

735 Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth



1 Moth - er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright
 2 Moth - er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing
 3 Moth - er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of



morn - ing of this world. Cre - a - tor, source of ev - 'ry
 me your food of light, grain . . . of life, and grape of
 pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I root and



breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
 love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.
 grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342–c. 1413

Music: Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936

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NORWICH

LM

736 God the Sculptor of the Mountains



1 God the sculp - tor of the moun - tains, God the mill - er of the
 2 God the nui - sance to the Pha - raoh, God the cleav - er of the
 3 God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the plant - er of the
 4 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the calm, de - ter - mined



sand, God the jewel - er of the heav - ens,
 sea, God the pil - lar in the dark - ness,
 wheat, God the reap - er of the har - vest,
 youth, God the ta - ble - turn - ing proph - et,

Text: John Thornburg, b. 1954

Music: Amanda Husberg, b. 1940

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JENNINGS-HOUSTON

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For All the Faithful Women



1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in days of old,
Insert one or more of stanzas 3-11 or this general stanza 2:
 2 O God, for saints and ser - vants, those named and those un - known,
Last All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their stor - y told.
 in whom through all the a - ges your light of glo - ry shone,
 All praise to God the Spir - it, who binds the church as one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave.
 we of - fer glad thanks - giv - ing and fer - vent prayer we raise
 With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit - ness still,



To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your pow'r to save.
 that, faith - ful in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise.
 we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

Miriam

3 We praise your name for Miriam,
 who sang triumphantly
 while Pharaoh's vaunted army
 lay drowned beneath the sea.
 As Israel marched to freedom,
 her chains of bondage gone,
 so may we reach the kingdom
 your mighty arm has won.

Hannah

4 To Hannah, praying childless
 before the throne of grace,
 you gave a son and called him
 to serve before your face.
 Grant us her perseverance;
 Lord, teach us how to pray
 and trust in your deliv'rance
 when darkness hides our way.

Ruth

5 For Ruth, who left her homeland
and ventured forth in faith,
who pledged to serve and worship
Naomi's God till death,
we praise you, God of Israel,
and pray for hearts set free
to bind ourselves to others
in love and loyalty.

Mary, Mother of Our Lord

6 We honor faithful Mary,
fair maiden, full of grace.
She bore the Christ, our brother,
who saved our human race.
May we, with her, surrender
ourselves to your command
and lay upon your altar
our gifts of heart and hand.

Martha and Mary

7 We sing of busy Martha,
who toiled with pot and pan
while Mary sat in silence
to hear the word again.
Christ, keep our hearts attentive
to truth that you declare,
and strengthen us for service
when work becomes our prayer.

The Woman at the Well

8 Recall the outcast woman
with whom our Lord conversed:
Christ gave her living water
to quench her deepest thirst.
Like hers, our hearts are yearning;
Christ offers us his word.
Then may our lips be burning
to witness to our Lord.

Mary Magdalene

9 We praise the other Mary,
who came at Easter dawn
and near the tomb did tarry,
but found her Lord was gone.
As joyfully she saw him
in resurrection light,
may we by faith behold him,
the day who ends all night.

Dorcas

10 Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas,
who served the sick and poor.
Her hands were cups of kindness,
her heart an open door.
Send us, O Christ, your Body,
where people cry in pain,
and touch them with compassion
to make them whole again.

Eunice and Lois

11 For Eunice and for Lois,
we sing our thanks and praise.
Young Timothy they nurtured
and led him in your ways.
Raise up in ev'ry household
true teachers of your word
whose lives will bear clear witness
to Christ, our risen Lord.

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Taste and See

Refrain - All

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,

taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Leader or All

1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall

al-ways be on my lips; my soul shall glo-ry in the

Lord; for God has been so good to me. *Refrain*

2 Glo-ri-fy the Lord with me. To-gether let us

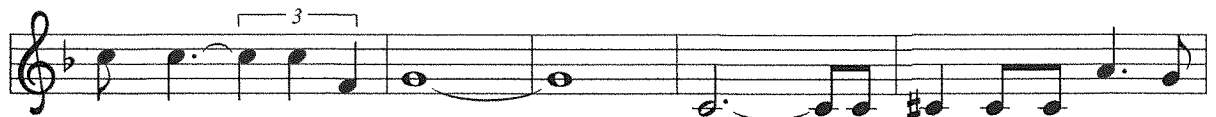
all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who an-swered



me; from all my trou-bles I was set free.



3 Wor-ship the Lord, all you peo-ple. You'll want for



noth-ing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is



good; in God we need put all our trust.

For the Bread Which You Have Broken 494



- 1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,
- 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
 by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
 may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
 in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.



Unexpected and Mysterious

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1 Un - ex - pect - ed and mys - te - rious is the gen - tle
 2 In a mo - men - tar - y meet - ing of e - ter - ni -
 3 We are called to pon - der mys - t'ry and a - wait the



word of grace. Ev - er - lov - ing and sus - tain -
 ty and time, Mar - y learned that she would car -
 com - ing Christ, to em - bod - y God's com - pas -



ing is the peace of God's em - brace. If we fal - ter
 ry both the mor - tal and di - vine. Then she learned of
 sion for each frag - ile hu - man life. God is with us




in our cour - age and we doubt what we have known, God is
 God's com - pas - sion, of E - liz - a - beth's great joy, and she
 in our long - ing to bring heal - ing to the earth, while we


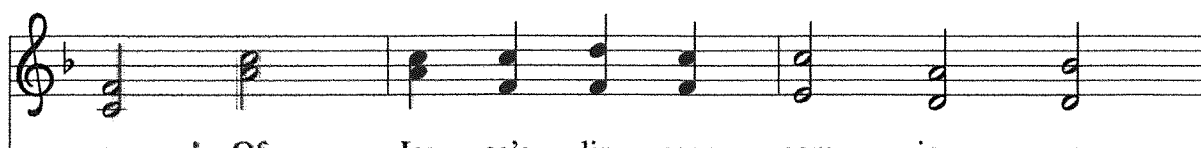


faith - ful to con - sole us as a moth - er tends her own.
 ran to greet the wom - an who would rec - og - nize her boy.
 watch with joy and won - der for the prom - ised Sav - ior's birth.



Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming




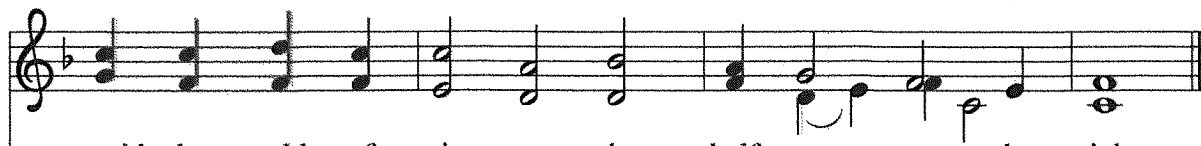
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man


sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.



My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

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1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
 The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,

great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.