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We Gather Together

Netherlands folk hymn, 16th century Transl. Theodore Baker, 1894 Adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992

1 We gath-er to-geth-er to ask for God's bless-ing, to live in com-mu-ni-ty, seek-ing God's will. We come now, as sis-ters and broth-ers, con-fess-ing the sins that di-vide and the wrong in us still.

- 2 Be-side us, for-giv-ing, en-a-bling, sus-tain-ing, you call us. O Sav-ior, to life that is new. You draw us a-way from self-cen-tered com-plain-ing. You lead us and guide us in ways that are true.
- 3 All praise to the Spir-it, pro-vid-er, de-fend-er. You of-fer us free-dom, to fol-low or stray. Em-pow-er-ing all by the hope you en-gen-der. Grant wis-dom and cour-age to fol-low your way.

The original text of this hymn was one of thanksgiving for The Netherlands' independence from Spanish domination in the sixteenth century. It has been reinterpreted for contemporary congregations by United Church of Christ minister and writer Lavon Bayler.

nineteenth-century poet Henry Alford and eighteenth-century

Tune: KREMSER 12.11.12.11. 16th-century Dutch melody Arr. Edward Kremser, 1877

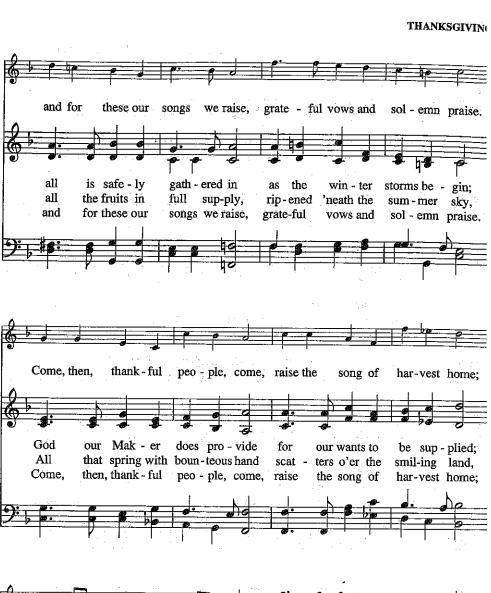
Opening Hymn
Come, O Thankful People, Come

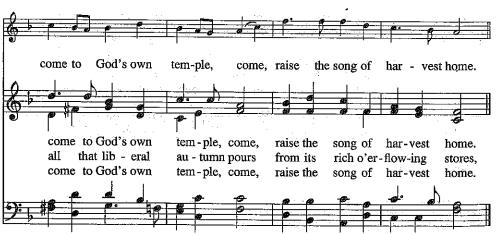
Exod. 23:16

St. 1, Henry Alford, 1844; alt. St. 2, Anna Laetitia Aiken Barbauld, 1772; alt. St. 3, composite of Alford and Barbauld; alt.



Tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR 7.7.7.7.D. George J. Elvey, 1858





ulia Bulkley Cady Cory wrote this hymn for Thanksgiving in

Tune: KREMSER 12.11.12.11.



THANKSGIVING

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Closing Hymn
Nun danket alle G

Nun danket alle Gott
(Now Thank We All Our God)

Tune: NUN DANKET 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6.

Martin Rinkart, 1647; transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt. Sir. 50:20-24; 39:35; Ps. 67 Herz - en, Mund und Händ 1 Nun dank - et al - le Gott, mit with heart and hands and voic 1 Now thank we all our God God through all our life O may this boun-teous us. God our Mak - er now 3 All praise and thanks to en, uns und al - len End en; der gro - sse Ding - e tut joic Who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re es, bless - ed peace to cheer joy - ful hearts and us, With ev - er help in high - est heav To Christ and Spir - it, en, too, our Kind - es - bein - en Mut - ter leib und uns von arms, has blessed us on way Who, from our par - ents' plexed, still in grace, and guide us when per keep us God, whom earth and heaven one e - ter bis hier-her hat ge tan. un zäh - lig viel gut still is day. count-less gifts of love, and ours to With all ills in this world and the next. free from And us shall be and ev - er more. thus it was, now.

For much of his life, German Lutheran pastor and musician