

Magnificent Joy

Readings, prayers, and hymns

Ken Bible

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Contents

Reflections, Prayers, and *Hymns*

Joy	5
<i>Walking with You</i>	7
Father, You Are My Joy	8
<i>My Father, My Joy</i>	10
Rejoice	11
<i>Joy in Your Presence</i>	13
All God's Best	15
<i>I Am Rejoicing!</i>	17
Father, Receive My Gift	19
<i>As Simply as a Child</i>	21
Nothing but You	22
<i>It's So Good to Be with You</i>	24
Reflection on Psalm 76	25
<i>Psalm 76</i>	27
Reflection on Psalm 135	29
<i>Psalm 135</i>	31
Reflection on Habakkuk 3:16-19	33
<i>Joy in You</i>	35
Face-to-face with the Living God	36
<i>Lord, May Our Thoughts Begin with You</i>	38
Fullness of Joy	39
<i>Fullness of Joy</i>	41
Give Me Jesus	43
<i>Give Me Jesus</i>	45
Eternal Day	46
<i>Good Morning, All Who Trust in Christ!</i>	48

Magnificent Joy



The joy of the Lord is your strength. (Nehemiah 8:10, NIV)

*Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous;
sing, all you who are upright in heart! (Psalm 32:11, NIV)*

*In that day they will say,
“Surely this is our God;
we trusted in him, and he saved us.
This is the Lord, we trusted in him;
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.” (Isaiah 25:9, NIV)*



Our joy in Christ
does not change with
our mood or
situation,
our sickness or
sorrow.
It flows from the
unchanging reality of
who He is.

Joy

*You fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand. (Psalm 16:11, NIV)*

The greatest joys of the world
can't be compared to those experienced with God.
As we feed ourselves on thoughts of Him,
as we establish continual conversation with Him,
as our relationship grows,
we find great joy in simply being with Him.

We embrace Him with all we are.
As we do,
His love lights a flame of
love and
joy
in the center of our heart.

Our souls find complete satisfaction in their Maker.
Lest we should turn again to the things of earth,
God is careful to provide our souls with
unexpected pleasures and
undeserved delights.
In His abundance,
we need fear nothing
nor seek nothing
but Him alone.

by Brother Lawrence and Ken Bible

~

Drink in the little blessings
God sends your way today –
a good meal,
a conversation with a friend.
Those temporary, passing joys are
God's reminders of His
constant,
eternal,
all-encompassing
kindness and love.
They are promises of

eternal joys
that will be given when
all is prepared and
the time is full.

~

Hymn recording: [Walking with You](#)

Walking with You

TUNE: The John B. Sails

♩ = 108

G C G G C

1. You're grow - ing me like a tree, Your Spir - it and love in
 2. Al - might - y, the Lord I Am, Great Sov - 'reign and Son of
 3. New prob - lems will come to - day, But why should I be a -

G G D⁷ A G B C D⁹ sus D

me. The glo - ry of all You are Is mak - ing me new.
 Man, The touch of the Fa - ther's love So faith - ful and true,
 afraid? Your strong ev - er - last - ing arms Will car - ry me through.

D D/C G/B G C Am⁷ Am¹¹

O Full - ness of Life, My joy, my de - light, In
 Be - gin - ning and End, For - giv - er and Friend, My
 The One in com - mand Is hold - ing my hand. Lord,

G/D D⁷ sus G/D D⁷ C/D D⁷ G

wor - ship un - end - ing I'm walk - ing with You!
 Sav - ior, my Shep - herd, I'm walk - ing with You!
 Je - sus, for - ev - er I'm walk - ing with You!

WORDS: Ken Bible

MUSIC: Traditional Folk Song and Ken Bible

JOHN B
 7.7.7.5.5.5.6.5

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CCLI Song #4869029. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

Father, You Are My Joy

I cannot control the
 evil and
 injustice
that flood my world.

I cannot erase all the problems,
 big and
 small,
that pressure my days.

My heart is weighed down by my
 weakness and
 uncertainty.

But I look to You:
 almighty,
 all-wise,
 all-loving God,
pure,
 unchanging,
 high and lifted up,
always right, and
 always,
 always
 good.

Father,
 You are my joy.
 You are my rock-solid stability.
I look to You, and

Smile.

~

Father,
I rest in Your foreverness.
I marvel at Your perfection and
find joy in You.

~

Hymn recording: [My Father, My Joy](#)

My Father, My Joy

Psalms 62:11-12; 90:1-2; Isaiah 57:15; John 15:11; 17:13; James 1:17; Revelation 19:11

♩ = 84

Unison B♭ F⁷_{sus} B♭ F 7 B♭⁹_{sus} B♭ B♭ A E♭ G B♭ D

1. Ab - so - lute pow - er, Ab - so - lute grace,
 2. Per - fect con - tent - ment, Full - ness of joy
 3. Here in this dark - ness, Deep in this night,

E♭ B♭ C C^{sus} D C^{sus} E F

Ho - ly tran - scend - ence Here face - to - face!
 E - ven this sor - row Can - not de - stroy,
 Still faith can see You, Glo - rious in light,

E♭ F F^{sus} C F Gm G^{sus} D G sus E♭

O what mag - ni - fi - cence, feared and a - dored,
 Ut - ter per - fec - tion and pur - est de - light,
 Splen - dor un - fad - ing, for - ev - er the same.

E♭ E♭ D C^{m7} B♭ D B♭ C^{m7} F 7 B♭

Shep - herd and Sov - 'reign, our Fa - ther, our Lord!
 Faith - ful and True, ev - er good, ev - er right!
 You are my Fa - ther, and Love is Your name.

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

FULLNESS OF JOY
5.4.5.4.10.10.

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Rejoice

Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord! (Philippians 3:1, NIV)

Rejoicing is joy that is dancing.
Rejoicing is faith as it sings.

Every time I turn to You, Lord,
 joy rises in me.
You call me to joy.
You call me to be deep-down happy in every situation –
 not because the situation is pleasing,
 but because You are God and
 You are always good.

You want me to rejoice in You!
When I do, I can rejoice always and
 with all my heart.

Lord, I rejoice in You this morning
 in the face of Satan's temptations to anxiety and discouragement.
I rejoice that Your work is going forward right now,
 in spite of all I see.
Praise to You, my God!

I rejoice that You are faithful to me every moment and that
 Your Spirit never leaves me,
 not for a second.

I rejoice that my whole family and every person I love is
 in Your hands.

And Lord, I rejoice in the privilege of knowing You.
To know You is to trust You.
To trust You is to love You.
And to love You is to take pleasure in You and
 rejoice in You continually.

Thank You, my Father!
Thank You for all that You are!

You don't have to
wait for joy to happen.
You can choose it by
turning to God,
trusting Him, and
rejoicing in all He is.

~

Hymn recording: [Joy in Your Presence](#)

Joy in Your Presence

Genesis 2:8; Exodus 13:21-22; 33:14; Psalm 16:11; 73:23-28;
Ephesians 1:13-14; 6:10; Revelation 21:2

♩ = 88

F C⁷/_G F/A B \flat B \flat /_D F F/A B \flat 6 F/C

1. Joy in Your pres - ence, Our Fa - ther and our
2. Peace in Your pres - ence, Our Shep - herd and our
3. Strong in Christ Je - sus - In You we now are

C_{sus} C C⁷ F C⁷/_G F/A B \flat B \flat /_D F F/A B \flat 6 F/C

God, Lord! one! Vast Walk - ing to - geth - er, Be - yond our great - est
Bold in Your Spir - it - Our E - den now re -
Our bound - less life be -

C_{sus} C F C G \flat m/B \flat

tho't, stored! gun! Yet Thro' des - ert here In love so clear We
We taste the day And dark - ened ways You
When

A⁷ A⁷/_{C \sharp} D \flat m D \flat m/_C B \flat B \flat /_A C/_G C⁷

sim - ply breathe our prayer. Thro' ev - 'ry need our
al - ways go be - fore, Our guide by day, our
noth - ing will di - vide, When heart to heart and

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Johannes Brahms and Ken Bible

SYMPHONY 1
Irregular

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F $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$ C $\frac{F}{A}$ B \flat add9 B \flat Gm $\frac{F}{A}$ B \flat M7 $\frac{Gm}{Bb}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F

weak - ness brings We turn, Fa - ther God, and You are there.
rest by night. Your love is our light for - ev - er - more.
face to face We're joined as Your ev - er - last - ing bride.

All God's Best

Philippians 4:4-9

Father, in Philippians 4:4-9, You
invite us,
call us,
urge us
to enjoy all Your wonderful blessings
all day,
every day.

You urge us to always rejoice,
not in response to changing circumstances,
but in response to Your unchanging goodness.
Even when we can't rejoice in our situation,
we can rejoice in You!

When concerns arise,
we can bring them immediately to You
with grateful, trusting hearts,
before these concerns become worries.
As we do,
You keep us, guard us, protect us in Your peace.

And with the help of Your Spirit,
we can fill our minds and hearts with
whatever is true,
whatever is honorable,
whatever is right,
whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely,
whatever is commendable, and
whatever is
excellent and
praiseworthy. (Philippians 4:8, NASB adapted)

For as we set our minds on the things of the Spirit,
You give what You promise:
life and
peace. (Romans 8:5-6)

Do you want more
joy in your life?
Choose it!
You can choose
fear and anxiety, or
you can choose
joy,
as often as you want.
You can choose to
rejoice in God, in
what He has done for you and in
who you are in Him.
Rejoice always!
Pray continually!
In everything give thanks!
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

~

Hymn recording: [I Am Rejoicing!](#)

I Am Rejoicing!

TUNE: I Must Tell Jesus (ORWIGSBURG, alt.)
Philippians 4:4-9

$\text{♩} = 116$
Unison

1. I am re - joic - ing here in this tri - al, Sing - ing a
2. Lord, You are with me. Why should I wor - ry? Bear - ing con -
3. All that is pure and all that is love - ly, All that is

joy so long o - ver - due. Lord, You're a - maz - ing! You are un -
cerns, I come, and I bow. Al - might - y God, all - wise and all -
right and all that is true - Lord, may they fill my think - ing and

chang - ing! I am at peace here liv - ing in You!
lov - ing, I am at peace while trust - ing You now.
do - ing. Fill all I am with all that is You!

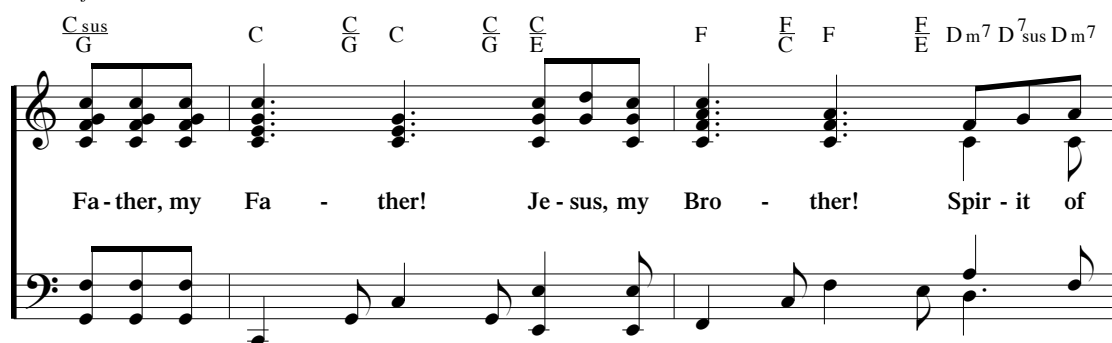
WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Elisha A. Hoffman (1894) and Ken Bible

ORWIGSBURG 2
10.9.10.9.D.

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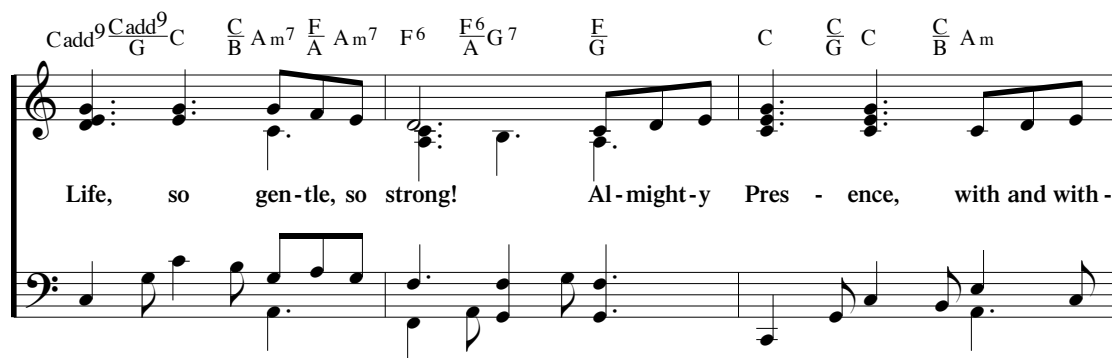
Refrain

$\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ F $\frac{E}{C}$ F $\frac{E}{E}$ Dm^7 D^7 Dm^7



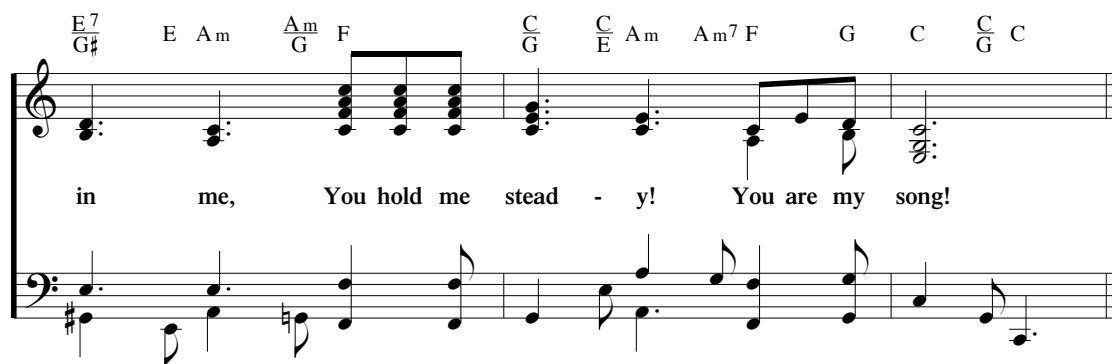
Fa - ther, my Fa - ther! Je - sus, my Bro - ther! Spir - it of

$Cadd^9$ $\frac{Cadd^9}{G}$ $\frac{C}{B}$ $A m^7$ $\frac{F}{A}$ $A m^7$ F^6 $\frac{F^6}{A}$ G^7 $\frac{F}{G}$ C $\frac{C}{G}$ C $\frac{C}{B}$ $A m$



Life, so gen - tle, so strong! Al - might - y Pres - ence, with and with -

$\frac{E^7}{G\#}$ E $A m$ $\frac{A m}{G}$ F $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ $A m$ $A m^7$ F G C $\frac{C}{G}$ C



in me, You hold me stead - y! You are my song!

Father, Receive My Gift

*O Lord, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes haughty;
Nor do I involve myself in great matters,
Or in things too difficult for me.
Surely I have composed and quieted my soul;
Like a weaned child rests against his mother,
My soul is like a weaned child within me.
(Psalm 131:1-2, NASB)*

Father, You are beyond all need.
You are full to overflowing.
All that is
 flows from You and
 is forever nourished by You.
Your nature, Your joy is
 to give,
 to share,
 to bless.

Your resources are endless, and
 Your authority is complete.
You simply speak, and
 it is so.
Your will is the power that fuels all reality.
Your love is the music that makes the universe dance.

You are not impressed by our material gifts.
You are like a great-hearted king
 to whom a child joyfully, lovingly brings a penny.
The penny is worthless.
The love is priceless.

Father, my Father,
that's what I want to give You:
 I want to daily bring You my love.
Like the alabaster perfume,
 like the widow's mite,
I want my life to be a gift of love,
 worthless to the world, but
 priceless to my loving Father.

Let all my "accomplishments" be like

a child's drawing.
Receive the love they express, Father.
Receive the worship,
simple but sincere.
Receive the gift
because it is all I have.
I offer it joyfully,
thankfully
to You.

~

Father,
You can speak universes into existence
with a word, and
a thousand years is as a day to you.
So You are not impressed by our material gifts.
Like any parent, You long for Your children.
You long for us –
our hearts,
our minds,
our lives.
You want us to love You with all our
heart,
soul,
mind, and
strength.

~

Hymn recording: [As Simply as a Child](#)


As Simply as a Child

TUNE: Jesus Loves Me

Genesis 1; Psalm 18:1; 50:12; 116:12-13; 131:1-2; Matthew 22:36-38; Hebrews 11:3

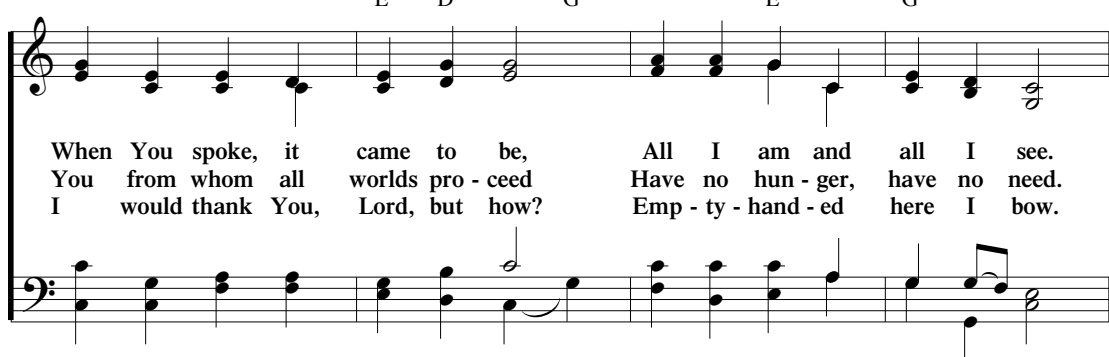
♩ = 84

C $\frac{E\flat m^7}{B}$ A m⁷ $\frac{F^6}{A}$ C $\frac{G}{G}$ $\frac{C\text{add}^9}{E}$ C $\frac{F}{F}$ $\frac{E}{G}$ A m⁷ $\frac{D m}{B}$ $\frac{E}{C}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ G sus G



1. God a - bove, be - yond all need, Great and good in word and deed,
2. Noth - ing I can ev - er do Can en - rich or add to You.
3. Not with wealth or grand ca - reer, Poor, im - per - fect, yet sin - cere,


C F m⁷ F⁶ $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{G}{D}$ C $\frac{C}{G}$ F D m⁷ $\frac{C}{E}$ A m $\frac{C}{G}$ G G⁷ C



When You spoke, it came to be, All I am and all I see.
You from whom all worlds pro - ceed Have no hun - ger, have no need.
I would thank You, Lord, but how? Emp - ty - hand - ed here I bow.


Refrain

C F $\frac{C}{E}$ D m⁷ $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{A m}{F\sharp}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ G $\frac{G}{A}$ $\frac{G}{B}$



Fa - ther, I praise You, Fa - ther, I trust You,

C $\frac{C}{D}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ F $\frac{A m}{F\sharp}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ A m $\frac{E m}{G}$ G⁷ C



Fa - ther, I love You As sim - ply as a child.

WORDS: Ken Bible

MUSIC: William B. Bradbury; arr. by Ken Bible

JESUS LOVES ME

7.7.7.7.w.Ref.

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Nothing but You

*Whom have I in heaven but you?
And earth has nothing I desire besides you. (Psalm 73:25, NIV)*

Lord, I have so many goals.
There's so much I want to accomplish.
There's so much I want to
 have and
 enjoy.
There are so many areas in which I'd like to improve.

But You seem to challenge me to
simply enjoy You more and more as the days go by.

When I'm following You,
 I know I'm walking the right direction.

When I turn to You and talk to You,
 life is full, and
 life is sweet.

Lord, this is my one goal:
 to enjoy You more and more
 as the days go by.

~

Father,
outside of You,
human beauty is
a passing mist,
a mirage.
Your beauty grows
deeper,
richer, and
more real
the more we know You and
trust You.

~

Hymn recording: [It's So Good to Be with You](#)

It's So Good to Be with You

Psalms 73:23-28

♩ = ca. 56

Chords: $\frac{E}{G}$ G^7 C G^7 A m $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{C_{sus}}{F}$ F G^7

It's so good to be with You For - ev - er; Just to

Chords: C G^7 A m $\frac{C}{G}$ $\frac{C_{sus}}{F}$ F $\frac{E}{G}$ G^7 A m $\frac{E_m}{G}$

walk and sim - ply talk For - ev - er. In this one e - ter - nal now,

Chords: $\frac{E_m}{G}$ $\frac{C^7}{G}$ $\frac{C^7}{E}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ F $\frac{C}{E}$ F M^7 F 6

Lord of all, You show me how To be qui - et ev - 'ry

Chords: $\frac{C}{G}$ G^7_{sus} A m F 6 G G 13 **Repeat ending** $\frac{D_m}{C}$ C F **Song ending** $\frac{D_m}{C}$ C

mo - ment here in You For - ev - er. ev - er.

WORDS and MUSIC: Ken Bible

PERSONAL PRESENCE
10.10.7.7.11.3.

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Reflection on Psalm 76

We know You, the

almighty,

all-wise,

all-loving God.

And You personally live

within us and

among us.

We are immersed in You.

O Father, what a privilege!

How can we help but rejoice?

How can we help but trust You?

And the more we trust You,

the more we rejoice!

When we see You face-to-face –

and You promise that we will –

we can only imagine the joy!

After a lifetime of

waiting and

longing,

we will stand face-to-face with

the dearest Desire of our Hearts.

What inexpressible joy!

And it will never end!

But O God, what sheer terror

when those who have

rejected You

stand face-to-face with You,

the One they have

ignored and

denied!

Too late!

I can't imagine the gripping horror and

the wailing!

So how should we,

Your people

respond to You for

all You are,

in all Your magnificence?

All You ask is that we come to You as
little children,
 joyful in You,
 trusting You,
 obeying You.

So Father, we come!
Thank You!
Praise to You!

~

O Father,
how marvelous is Your presence among us –
 Your power,
 Your majesty,
 Your greatness!
 When You act,
 when You pronounce judgment,
all the world stands silent before You.
We bow to You, magnificent God!
 We praise You!
We rejoice in YOU!

~

Hymn recording: [Psalm 76](#)

Psalm 76

with Isaiah 57:15; Matthew 7:21-23; 18:1-4

♩ = 84

Unison Eb Gm Cm Cm/Bb Ab Eb Eb/Bb Ab Ab/Eb

1. Lord, how blessed we are to know You! Praise to You!
 2. You are light and ho - ly splen - dor, truth and grace.
 3. Fa - ther, how can we re - spond to all You are—

Ab/G Ab Eb/Bb Cm Cm7 Bbsus Bbsus/F Bb

All You claim and all You prom - ise is so true!
 Soon we'll know You in Your ful - ness, face - to - face.
 High and hum - ble, good and great, so near, so far?

Ab Eb/G Ab Eb/Bb G7/B

We come in rev - 'rence; we come in ho - ly fear; But
 O what re - joic - ing, with all You are in view! But
 Com - ing like chil - dren, we trust and we o - bey. With

Cm Cm/Bb AbM7 Eb/G Fm7 Gm Ab Ab/Bb

we come in joy— O Fa - ther, You are here!
 O, hear them wail— all those You nev - er knew!
 joy and with praise we greet each brand - new day.

WORDS: Ken Bible
 MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible

DEATH AIN'T NOTHING 2
 11.11.11.11.11.

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Eb Gm Cm $\frac{Cm}{G}$ Ab Eb $\frac{Eb}{Bb}$ Eb

Lord, how blessed we are to know You! Praise to You!
 You are light and ho - ly splen - dor, truth and grace.
 Fa - ther, how can we re - spond to all You are?

Reflection on Psalm 135

Almighty God,
our Father,
what a joy it is to praise You!

Creator of everything around us,
You have immersed us in
 Your greatness and
 Your goodness.
All the world sings of You!

Even in this sea of evil
 of our own making,
You do not abandon us.
You deliver Your people --
 You always have.
You are freeing us right now
 from everything that binds us.

You, Lord –
You are real.
You are living,
 breathing,
 seeing,
 listening,
 feeling,
 working, and
 forever blessing.
Every other “god,”
Every other good outside of You
 is an empty delusion.
You alone are great.
You alone are God.

We praise You!
We celebrate all that You are!

~

Eternal God,
You are all-powerful,

and You are
thoroughly,
constantly
GOOD!
Praise to You!

~

Hymn recording: [Psalm 135](#)

Psalm 135

TUNE: Every Time I Feel the Spirit (alt.)

♩ = 80

Refrain
Unison

D D D G D A⁷ D B^m D

E F# F# D

Praise and hon - or, bound - less bless - ing Be to

B^m B sus B^m A E^m⁷ A⁷ D A⁷ D F# D E F# G

You, O God, for You are good! Great Cre - a - tor! Might - y

D A⁷ D B^m D B^m B sus B^m E^m⁷ A⁷ D D A 4th time: Fine

E F# F# D G

Sav - ior! We be - long to You, and You are good!

D G D D F# G M⁷ G A D F#m D F# G G M⁷

1. The shore - less heav - ens, the O - so - small- You are the
2. You reign in heav - en, we dwell be - low Where pet - ty
3. To - day, for - ev - er, be - yond all time, Your face is

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible

FEEL THE SPIRIT 2
9.9.9.9.w.Ref.

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D
F#
 G M7
 A 7
 A 13
 D
 D
F#
 G
 G
A
 D
 D
F#
 G M7
 G
A

splen - dor be - hind it all. Your per - fect wis - dom! Your sov - reign;
 rul - ers all come and go. You work Your pur - pose - we can't see;
 heav - en; Your smile, sub - lime. We chase de - lus - ions, un - real, un -

D
 F#m
E
 D
F#
 G
 G M7
 D
F#
 G M7
 A 7
 A 13
 D
 D
A
 D
 D.C.

might! To bless Your peo - ple is Your de - light!
 how - But life is free - dom right here and now!
 true. No god is worth - y - no God but You!

Reflection on Habakkuk 3:16-19

Almighty God,
as I begin to see You for
 all You are,
I bow here with
 a quiet spirit and
 a smiling heart,
patiently waiting
 Your will in
 Your time

I begin to trust You
 because I know Your heart,
 even when I don't fully understand Your actions.

I begin to realize that
 my joy
is not dependent on
 my circumstance.
I can always be joyful because You are
 always God,
 always here,
 always the same, and
 always, always, always
 right and
 good.

I want my circumstances and
 this entire world
to be right as well, Lord,
 and I know they will be.
 You have promised to make them right!
But for now,
I live in
 joy and
 settled peace
as I live and trust in
 You.

Father, form in me
the wonderful habit of
rejoicing in You always,
with my mind,
heart, and
mouth,
with prayers and
hymns and
praises.

~

Hymn recording: [Joy in You](#)

Joy in You

Habakkuk 3:16-19
with 1 Thessalonians 5:16; James 1:17

♩ = 69

Unison C

$\frac{C \text{ sus}}{E}$

$\frac{C}{E}$

$\frac{F}{A}$

G

Cadd⁹

C

$\frac{C}{E}$

F

$\frac{C}{E}$

1. Life is a strug - gle; You are peace. In ev - 'ry weak - ness,
2. O Per-fect Wis - dom, here I wait. Al - might-y Pow - er,

Dm⁷

Dm⁶

G sus

$\frac{G}{F}$

$\frac{C}{E}$

$\frac{G^7}{D}$

$\frac{C \text{ sus}}{D}$

Cadd⁹

$\frac{C}{E}$

F

$\frac{C}{E}$

Dm⁷

$\frac{Dm^7}{F}$

You are strength. Plea - sures will fail and sea - sons change;
here I rest. You are my Fa - ther, I, Your child.

$\frac{C}{G}$

$\frac{C}{E}$

F⁶

$\frac{Cadd^9}{E}$

$\frac{C}{E}$

F

Dm⁷

$\frac{C}{G}$

$\frac{F}{G}$

¹ $\frac{C}{G}$

$\frac{C}{G}$

C

You are al - ways good, Lord. I re - joice in You!
You are al - ways love, Lord. Life is joy in

² Am

$\frac{Am}{G}$

$\frac{D^7}{F\#}$

$\frac{C}{G}$

$\frac{F}{G}$

C

$\frac{C}{G}$

C

C

C

C

You! Life is joy in You!

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

JOY IN YOU 8.8.8.6.5.

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Face-to-face with the Living God

*To You I lift up my eyes,
O You who are enthroned in the heavens!
Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master,
As the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
So our eyes look to the Lord our God,
Until He is gracious to us.
(Psalm 123:1-2, NASB)*

I remember clearly when I first trusted Jesus Christ. It was the last night of a revival in our local church with evangelist Rev. Jay Budd. All week a fear of hell had been building in my 10-year-old mind, but I was too shy to go forward during the altar call. So when we arrived home after church on that Sunday night, April 10, 1960, I went into my parents' bedroom and told them I wanted to pray to become a Christian.

I still remember my burning desire not to lose the amazing new feeling that filled my heart.

But my deepest and most formative memory of that evening is my new awareness of the Living God. I had the sensation of Him standing right in front of me, looking straight into my eyes. The reality was stark and gripping. He filled my heart's vision. I could not ignore Him or look past Him. But His look was not threatening. He was not angry with me. His look was love...nothing but love.

I think of that when I read the account of Paul's conversion in Acts 9. Paul was making a career of trying to stamp out Christianity, and suddenly, in a moment in time, he turned around 180 degrees and became one of its most fervent advocates. Within a few days he was publicly contending for the truth he had violently opposed. The change did not happen through years of studying and thinking. Like me, he simply came face-to-face with the Living Christ. Few words were exchanged. The gripping reality of Jesus Christ transformed him completely in a moment in time, and he was never the same.

Like Paul, my life and ministry continue to be energized by the stark reality of Father God, revealed so vividly and personally in Jesus Christ. To my ears, so much of our Christian talk is about religion, and religion can be such a human thing. It pales before the Living God. He still fills my heart's vision, as He did on that evening over 60 years ago. He draws me. He drives me. My relationship with Him shapes every aspect of my life. When He speaks, all other voices are just background noise. When He commands, my path is clear, regardless of opposition. My heart has room for nothing and no one else.

As with Noah, Abraham, Isaiah, and Paul, God Himself, in His person, makes all other considerations irrelevant. He is the Source and Center of all reality. He is all wisdom, all power, and all love. He calls, I answer. What else matters but Him?

~

We spend our lives
fearfully holding God at arm's length,
not realizing that His only goal is
to fulfill us completely,
to make us happy,
loving,
wise,
fruitful,
glorious, and
at peace with Himself and all creation.

~

Hymn recording: [Lord, May Our Thoughts Begin with You](#)

Lord, May Our Thoughts Begin with You

TUNE: Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee (ST. AGNES)

Psalm 36:9; 63:1; Romans 11:33-36; Revelation 21:6

G A^m E A^m D G D⁷ G D G A⁷ D

^C B C[#] F[#] E

1. Lord, may our tho'ts be - gin with You. You are the joy we seek.
2. Lord, may our tho'ts be born of faith Nour-ished by sim - ple prayer,
3. May all we think and do be love. Love be our one de - sire.
4. Come fill our hearts, our minds, our lives, Foun - tain of joy and light,

A^m A^m6 E A^m A⁷ D A⁷ D D G C C G D⁷ G

^C C[#] D D C B C E D D G

You are the love we long to live, You, an - y truth we speak.
Strong in Your wise and sov - 'reign power, Sure in Your ten - der care.
Love be the glow of all we are Bright with Your ho - ly fire.
Riv - er of deep and per - fect peace, O - cean of end - less life!

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: John B. Dykes

ST. AGNES
C.M.

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Fullness of Joy

*My tears have been my food day and night.
O my God, my soul is in despair.
All Your breakers and Your waves have rolled over Me.
(Psalm 42:3, 6, 7, NASB)*

Father, grief and sorrow have come in like a flood,
and I am overwhelmed.
Tears are my constant companion.
I need joy, the joy that comes only from You,
but I cannot grasp it.

Father, now I am ready to hear the words of Christ.
Now I am ready to look hungrily at His example.
Hours before His arrest, torture, and brutal execution,
what was He so eager to share with His disciples?
The fullness of His joy:

“These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.” (John 15:11, NASB)

“[Father,] now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves.” (John 17:13, NASB)

Jesus stood on the brink of the greatest physical, emotional, and spiritual assault
any human has ever faced.
What strengthened Him, encouraged Him, and drew Him on?
His fullness of joy.

“Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:1b-2, NASB)

Jesus endured every humiliation that unbridled hatred could throw at Him, yet
He *despised the shame*.
He considered it unworthy of consideration in light of
the joy set before Him.

Father, Jesus found His joy in You, in
knowing You,
pleasing You, and

glorifying You.
Father, You are the fullness of joy for me as well.
With Jesus, I seek,
not joy,
but You.

~

For Jesus,
“fullness of joy” was not
money,
circumstance, or
even human relationships.
Fullness of joy was
His relationship with His Father,
constant and
complete;
a relationship of
love,
trust,
dependence,
sharing, and
total devotion.
O Father, that’s what I want!

~

Hymn recording: [Fullness of Joy](#)

Fullness of Joy

TUNE: Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes (ADORATIO, alt.)
John 15:11; 17:13; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Philippians 3:7-11; Hebrews 12:1-3; 1 Peter 1:8

♩ = 96

Dadd⁹ D DM⁷ A⁷ Gadd⁹ A⁷ D G D G⁶ B^m F[#] Em⁷ D F[#] G D A A⁷

1. Full-ness of joy in You, my Fa-ther, I find in Christ Your
2. How can Your path of ten - der care be So rough and dark and
3. Shar-ing His life in You, my Fa-ther, I share His full - er

D G D DM⁷ G A DM⁷ G A D F^{#m}7 G B A⁷ D G D G⁶ B^m F[#] Em⁷

Son, steep? Shar-ing Your Spir - it's breath, u - nit - ing Our
joy, How can Your lov - ing wis - dom lead us To
Joy be - yond words, a - glow with glo - ry No

D F[#] G D A A⁷ D sus D A⁷ D A⁷ E

lives to breathe as one. I share His love, His
groan and grieve and weep? My Lord has walked this
sor - row can de - stroy. This les - son Christ in

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Traditional English Melody; arr. by Ken Bible

ADORATIO 2
9.6.9.6.8.6.9.6.

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$\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ A sus A G $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{A7}{C\#}$ D $\frac{G}{D}$ D $\frac{D}{A}$ A⁷ sus A⁷

faith, His peace, His deep and hum - ble prayer,
 road be - fore, And I am not a - lone.
 love would teach And prove pro - found - ly true:

D $\frac{F\#m7}{C\#}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ A⁷ D $\frac{G}{D}$ D G⁶ $\frac{Bm}{F\#}$ Em⁷ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{D}{A}$ A⁷ D $\frac{D}{A}$ D

Strong in His per - fect weak - ness, trust-ing Our Fa - ther's ten - der care.
 Full - ness of joy is mine in Je - sus, And He will lead me home.
 Fa - ther, Your goal and great - est gift is The joy of know - ing You.

Give Me Jesus

Father,
of all the good things that call for my attention,
of all the wonderful gifts You have given,
One is
more precious,
more glorious,
more dear
than them all:
Jesus Christ.

For as I know Him,
I know You,
face-to-face.
As I trust Him,
I share in all the riches of
Your salvation,
Your Spirit, and
an unbroken, unbounded relationship with You.

Father,
day by day,
more and more,
for all the joy that You are,
give me Jesus.

~

Do you want to be
truly,
eternally,
abundantly wealthy?
Be rich in thanksgiving,
in praise,
in the joy that comes from
living in Jesus Christ.
Be rich in love
toward God and
everyone around you.

~

Hymn recording: [Give Me Jesus](#)

Give Me Jesus

Psalm 5:3; 55:17; Philippians 3:7-11; 1 John 1:7

♩ = 92

Unison G^9/B G/B C G/B G^9/B A m $\text{E m}/\text{G}$ F^6 F D m^9 D m^{11}

1. In the morn - ing when I rise, Thro' the stress each day sup -
2. When my path is clear and bright, Or when noth - ing's go - ing
3. He is grace I can't re - pay, Per - fect peace a - long life's

G sus G G^9/B G/B A m^7 $\text{E m}/\text{G}$ $\text{E m}^{11}/\text{G}$ $\text{D}^7/\text{F}\sharp$ $\text{E m}/\text{G}$ G^7 C sus $\text{C}^{\text{sus}}/\text{G}$ C

plies, As I rest my wea - ry eyes, Give me Je - sus.
right, Keep me walk - ing in the light- Give me Je - sus.
way, Heav - en's joy at close of day- Give me Je - sus!

Refrain A m^7 G G^9/F G^7 G^9 G A m G^7 C C/D C/E $\text{C add}^9/\text{E}$

Give me Je - sus! Give me Je - sus! You may

F D m^7 $\text{C add}^9/\text{E}$ C/E $\text{E m}/\text{G}$ G^7 F/C F F^6 C

have all this world- Give me Je - sus!

WORDS: Ken Bible and African-American Spiritual
MUSIC: African-American Spiritual; arr. by Ken Bible

GIVE ME JESUS
7.7.7.4.w.Ref.

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Eternal Day

John 16:16-22

"A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will be turned into joy. Whenever a woman is in labor she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that a child has been born into the world. Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you."
(John 16:16, 20-22, NASB)

Eternal life begins when we trust in Jesus Christ, and
it never ends!

From that moment on we have

joy in the presence of Father and Son:

the joy of sharing Jesus' intimate relationship with the Father,

the joy of their Holy Spirit with us and in us,

the assurance that at just the right time,

the Father will send the Son back to gather us to Himself.

As we wait for that day,

every taste of God produces a hunger for more of Him.

Our joy in His presence now

feeds a longing for His

full,

immediate,

face-to-face presence.

His daily goodness reminds us that

we are only in the early morning of an eternal day of

life and

joy and

fulfillment in Him.

~

Like children,
we don't appreciate
our Father's greatest gifts

because they are so far beyond
our tiny experience.
He blesses us
in ways and
in realms that are
higher than we can dream.
We think “today”.
He gives forever.
We think “this physical life”.
He enriches our eternal reality.



Hymn recording: [Good Morning, All Who Trust in Christ!](#)

Good Morning, All Who Trust in Christ!

ALTERNATE TUNE: I Sing the Mighty Power of God (ELLACOMBE)
John 5:21, 24-26, 28-29; 17:1-3; Philippians 4:4-5; Revelation 21:23-25

♩ = 96

Chord progression: Eb G, Ab, Bb Ab, Eb Bb, Fm Ab, Fm Bb, Bb7, Eb, Cm, Bbsus, Bb, Eb G

1. Good morn-ing, all who trust in Christ! Your day has just be - gun, Your
2. Good morn-ing, all who love the Lord, Now turn-ing t'ward the Sun. A
3. Re - joice in Him thro' - out the day As end-less day be - gins. The

Chord progression: Ab, Bb, Cm, Fm, Fm7, Fm, Fm7, Bb, Bb Ab, Bb7, Ebsus, Eb, Bb7

end - less day of life and joy In God's e - ter - nal Son. The
feast of wor - ship fills this day. Our praise has just be - gun! Thro'
Lord our God is al - ways good! Re - joice, re - joice in Him! For -

Chord progression: Eb, Ab, Bb Ab, Eb G, Gm Bb, Bb, Eb, Bb D, Ab C, Bb Ab, Eb G, Bb, Eb G

best of all that love can give Is pour - ing from His heart. The
ev - 'ry lov - ing word and work, Thro' faith and sim - ple prayer We
ev - er flow - ing, ev - er full With rich, a - bound-ing life, For -

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible

BRIGHTON CAMP 2
C.M.D.

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A \flat B \flat C m F m F m^7 F m F m^7 B \flat $\frac{B\flat}{A\flat}$ B \flat^7 E \flat

bound - less life that fills the Son Is fill - ing all you are.
 shout the great - ness of our God And sing His ten - der care.
 ev - er here, for - ev - er now - Re - jice in Je - sus Christ!