

HYMN DISCOVERY™

Exploring Timeless Hymns of Faith
with Elementary-Age Children

Volume 2

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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 track.



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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 and also age-appropriate. The eight hymns included in this second 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 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.

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

This delightful eighteenth century French carol offers wonderful teaching opportunities. Use this hymn study to explore the following:

- the story of the angels and shepherds in Luke 2:8-20
- the poetic, dramatic dialogue of the hymn stanzas
- the work of shepherds and some famous Bible shepherds
- melismatic melodies
- Latin language and pronunciation
- the joy of singing and praising God

Be sure to read the biblical account with the children, and help them enjoy learning and singing this enduring carol favorite.

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 KIDPage together.)

Glory to God

Have children complete this page to learn the history and characteristics of the carol.

Carol Crossword

Provide copies of the Glory to God and Carol Crossword KIDPages for children to complete the crossword puzzle.

Noteworthy Shepherds

Provide copies of the KIDPage for children to learn about the work of shepherds and discover some famous shepherds in the Bible. If time permits, have children look up and read the Bible references.

"Angels We Have Heard on High" Harmony Map

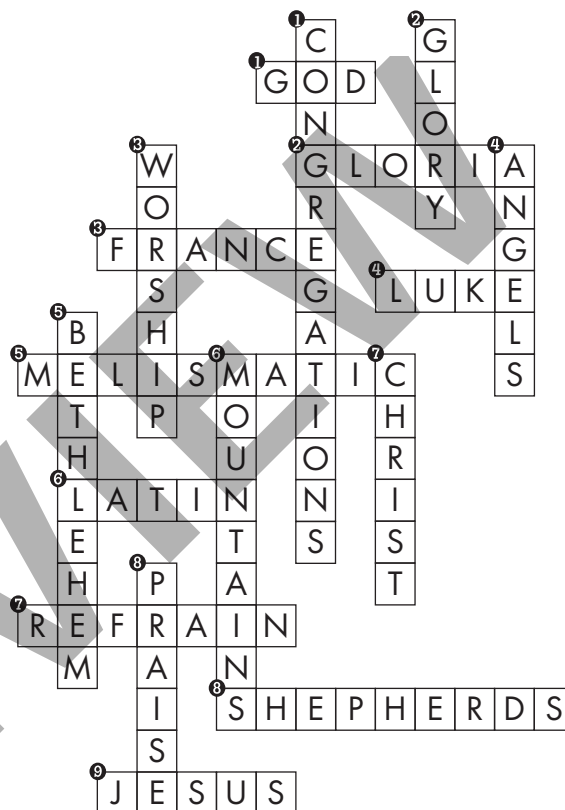
Perform this chart with Boomwhackers®, bells, or handchimes.

Glory to God in the Highest Dramatic Reading

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

Glory to God Answer: 16

Carol Crossword Answers:



Noteworthy Shepherds Answers:

1. Abraham (Genesis 13:1-6)
2. David (1 Samuel 16:6-13)
3. Amos (Amos 1:1)
4. Bethlehem (Luke 2:15)
5. Moses (Exodus 3:1)
6. Jesus (John 10:11)



Demo 1
Track 9

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. An - gels we have heard on high sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4. See Him in a man - ger laid, whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad-some tid - ings be which in - spire your heaven-ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new-born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - ri - a

WORDS: Trad. French carol; tr. *Crown of Jesus*, 1862 (Luke 2:8-16)
MUSIC: French carol melody

GLORIA
7.7.7.7 with refrain

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!





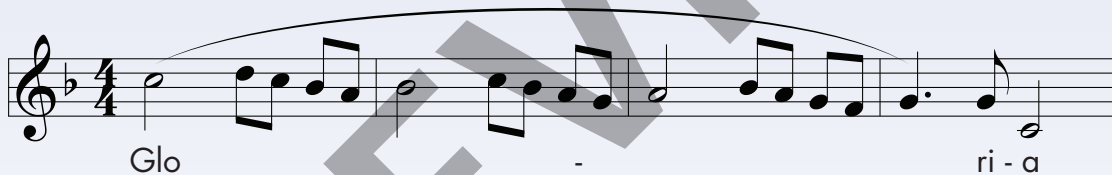
Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest! With these words from **Luke 2**, a heavenly host of **angels** announced the birth of Jesus to humble **shepherds** and inspired the eighteenth century carol from **France** titled, "Angels We Have Heard on High." No one knows who wrote the original hymn, but each stanza is filled with drama.

In Stanza 1, the shepherds begin telling their story. They heard angels sing so powerfully that the angels' voices echoed from the **mountains**. Stanza 2 asks the shepherds why they are so filled with excitement that they started singing!

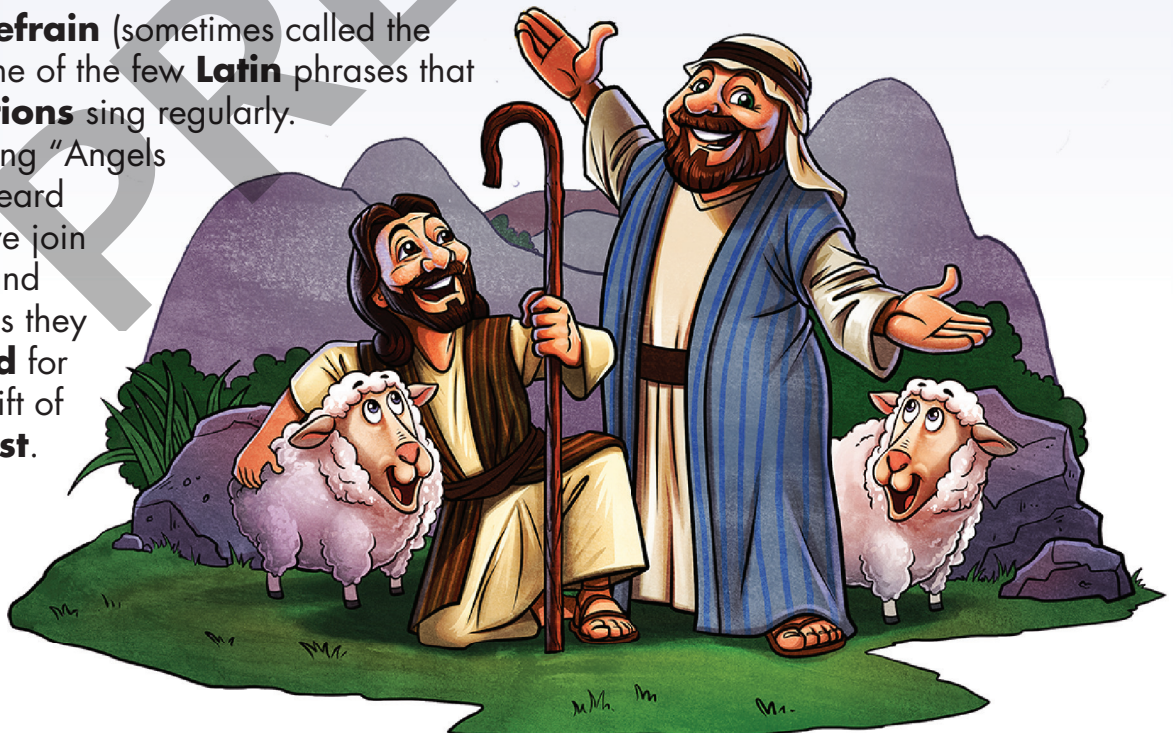
The shepherds respond in Stanza 3 with an invitation: *Come to **Bethlehem** and see!* In Stanza 4, the shepherds invite everyone to **worship** and adore the One whom choirs of angels praise.

In the refrain, the first syllable of **Gloria** has a long **melismatic** (many notes on a single syllable) passage in the melody, showing that the word is important. Count the number of notes sung on the syllable *Glo* and write it in the blank. ____



The **refrain** (sometimes called the chorus) is one of the few **Latin** phrases that **congregations** sing regularly.

When we sing "Angels We Have Heard on High," we join the angels and shepherds as they **praise God** for giving the gift of **Jesus Christ**.



Carol Crossword

Use the clues to complete the crossword puzzle.

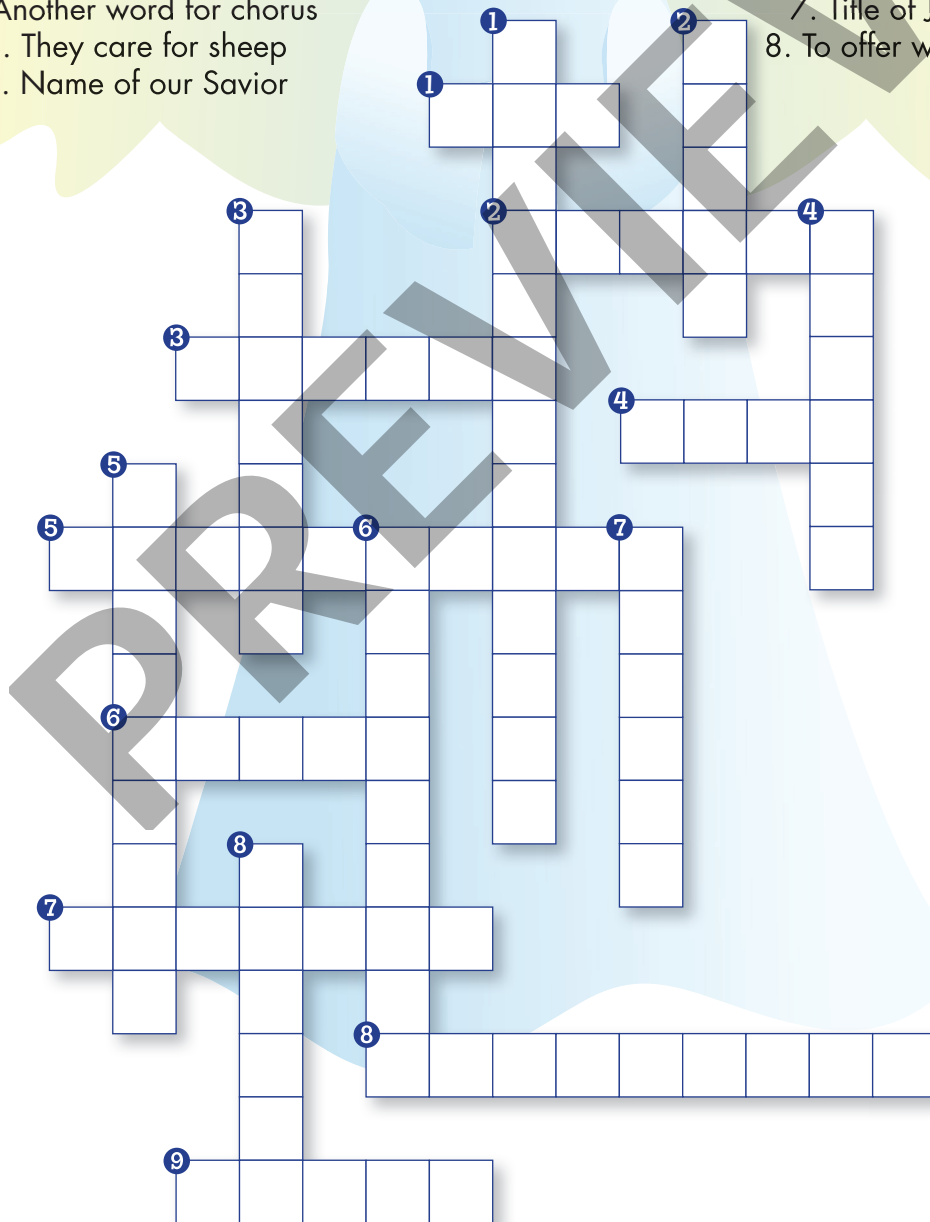
The words used in the crossword puzzle are in bold in the Glory to God story.

ACROSS

1. Gave us the gift of Jesus
2. Latin for "glory"
3. Carol came from this country
4. Book in the Bible
5. Many notes on one syllable
6. Language of the refrain
7. Another word for chorus
8. They care for sheep
9. Name of our Savior

DOWN

1. Gatherings of worshippers
2. English word for "gloria"
3. To adore
4. They sang to shepherds
5. City of Jesus' birth
6. Where the angels' song echoed
7. Title of Jesus
8. To offer worship



Noteworthy Shepherds

Shepherds take tender care of their flocks. They protect their sheep, check their health, and lead them to pools of cool water. Good shepherds are brave and dependable. They teach their sheep to obey commands and count them often to make sure none are missing. Shepherds can teach us a lot about following Jesus. Use the code to discover the names or location of some noteworthy shepherds in the Bible.

CODE

A B D E H I J L M O R S T U V
 ♩ ♪ ♫ # *mf* ♮ ♭ ♯ *mp* ° ∩ ♪ *f* ♪ ♫

1. God called me to be the father of a great nation.

♩ ♪ ∩ ♪ *mf* ♪ *mp*

2. I was the smallest of all my brothers, yet God called me to be King of Israel.

♫ ♪ ♫ ♮ ♫

3. I became a prophet who challenged God's people to be just and holy.

♪ *mp* ° ♪

4. Angels appeared to us with news of Jesus' birth in this city.

♪ # *f* *mf* ♯ ∩ # *mf* # *mp*

5. I led my people out of bondage in Egypt.

mp ° ♪ # ♪

6. I am the Good Shepherd. My sheep know my voice and follow me.

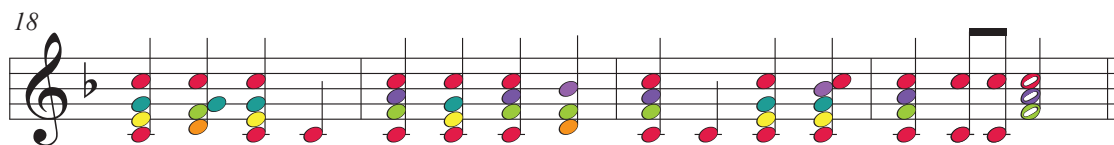
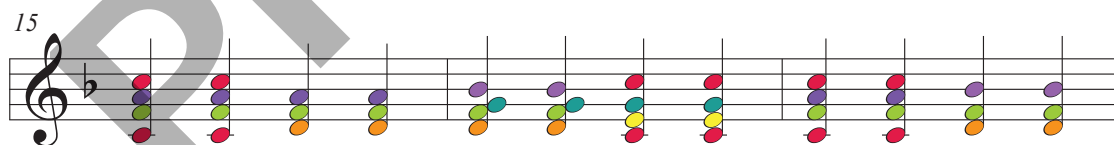
♭ # ♪ ♪ ♪



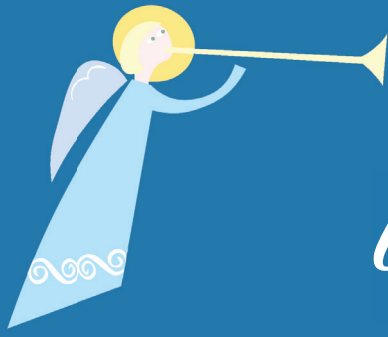
“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Harmony Map

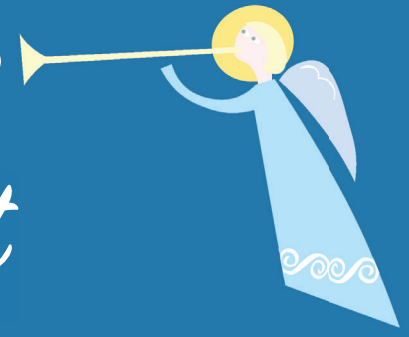
Pitches needed:



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



Glory to God in the Highest



Dramatic Reading

Reader 1: Glory to God!

Readers 1 and 2: Glory to God in the highest!

Reader 1: With these words from Luke 2, a heavenly host of angels announced the birth of Jesus to humble shepherds.

Reader 2: The story of the angels and shepherds in Luke 2 inspired the carol, "Angels We Have Heard on High."

Reader 1: No one knows who wrote the original hymn, but each stanza is filled with poetic drama.

Reader 2: In Stanza 1, the shepherds begin telling their story. They heard angels sing so powerfully that the angels' voices echoed from the mountains.

Reader 1: Stanza 2 asks the shepherds why they are so filled with excitement that they started singing!

Reader 2: The shepherds respond in Stanza 3 with an invitation: *Come to Bethlehem and see!*

Reader 1: In Stanza 4, the shepherds invite everyone to worship and adore the One whom choirs of angels praise.

Reader 2: When we sing "Angels We Have Heard on High," we join the angels and shepherds as they praise God for giving the gift of Jesus Christ.

Reader 1: Gloria!

Readers 1 and 2: Gloria in excelsis Deo!



"Fairest Lord Jesus"

"Fairest Lord Jesus" overflows with adoration for Jesus and gratitude for all He has done. Even as we observe the glories of nature, we remember that Jesus is more beautiful and wondrous. The author and composer of this beloved and timeless hymn are anonymous. "Fairest Lord Jesus" seems to have sprung from the hearts of common people expressing their heartfelt love and devotion for Jesus.

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 KIDPage together.)

Anonymous but Beloved

Use this page to present information about the hymn. Have children read the KIDPage then use the information to complete the *Test Your Knowledge* KIDPage.

Test Your Knowledge

Provide a copy of *Anonymous, but Beloved* KIDPage and *Test Your Knowledge* KIDPage for each child. Have children refer to the *Anonymous, but Beloved* KIDPage as they follow directions and complete the *Test Your Knowledge* KIDPage.

Fully God/Fully Human

Have children read about the divinity and humanity of Jesus, then allow them to color and display their work. This page can be used as a take-home activity.

"Fairest Lord Jesus" Hymn Interpretation and Bell Descant

Follow the directions to lead your congregation in a creative experience as they sing and listen to scripture related to "Fairest Lord Jesus" found in the Dramatic Reading.

"Fairest Lord Jesus" Dramatic Reading

Enlist and rehearse two or more readers to present this dramatic reading, or reprint it as a responsive reading for the congregation. This reading can be used with or without the "Fairest Lord Jesus" Hymn Interpretation.

Test Your Knowledge Answers:

1. anonymous
2. German
3. Lutheran
4. Europe
5. Silesian
6. CRUSADERS' HYMN
7. ST. ELIZABETH
8. wondrous
9. beloved

In Him all creation holds together.



Fairest Lord Jesus

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, rul - er of all na - ture,
2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands,
3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light
4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of all na - tions,

O Thou of God and man the Son; Thee will I cher - ish,
robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring; Je - sus is fair - er,
and all the twin - kling, star - ry host; Je - sus shines bright - er,
Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

Thee will I hon - or, Thou my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

WORDS: Anonymous German hymn, *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677;
tr. (st. 1-3) unknown; tr. (st. 4) Joseph August Seiss, 1873
MUSIC: *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; arr. Richard Storrs Willis, 1850

CRUSADERS' HYMN (ST. ELIZABETH)
5.6.8.5.5.8

Anonymous but Beloved

We don't know the author and composer names for "Fairest Lord Jesus." Since they are unknown, the author and composer of this hymn are *anonymous*.



1.

The text first appeared in a German hymn collection in 1677. We don't know who translated Stanzas 1-3.



2.

Joseph Seiss, a Lutheran minister in America, translated Stanza 4 in 1873.



3.

The melody is a folk tune from a section of Europe known as Silesia. It first appeared in a song collection called *Schlesische Volkslieder* in 1842.



4.

Schlesische Volkslieder means "songs of the Silesian people." The melody, called the hymn tune, has two names.



5.

CRUSADERS' HYMN came from legends that Crusaders sang the hymn during medieval battles. This is probably not true, but the name is still used.



6.

The tune name **ST. ELIZABETH** emerged when composer Franz Liszt used the tune in an oratorio titled "The Legend of St. Elizabeth."



7.

This hymn reminds us that the wonders of nature are spectacular, but nothing is as beautiful and wondrous as Jesus!



8.

"Fairest Lord Jesus" has become a beloved hymn. It was formed from the hearts of common people expressing their heartfelt love and devotion for Jesus.

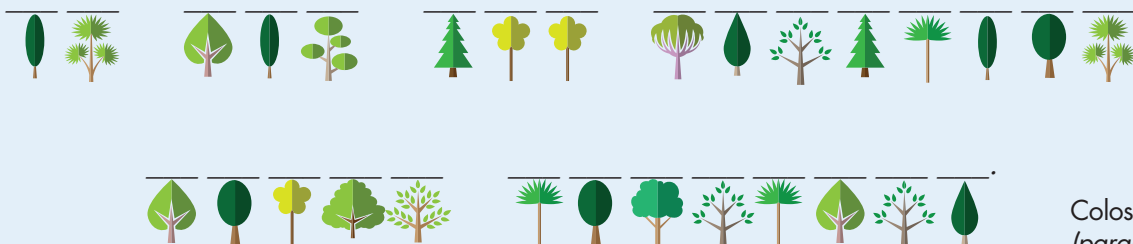


9.

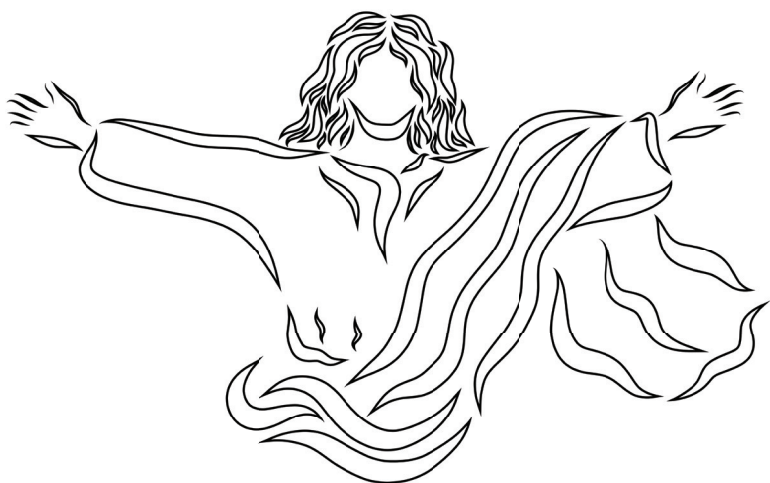
TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Read each paragraph in the *Anonymous but Beloved* page, and fill in the blanks in each statement below. Then, match the coded tree pictures to fill in the blanks at the bottom of the page, and discover a Bible truth about the power of Jesus.

- The author and composer of this hymn are _____.
- The words first appeared in a _____ hymn collection in 1677.
- Joseph Seiss, a _____ minister in America, translated Stanza 4.
- The melody is a folk tune from a section of _____ known as Silesia.
- Schlesische Volkslieder* means “songs of the _____ people.”
- _____, _____, _____ came from legends that Crusaders sang the hymn during medieval battles.
- The name _____ emerged when composer Franz Liszt used the tune in an oratorio.
- Nothing is as beautiful and _____ as Jesus!
- “Fairest Lord Jesus” has become a _____ hymn.



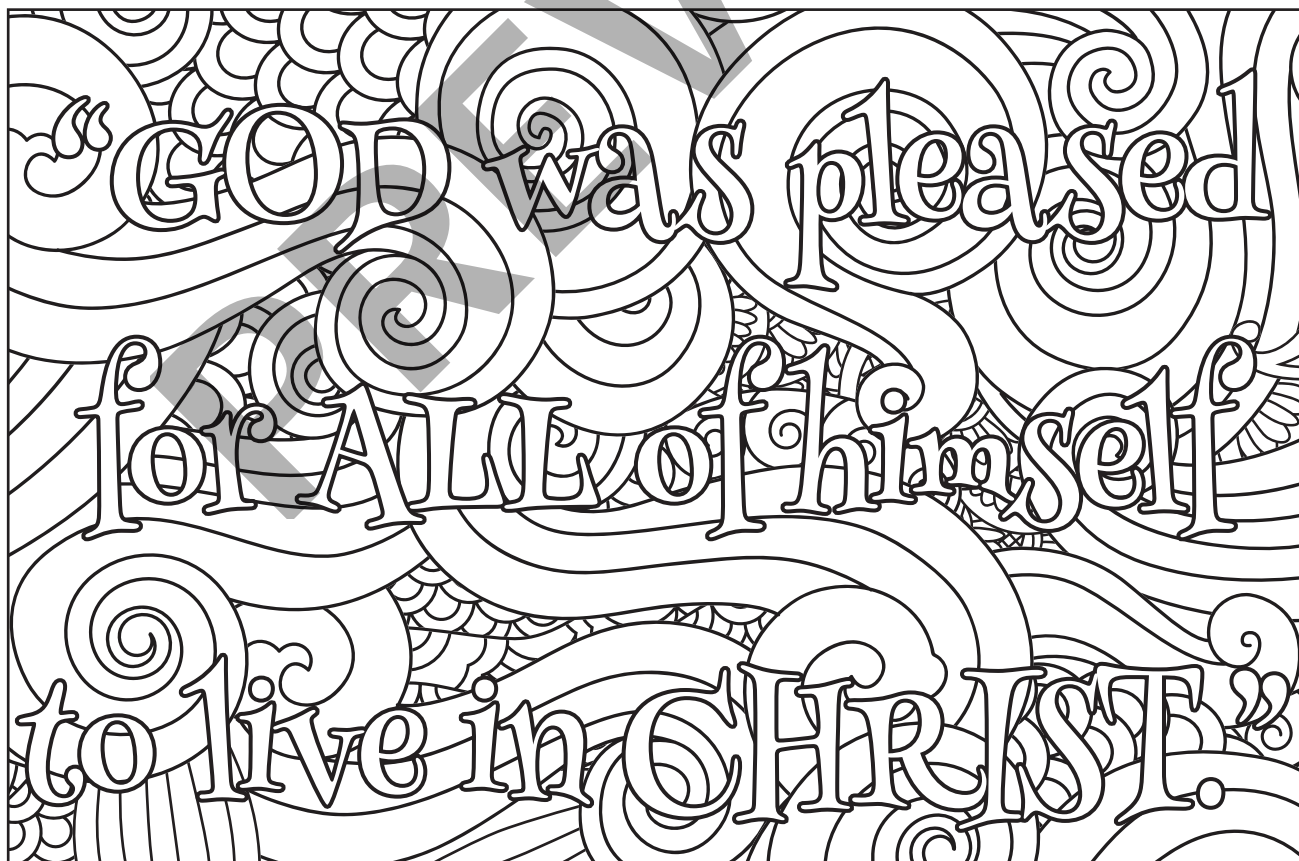
Colossians 1:17
(paraphrase)



Fully God Fully Human

"Fairest Lord Jesus" says Jesus is the *Son of God and Son of Man*. Jesus was fully human (like us) and fully God (not like us). God became human in the person of Jesus Christ. Bible scholars call this the *Incarnation*. Jesus became flesh and lived among us. He was 100 percent human and still 100 percent God. We cannot understand this mystery.

Jesus, though He was God, chose to humble Himself and become human. He was born as a helpless baby. He cried when He was hungry. He had to learn to crawl, walk, and talk just as other children. Unlike us, Jesus lived a perfect life and never sinned. Through His crucifixion and resurrection, Jesus enabled us to become children of God.



Colossians 1:19 (ICB)

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Hymn Interpretation

Pitches needed:



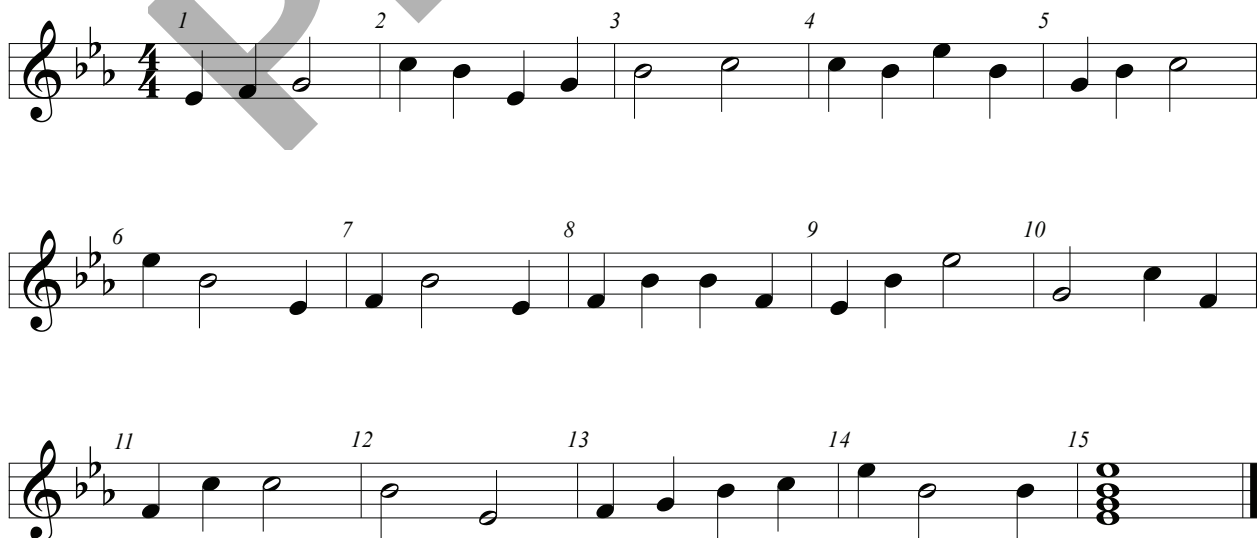
In this worship feature, any number of children can quickly create a musical underscore—a sound carpet (a texture of simultaneously performed musical patterns) as scriptures are read (see “Fairest Lord Jesus” Dramatic Reading) prior to the singing of each stanza by the congregation. The underscore uses the notes of the pentatonic scale. If desired, you may add finger cymbals, a triangle, bar chimes or mark tree, and an autoharp quietly strumming the E \flat chord.

Follow this sequence:

1. Keyboard(s) play the hymn introduction.
2. Children begin playing instruments quietly in random order to create the underscore. Children may be positioned throughout the worship space and move to their assigned places during the keyboard introduction.
3. After the underscore begins, have children read the first two scripture passages in the Dramatic Reading.
4. When the first two scripture readings are concluded, all instruments are dampened or silenced.
5. The congregation sings Stanza 1 with keyboard accompaniment.
6. At the conclusion of Stanza 1, the underscore begins again, and the next scripture passages are read, followed by the singing of the next stanza. This process continues until all scriptures have been read and all stanzas sung.

If desired, the pentatonic bells may play this descant as the hymn is sung.

“Fairest Lord Jesus” Bell Descant



“FAIREST LORD JESUS” DRAMATIC READING

Reader 1: Christ ranks higher than all the things that have been made. Through his power all things were made—things in heaven and on earth, things seen and unseen, all powers, authorities, lords, and rulers. All things were made through Christ and for Christ. (Colossians 1:15-16)

Reader 2: You have not seen Christ, but still you love him. You cannot see him now, but you believe in him. You are filled with a joy that cannot be explained. And that joy is full of glory. (1 Peter 1:8)

Sing Stanza 1

Reader 1: Then God said, “Let the earth produce plants. Some plants will make grain for seeds. Others will make fruit with seeds in it. Every seed will produce more of its own kind of plant.” And it happened. (Genesis 1:11)

Reader 2: So in all things Jesus is most important. God was pleased for all of himself to live in Christ. And through Christ, God decided to bring all things back to himself again—things on earth and things in heaven. (Colossians 1:18-20)

Sing Stanza 2

Reader 1: God made two large lights. He made the brighter light to rule the day. He made the smaller light to rule the night. He also made the stars. God put all these in the sky to shine on the earth. They are to rule over the day and over the night. He put them there to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that all these things were good. (Genesis 1:16-18)

Reader 2: God once said, “Let the light shine out of the darkness!” And this is the same God who made his light shine in our hearts. He gave us light by letting us know the glory of God that is in the face of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:6)

Sing Stanza 3

Reader 1: God accepts anyone who worships him and does what is right. It is not important what country a person comes from. You know that God has sent his message to the people of Israel. That message is the Good News that peace has come through Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Lord of all people! (Acts 10:35-36)

Reader 2: For a short time he was made lower than the angels. But now we see him wearing a crown of glory and honor because he suffered and died. Because of God’s grace, he died for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Sing Stanza 4