

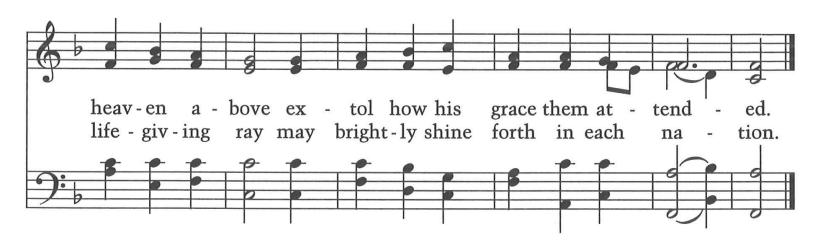
Hymnal Insert October 12, 2025

518 All Glory, Honor, Thanks, and Praise



TEXT: C. Daniel Crews (1982) TUNE: Grimm's Choralbuch (1755); C. Gregor Choralbuch (1784)

NATURE OF THE CHURCH



BAPTISM

For the Baptism of Children and Adults

(Standing)

(A hymn of baptism or faith may be sung.)

In grace God called and chose the people of Israel and established with them a covenant: I will be your God and you will be my people. In that relationship they were to be freed from sin and become a blessing to all. Then God came to us in Jesus Christ and fulfilled that covenant for all people. Through Christ's life, death, and resurrection, God made for us a new covenant of grace.

We come before you with joy, O God, to claim the promises of your covenant.

Our Lord Jesus Christ instituted baptism as the visible means of entry into the new covenant. Baptism is a gift of God. In this sacrament, through grace and the power of the Holy Spirit, we are united with Christ, are cleansed by his saving work, enter into the fellowship of the church, and are called to a life of faith and willing obedience.

Those of you baptized into Christ Jesus, how were you baptized?

Into his death. We were buried with him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glorious power of God Almighty, we too might be raised to live a new life.

(When only adults are baptized, the following sentence is omitted.)

In baptism children also share in the benefits of our Lord's redeeming work through God's grace and the faith of parents, and of the church,

For God's promise is to us and to our children.

(The minister addresses the candidates, parents, and sponsors.)

As you present *yourselves* before God and this congregation, we call upon you to profess your faith.

Do you believe in God as your Creator and loving heavenly Father, in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, and in the Holy Spirit as your Comforter and Sustainer, according to the Holy Scriptures?

I do.

(Candidates, parents, and sponsors may profess their faith by means of the Apostles' Creed, the baptismal profession of the early church. The congregation may be invited to join in the Creed as an affirmation of their own baptism.)

Lord, make us one with all your children as we profess our faith, saying:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Ancient text reads "catholic," which means "universal."

(The minister addresses the candidates, parents, and sponsors.)

Do you in this faith turn away from sin, evil, and selfishness in your thoughts, words, and actions; and do you intend to participate actively in Christ's church, serving God all the days of your life?

I do.

(When only adults are baptized, the following question for parents and sponsors is omitted.)

Relying on the power of the Holy Spirit, do you promise to lead your *children* by prayer, instruction, and example toward that time when *they* can by grace confirm *their* faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and commit *themselves* to the life and work of the church?

I do.

(The minister addresses the congregation.)

Do you receive and affirm these children of God as members of this congregation, and accept your obligation to love and nurture them in Christ?

We do.

(Sitting. One of the following hymns is sung.)



TUNE: Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt. From the English Hymnal (1906), by permission of Oxford University Press.

(Water may be poured into the font or bowl.)

We thank you, gracious God, for the gift of water, which you have created and given to us as a sign of life. We recall with gratitude how you led your people from slavery to freedom through the waters of the sea. We rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit at the baptism of your Son in the waters of the Jordan, and we praise you for opening to us the way of eternal life through his death and resurrection. Now send your Spirit upon ______ who receive(s) the water of baptism today, so that they may become (a) living, growing and active member(s) of your church, rise to new life, be led and nourished by your word and sacraments, and share in your eternal blessings.

Amen.

(When only adults are baptized, the following is omitted.)

Give to *these parents and sponsors* your wisdom and strength, that with love and understanding *they* may guide to Christian maturity the young *lives* entrusted to *their* care.

Amen.

(The minister baptizes each candidate with a threefold application of water, saying:)

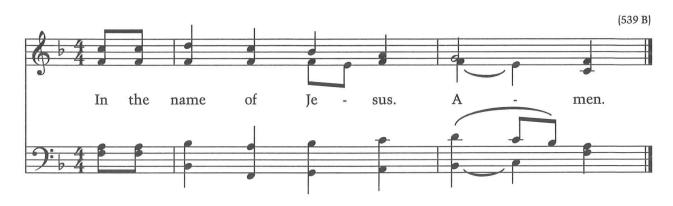
_______, into the death of Jesus I baptize you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

(Each newly baptized person receives the laying on of hands, symbolizing the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. Parents and sponsors of young children join with the minister in the laying on of hands.)

Now through God's grace and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit, you have been brought into the covenant; therefore live, yet not you alone, but Christ live in you; and the life which you live now, live by faith in the Son of God, who loved you and gave his life for you.

(The minister pronounces a text of Scripture for the newly baptized adult.)

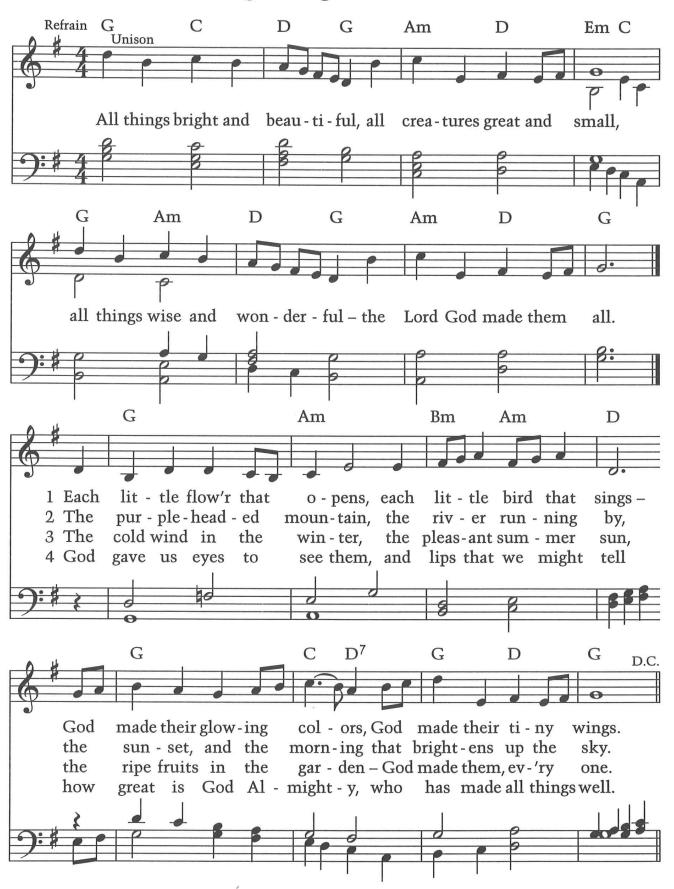
The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace;



(If there are no Affirmations of Baptism through Confirmation, Reaffirmation of Faith, or Transfer of Membership, the following hymn is sung here.)



467 All Things Bright and Beautiful



TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander (1848), alt.

TUNE: Trad. English melody. Harm. John Worst (1974), alt.

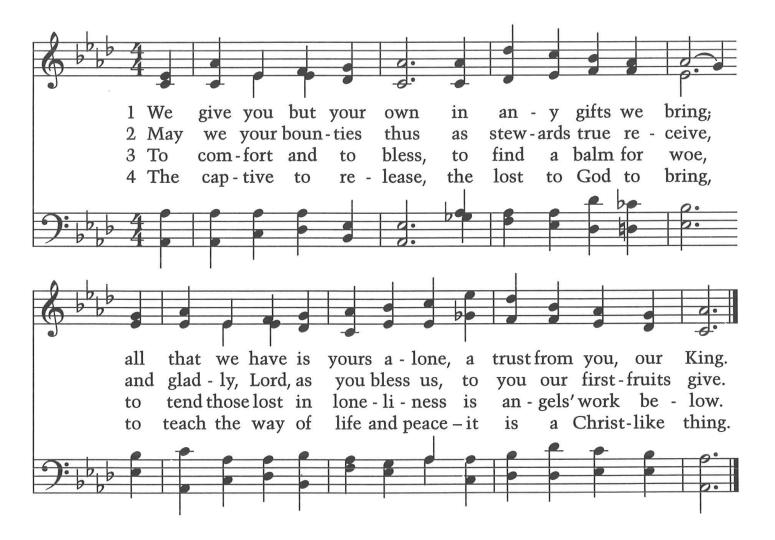
Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands 578



TEXT: Margaret Cropper (1975). ©1979 by Stainer & Bell, Ltd., and Methodist Church Division of Education and Youth Used by permission of Hope Publishing Company.

TUNE: Old French melody

We Give You But Your Own



5 And we believe your word, though dim our faith may be. Whate'er we do for you, O Lord, we do it gratefully.

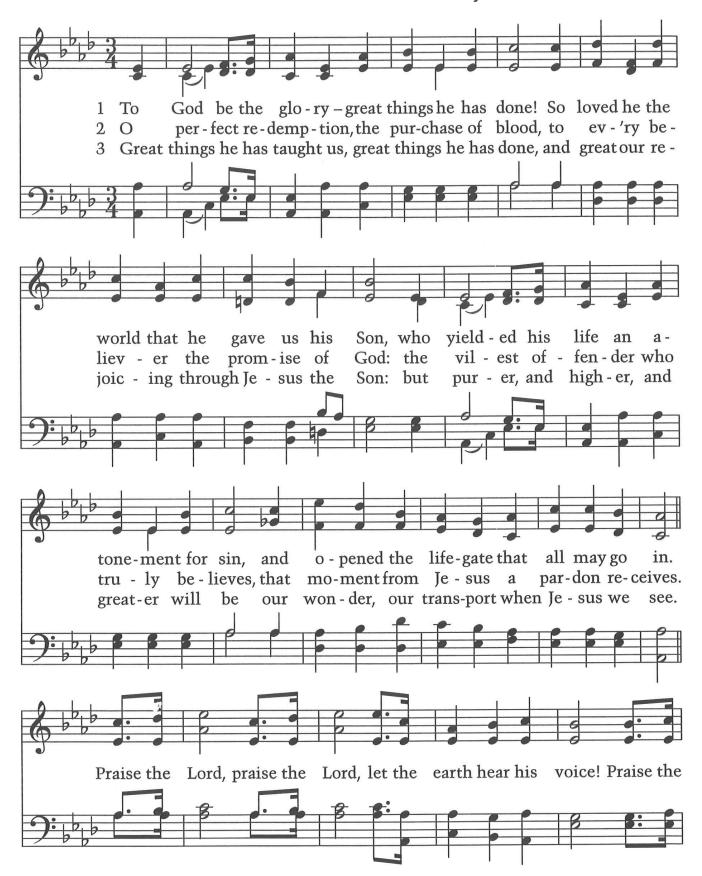
TEXT: William W. How (1858), alt.

TUNE: Mason and Webb, Cantica Laudis (1850)

S.M. SCHUMANN

550

To God Be the Glory



TEXT: Fanny J. Crosby (1875), alt. TUNE: William Howard Doane (1875)

