

Sing a New Creation



Introduction to the Sampler of Sing a New Creation

Sing a New Creation is a collection of 174 hymns and songs and 50 service music items complied as a resource for church across denominations and as a supplement to Common Praise (1998), the current hymn book of the Anglican Church of Canada. A priority for the compilers was to provide texts and music to meet the emerging and shifting needs of the church. Hence, for example, the significant portion of the collection dedicated to providing music for liturgical use; the significant inclusion of laments throughout in the collection; and the presence of significant new texts dealing with ecology, justice, and peace. A diversity of musical styles was also an important consideration for the compilers. In the collection you will find, in addition to many traditional-looking hymns, short songs, songs that can be taught and sung "paperlessly," lead sheets, and songs from around the globe. The indigenous cultures of North America are also represented in both the hymns and songs and service music sections of the collection. Much of the material included has been written in the last twenty years, but earlier texts and music are included as well.

The short sampler that follows gives, we hope, some sense of the collection as a whole.

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Sing A New Creation has been designed to supplement Common Praise, the current hymn book of the Anglican Church of Canada. The selection of its contents was guided by several aims: to respond to the particular needs communicated to us by congregations from across the country; to include songs and settings that are attractive and enjoyable to sing; to include texts and tunes by Canadian Anglican writers and composers; and to reflect the global character of the church by including a wide range of material from diverse cultures and language groups.

While denominational hymn books like *Common Praise* aim to be comprehensive, including all of the hymns and service music needed by the church for a generation or more, the purpose of a hymn book supplement like *Sing A New Creation* is to expand, refresh and enliven the church's existing singing practice, responding to changing needs and reflecting recent musical developments. Thus the compilers of a hymn book supplement enjoy a degree of freedom in selecting material for inclusion that committees creating a more comprehensive collections do not.

We hope that congregations will exercise a similar freedom in how they make use of the collection. Worship planners will find Sing A New Creation to be a rich resource for selecting hymns for their traditional roles in Anglican liturgy such as Processional, Offertory, Communion and Recessional. But the collection should also be perused with an openness that allows the pieces themselves to suggest possible ways they can be used. Some of the possibilities: singing at congregational meetings and social events; teaching songs by rote to children; singing before the beginning of the liturgy either in place of or in addition to the instrumental prelude; crafting brief litanies with sung response that speak to current congregational concerns; using individual verses or refrains as prayer

While many of the hymns and songs in *Sing A New Creation* can be accompa-

nied by organ, others should not be. Some songs are included here with only melody line and chord symbols to be sung with guitar. Others will be found to be more suitable to accompaniment by piano than by organ. Songs from the global church can be enriched and more authentically sung by including percussion or melody instruments and omitting chordal accompaniment altogether.

A significant recent development in congregational song is the practice of socalled "paperless" singing, in which songs are taught and led without the need for singers to read either text or music from the printed page. The benefits of this practice quickly become obvious: the possibility of more direct engagement in the music, greater bodily freedom, and a greater sense congregational singing as a genuinely communal action. Not every hymn or song is appropriate for this approach. Singing "by ear" in this way work best with songs that are shorter, have a minimum of text to remember, and include repetitive musical patterns. Hymns and songs especially appropriate for singing by ear are indicated by the symbol (3) found near the bottom right-hand corner of the page.

The organization of Sing A New Creation follows that of Common Praise with a few notable differences. Hymns suitable for Gathering open the collection, and Sending hymns can be found near the end of the congregational song section of the book. In addition, the subject heading Praise has been changed to Praise and Lament, where hymns of both types are interspersed. In recent years the church has become aware that the tradition of lament has been neglected and needs to be recovered as part of its language of worship. Lament is not a negation or the opposite of praise. Indeed, biblical lament almost

always concludes with an expression of confidence in and praise of God. But it also gives expression to the experiences of suffering and darkness that are an integral part of human life. Paul Gibson has said that "lament is the shadow side of praise". It is entirely appropriate that the singing of a lament be one of the options considered by liturgical planners for the act of praise during The Gathering of the Community in the BAS Eucharist.

Considerations of space have limited the number and format of the indexes found at the back of the book. It is anticipated that additional and expanded indexes, as well as notes on performance will appear in due course on the web sites of both the Anglican Church of Canada and of Church Publishing, Inc.

- Kenneth Hull, convener

Hymn Book Supplement Task Force

Kenneth Hull, convener

David Buley

*John Campbell

Michael Capon

*Douglas Cowling

*Deirdre Piper

Martha Tatarnic

Becca Whitla

*served during part of the project

Reviewers

David Harrison Gordon Johnston

Consultant

Mark MacDonald

Staff

Eileen Scully

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David Schaap, president Virginia Schaap, vice-president

74 Nyanyikankanlah/Hallelujah! Sing Praise



Text: Ps. 148, Indonesian para. Tilly Lubis, 2009. © 2009 Yamuger, Indonesian Institute for Sacred Music. Irr. English version. David Diephouse, 2009. © 2009 Faith Alive Christian Resources. Nyanyikanlah Music: Melody Batak trad., Toba, Indonesia; arr. H.A. Pandopo, 2009, ©.



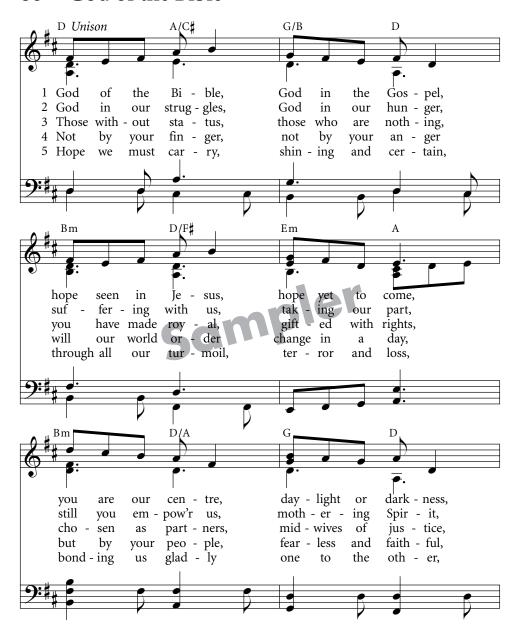
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77 Hear My Cry, O God, and Save Me!





86 God of the Bible



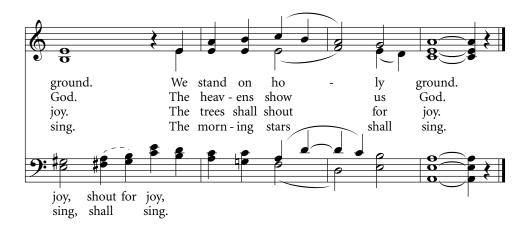




sampler

93 In Sacred Manner May We Walk





- 5 In sacred manner may we live among the wise and loving ones, sit humbly, as at sages' feet, by four-legged, finned, and feathered ones. The animals will teach.
- 6 In sacred manner may we walk upon the fair and loving earth, in beauty move, in beauty love the living round that brought us birth. We stand on holy ground.

169 May the God of Hope Go with Us



Text: English and Spanish text: Alvin Schutmaat, 1984; 11 11 11 11 11 with refrain French tr. Andrew Donaldson, 1996. French tr. © 1996 The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Argentina Music: Argentine trad. Melody.

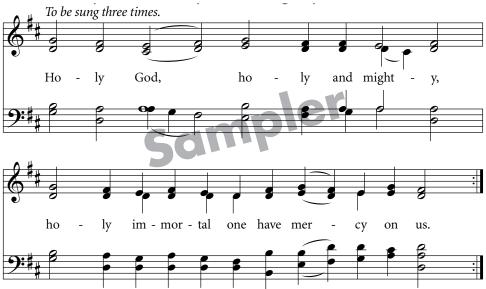


182 Lord, Have Mercy



Music: Mark MacDonald; adapt. Frances Densmore. © Church Publishing.

185 Holy God, Holy and Mighty



Music: Serbian trad., arr. Walter G. Obleschuk, 1998, alt., ©.

Gospel Acclamations 189 Listen Now for the Gospel!



Text: Zimbabwean liturgical acclamation; transcr. John L. Bell, 2002.

*Transcr. © 2002 WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Music: Zimbabwean trad.

Eucharistic Prayer Sanctus 220 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



Text: English Language Liturgical Consultation, 1988, alt. © 1988 ELLC. Music: Kenneth George Finlay, adapt. Gordon Appleton. © Broomhill Hyndland Parish Church.