

# 687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our  
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine  
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing  
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,      6 Our God, our help in ages past,  
 bears all our years away;                      our hope for years to come,  
 they fly forgotten, as a dream              be thou our guard while life shall last,  
 dies at the opening day.                      and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

# God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)  
F Dm B $\flat$

1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and  
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of  
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) (Bm)  
F Dm

end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly  
Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es  
grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) (D) (A)  
B $\flat$  F C

cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn  
joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) (F $\sharp$ m) (Bm) (G) (A) (D)  
Dm Am Dm B $\flat$  C F

to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall  
la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,  
shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) (G) (D)  
Dm B $\flat$  F

rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

# All Who Love and Serve Your City 351



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who  
 2 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed  
 3 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the  
 4 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for  
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the  
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a  
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our



peace and jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless:  
 word of Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."  
 world that spurns him, of - fering peace from Cal - vary's hill.  
 judge, our glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This 20th-century text greatly enriches the neglected genre of urban hymns. The second stanza quotes John 9:4, the third stanza refers to Jesus weeping over Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37/Luke 13:34), and the final line cites the name given to Israel's future holy city (Ezekiel 48:35).

TEXT: Erik Routley, 1966

MUSIC: *The United States Sacred Harmony*, 1799; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1964

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