depth as the Growing in Grace Children's Music Curriculum, we hope *Hymn Discovery* will be a blessing to you and the children in your life.

"Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound"

John Newton's hymn, "Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound" is one of the most popular hymns in the world. Your children will enjoy experiencing the haunting, pentatonic melody and the autobiographical text that paints a vivid portrait of God's grace.

KIDPages

Use these pages:

- With children who arrive early
- In a small learning group
- As a take-home page. (If a page is sent home, suggest that parents and children work on the puzzle together.)

John Newton: An Amazing Man

As children learn this information, point out how God revealed His presence in John Newton's life. Emphasize how he both received God's grace and shared that grace with others.

Amazing Grace Ocean Voyage

Use this page to help children learn the words of Stanza 1.

Grace Decoded

Use this page to guide children to understand the meaning of the word *grace*.

"Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound"

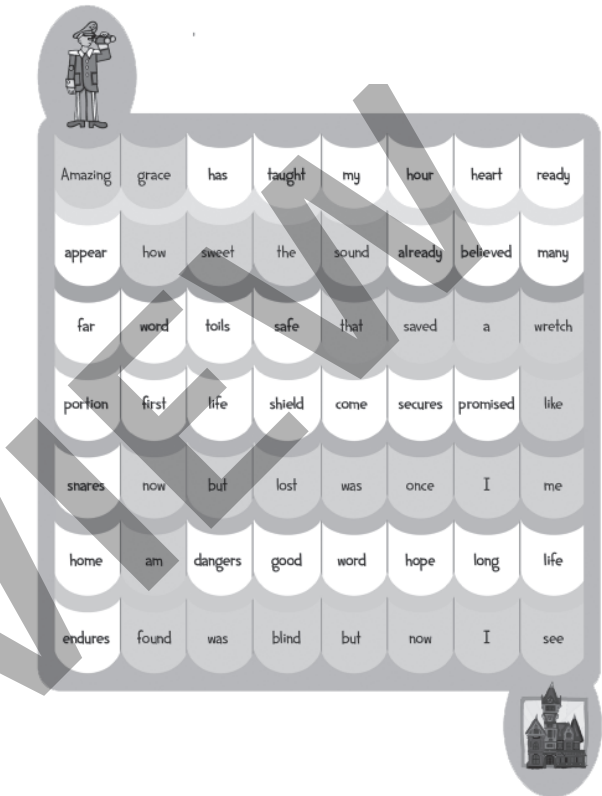
Accompaniment

Perform this chart with Boomwhackers®, bells, or Orff instruments. Reproduce this page for each player. Bring the parts in one at a time, beginning with the top part, then add the melody.

A Life of Grace Dramatic Reading

Enlist and rehearse two readers to present this dramatic reading before singing the hymn.

Ocean Voyage Answer:



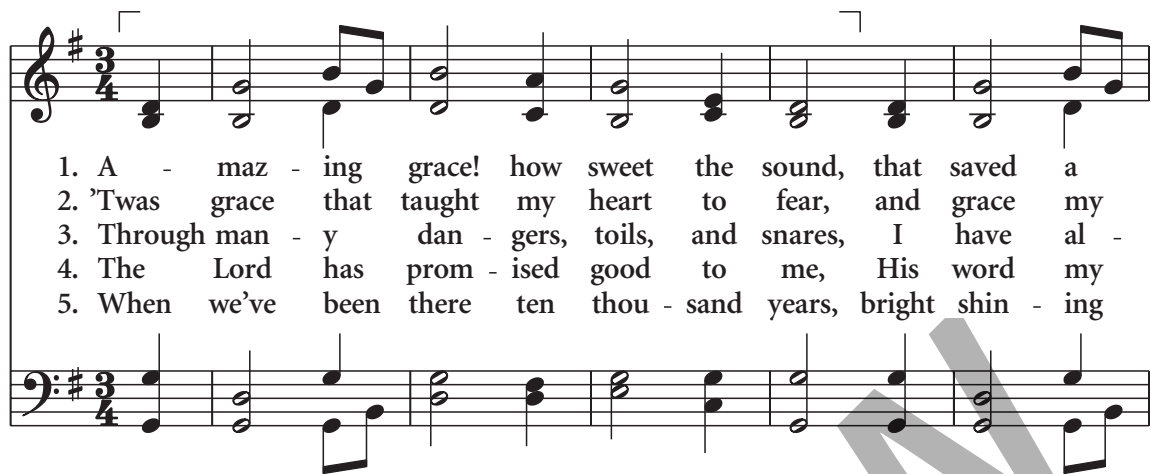
Grace Decoded Answer:

"God is able to make all grace come to you—more than enough to meet your needs and to share with others."
2 Corinthians 9:8 (paraphrase)

Definition:

A wretch is a miserable, unhappy person. After reading *John Newton: An Amazing Man*, ask children why Newton referred to himself in his former life as a wretch.

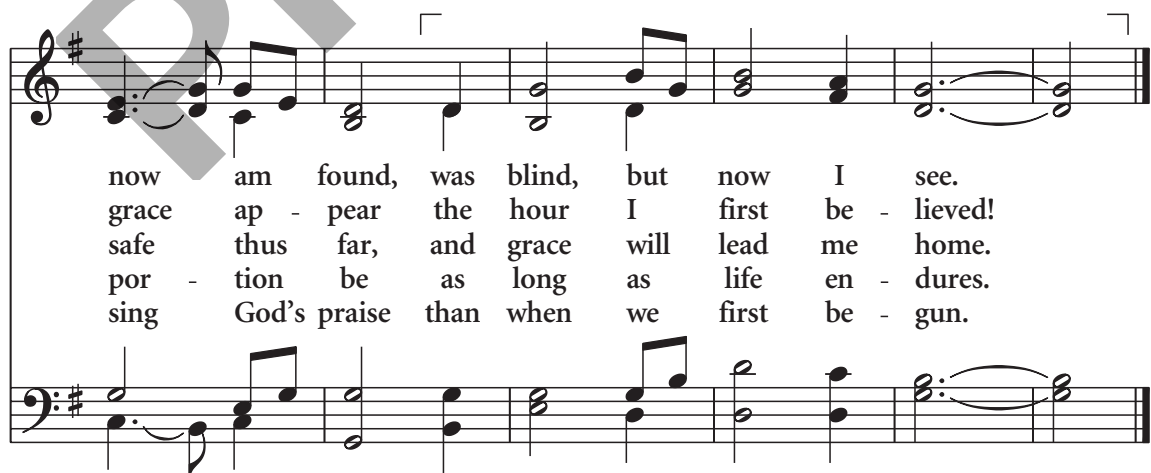
Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound



1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my
 3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al -
 4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His word my
 5. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright shin - ing



wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 read - y come; 'tis grace hath brought me
 hope se - cures; He will my shield and
 as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we first be - gun.

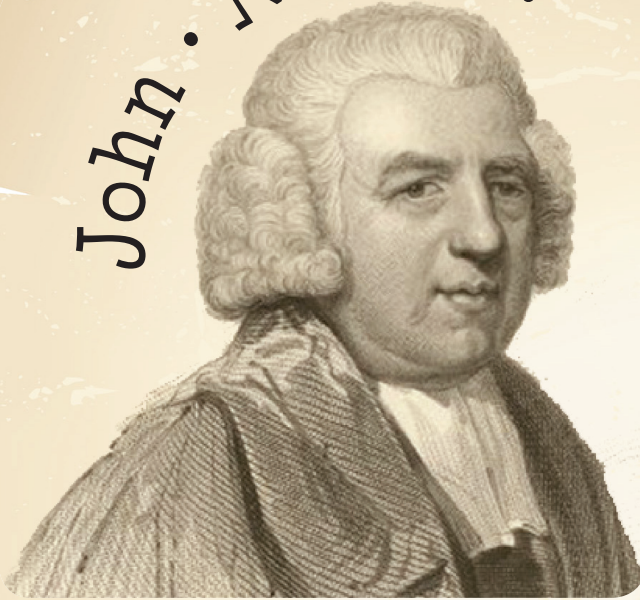
WORDS: John Newton, 1779 (sts. 1-4); Anonymous, ca. 1790 (st. 5)

MUSIC: Benjamin Shaw and Charles H. Spilman's *Columbian Harmony*, 1829;
 arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900

NEW BRITAIN

CM

John · Newton:

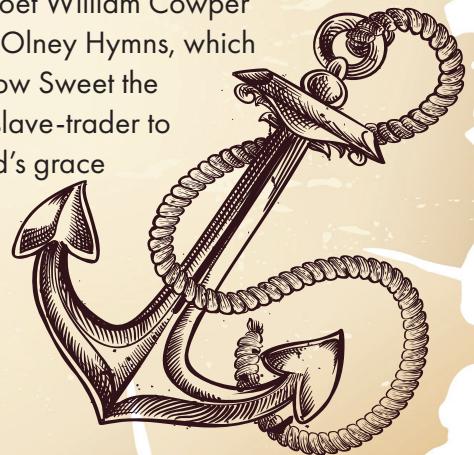
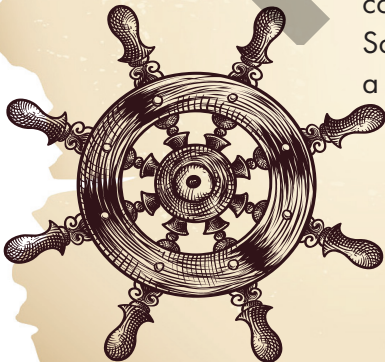


An · Amazing · Man

John Newton (1725-1807) was an English slave ship commander who became a follower of Christ and a minister. John's life took many dramatic turns. His mother died when he was a child, and John soon joined his seafaring father on exciting voyages. Later, he joined the Navy, but he soon deserted. He was recaptured and put to work on a ship that traded slaves. He decided to become rich as a slave trader, but instead he was forced to become a servant. His master treated him brutally. A friend of his father finally rescued him. John survived a bad storm at sea and other brushes with death. He began to read the Bible and other religious writings, and he trusted Jesus as his Savior.

Newton grew in his faith and began to study to become a minister. He eventually became pastor in Olney, Buckinghamshire. He became known for his kindness and care for all people. His friendship with poet William Cowper resulted in the creation of a famous hymnbook called the Olney Hymns, which

contained the hymn, "Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound." Newton's change from a selfish slave-trader to a caring minister is a living portrait of God's grace at work!



Ocean Voyage



Help John Newton sail through the ocean to his home! Color each block that contains a word of Stanza 1, shown at the bottom of the page. Then, add the punctuation to the words.

Amazing	grace	has	taught	my	hour	heart	ready
appear	how	sweet	the	sound	already	believed	many
far	word	toils	safe	that	saved	a	wretch
portion	first	life	shield	come	secures	promised	like
snares	now	but	lost	was	once	I	me
home	am	dangers	good	word	hope	long	life
endures	found	was	blind	but	now	I	see






*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.*



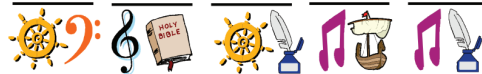
Grace Decoded

What exactly is grace? It is a gift, an attitude, or an action given or shared with someone who has done nothing to deserve it. We need to receive and give grace every day! Read the symbols across the top and down the side of the CODE BOX to track the letter that belongs in each blank. Write each letter in the correct blank to discover a promise in the Bible about grace.

CODE BOX

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

“



”



2 Corinthians 9:8 (paraphrase)

“Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”

Accompaniment

$\text{♩} = 88$ *mf*

Glockenspiel

Alto Xylophone

Alto Metallophone

Bass Xylophone

The melody of “Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound” uses only five notes of the scale: *do, re, mi, sol, and la*. These five-note melodies are called “pentatonic songs” because they use only five notes from the scale and leave out steps four (*fa*) and seven (*ti*).

Lead children to play the patterns to accompany the melody, using Orff instruments, hand chimes, resonator bells, or Boomwhackers®. Orff instrument assignments are suggested. Play the repeated section seven times.

A - maz - ing — 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. —

A Life of Grace

Hymn Introduction
(Alternate Two Readers)

John Newton lived a dramatic life.

His mother died when he was seven.

At age 11, he began life as a sailor on his father's ship.

He spent many years transporting and selling slaves.

But God's grace was at work in his life.

He survived a bad storm at sea and other brushes with death.

He began to read the Bible and other religious writings.

He soon gave his life to Christ.

Later, he felt the call to preach, and eventually
became a pastor in Olney, England.

Newton wrote a hymn about his testimony called,
"Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound."

In his later life, Newton helped the political
leaders of his day abolish slave trade.

Newton preached through his sermons, his hymns,
and through the dramatic testimony of God's grace in his life.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Although Charles Wesley wrote this hymn text, an evangelist altered the opening phrase, and a respected English church musician set the words to music adapted from Felix Mendelssohn—music which some believe Mendelssohn borrowed from Bach (listen to the Gavotte movement of Bach's Orchestral Suite No. 4, BWV 1069 to hear the startling similarities). The unlikely result is a timeless Christmas hymn that helps us celebrate Christmas and also teaches us the nature of Christ as our incarnate Emmanuel—God with us.

KIDPages

Use these pages:

- With children who arrive early
- In a small learning group
- As a take-home page (If a page is sent home, suggest that parents and children work on the puzzle together.)

A Journey Through Time

Use this page to present information about those who contributed to the creation of the hymn. Provide copies of this page for children to complete **A Hymn Who's Who** KIDPage.

A Hymn Who's Who

Provide copies of **A Journey Through Time** for children to use as a reference as they complete this page. Provide art materials for children to create images to represent the text.

God Is With Us

Help children learn the meaning of *Emmanuel* and *Incarnate* as they solve this puzzle.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Harmony Map

Perform this chart with Boomwhackers®, bells, or handchimes.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Dramatic Reading

Enlist and rehearse two readers to present this dramatic reading, present with one reader and choir, or reprint it as a responsive reading for the congregation.

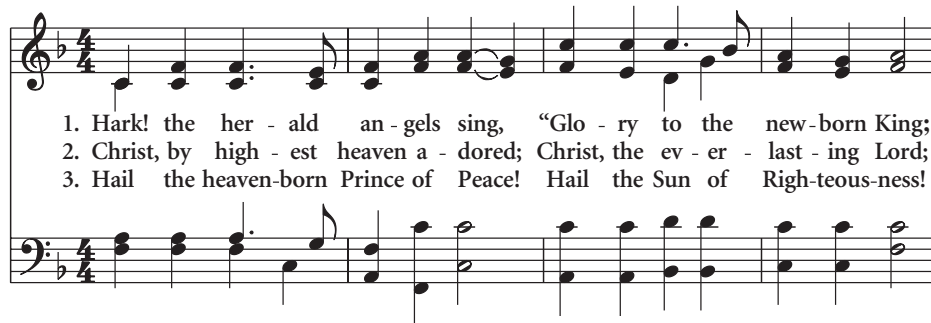
A Hymn Who's Who Answers:

1. Felix Mendelssohn
2. George Whitefield
3. Charles Wesley
4. George Whitefield
5. Charles Wesley
6. William Cummings
7. Felix Mendelssohn
8. William Cummings

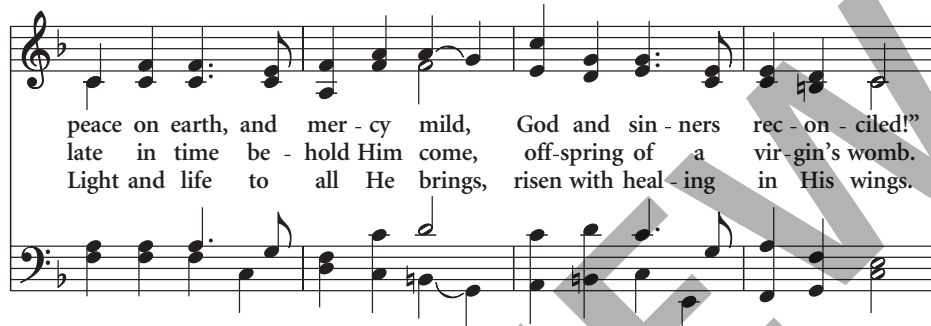
God Is With Us Answers:

1. Emmanuel
2. Incarnate

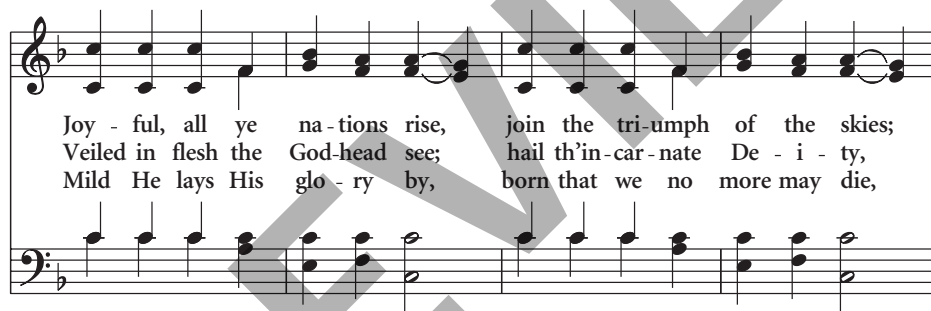
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



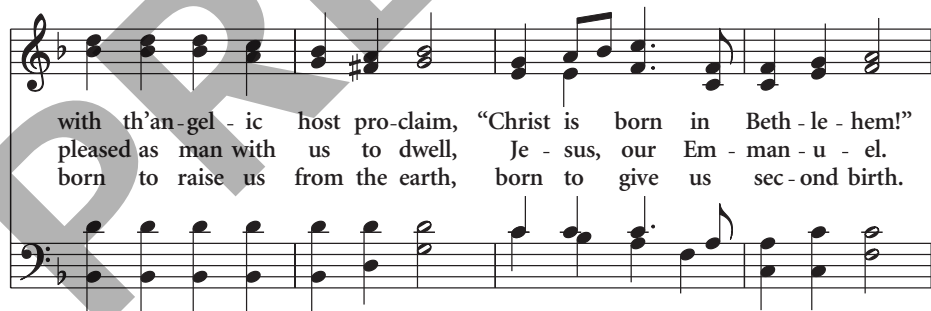
1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be - hold Him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, risen with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate De - i - ty,
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with th'an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

A Journey Through Time

Four individuals contributed their talents to create
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” as we know it today.



YEAR—1739: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) wrote a Christmas hymn titled “Hark! How All the Welkin Rings, Glory to the King of Kings.” Like all of Wesley’s hymns, it is rich in biblical truth and poetic beauty. The word *welkin* is an old English term that refers to the big, open sky overhead.

YEAR—1753: Wesley’s friend, the evangelist George Whitefield (1714-1770), changed the opening line of the hymn to “Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King,” in a creative, poetic way to express the message of good news the angels shared.



YEAR—1840: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) composed “Festival Song” to celebrate Johann Gutenberg, who invented the printing press. Mendelssohn admired the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Some people think Mendelssohn adapted some music from Bach’s *Orchestral Suite No. 4* and included it in his composition.

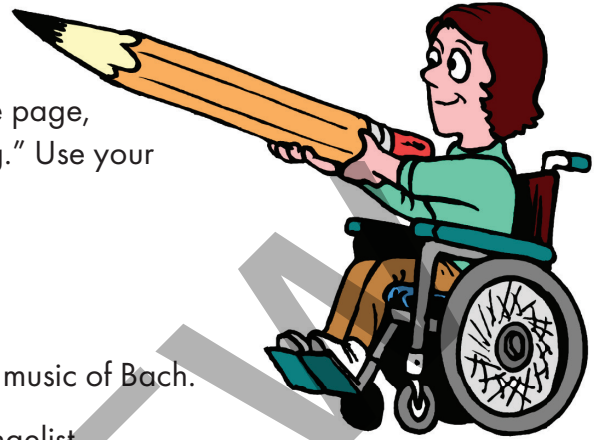
YEAR—1855: William Cummings (1831-1915), a respected English musician, arranged Mendelssohn’s music to fit the words of Wesley’s hymn as we sing it today. In 1847, when William was a teenager, he sang in the choir when Mendelssohn conducted his oratorio, *Elijah*, in London.



The remarkable hymn journey of “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” reminds us that Jesus the newborn King is the Prince of Peace, the Sun of Righteousness, the Everlasting Lord, the Incarnate Deity, and Emmanuel—God with us.

A Hymn Who's Who

Review *A Journey Through Time*, then draw a line to connect each sentence with the name of the correct individual. On a separate page, write the words to "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing." Use your creativity to substitute some words with pictures.



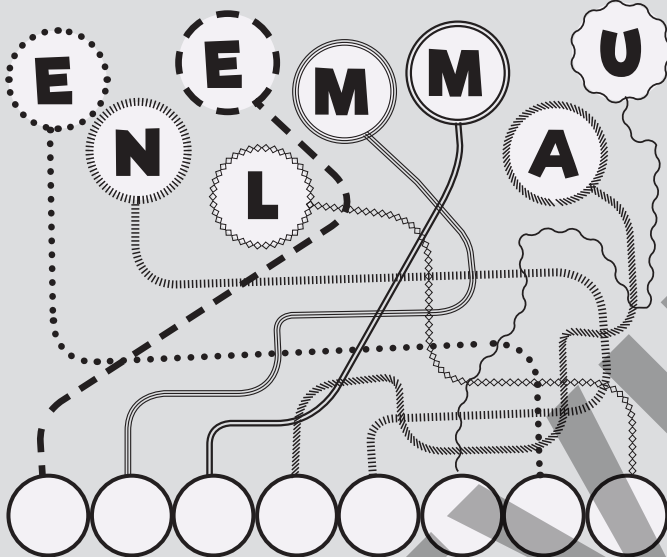
- 1. I admired the music of Bach.
- 2. I was an evangelist.
- 3. I wrote "Hark! How All the Welkin Rings."
- 4. I changed the words to Wesley's hymn.
- 5. My hymns are rich in biblical truth and poetic beauty.
- 6. I sang in a choir that Mendelssohn directed.
- 7. I composed music to celebrate Gutenberg's invention of the printing press.
- 8. I arranged Mendelssohn's music to fit Wesley's hymn text.



GOD IS WITH US!

Trace the path from each circle to write the correct letter in the blank circles. The blank circles spell two special words in "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," words that remind us that God came to be with us through Jesus.

1.



This word is a special name for Jesus. It means "God with us."

God came to dwell with us in the person of Jesus.

Matthew 1:23 says: "They shall call his name

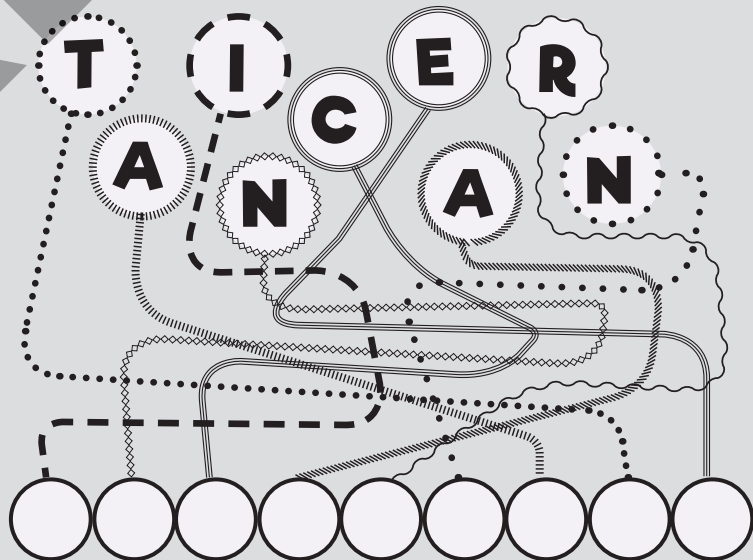
_____ God with us." (KJV)

2.

This word means "became flesh."

When you see a famous person (not just on a screen) you can say, you saw that person *in the flesh*. That's how God came to us! He became "flesh and bone" and remained God at the same time.

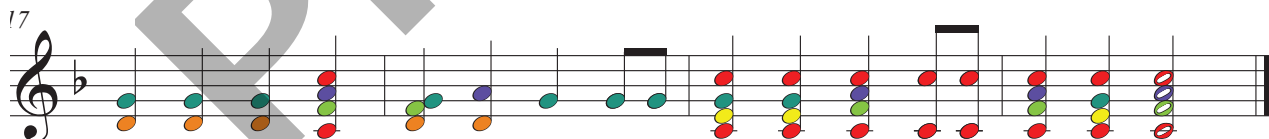
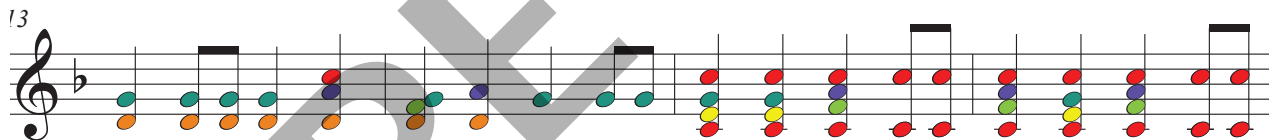
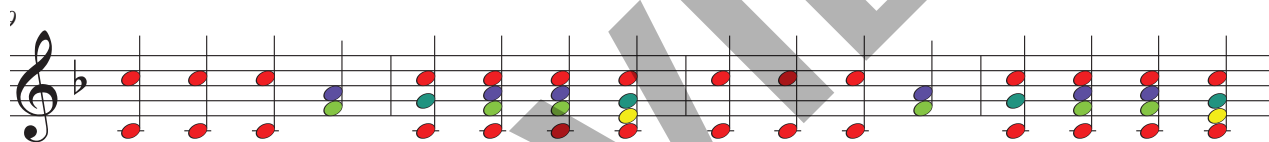
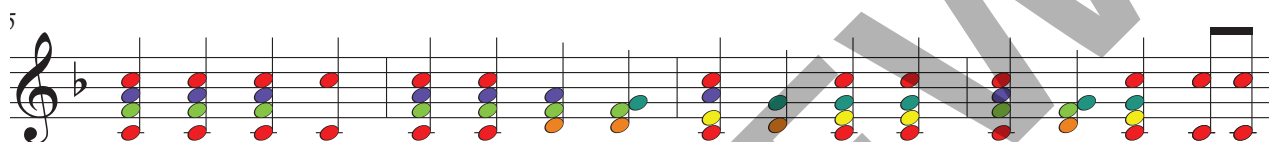
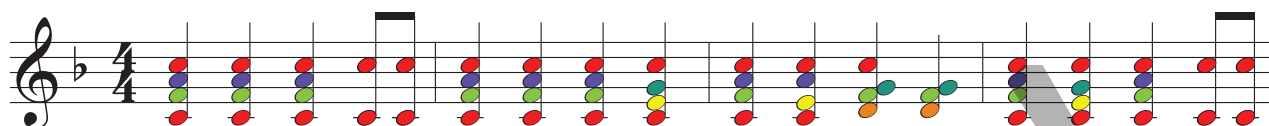
John 1:14 says: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." (NKJV)



"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Harmony Map

Pitches needed:



A color version for Boomwhackers® is available on the Enhanced CD.



“HARK! The Herald Angels SING”

Dramatic Reading

Reader 1: The hymn texts of Charles Wesley are rich in poetic beauty and scripture. His text, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” uses several biblical names for Jesus.

All: Jesus is the Prince of Peace.

Reader 1: “And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6, NLT)

All: Jesus is the Sun of Righteousness.

Reader 1: “For you who fear my name, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings.” (Malachi 4:2, NLT)

All: He is the Everlasting Lord.

Reader 1: “I am the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.” (Revelation 22:13, NLT)

All: Jesus is the Incarnate Deity.

Reader 1: “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” (John 1:14, NKJV)

All: Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us.

Reader 1: “They shall call his name Emmanuel...God with us.” (Matthew 1:23, KJV)