

THE CHURCH

# 305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!  
 2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,  
 3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,  
 4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!  
 em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!  
 as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!  
 For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!

In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

1 Come sing, O church, in  
joy!

Come join, O church, in  
song!

For Christ the Lord has  
led us

through the ages long!

Refrain:

In bold accord,  
come celebrate the  
journey now  
and praise the Lord!

2 Long years have come  
and gone,

and still God reigns

supreme,

empowering us to catch  
the vision,

dream the dream!

(Refrain)

3 Let courage be our  
friend;

let wisdom be our guide,  
as we in mission magnify  
the Crucified! (Refrain)

4 Come sing, O church, in  
joy!

Come join, O church, in  
song!

For Christ the Lord has  
triumphed o'er  
the ages long! (Refrain)

# 244 This Joyful Eastertide

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and  
 2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son  
 3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the

sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has  
 slum - ber till trump from east to west shall  
 riv - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill my

*Refrain*

sprung to life this mor - row.  
 wake the dead in num - ber. Had Christ, who once was  
 pass - ing soul de - liv - er.

The verbal and musical elements of this hymn mesh so well because the words were written to fit this Dutch tune (whose name means "fruits"). The news of Christ's resurrection is joyfully conveyed by the ever-higher phrases and final cascade of notes at the end of the refrain.

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION



slain, not burst his three-day pris - on, our faith had been in



vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en.

1. This joyful Eastertide,  
away with sin and  
sorrow!  
My love, the  
Crucified,  
has sprung to life this  
morrow.

2. My flesh in hope shall  
rest  
and for a season  
slumber  
till trump from east to  
west  
shall wake the dead  
in number.

*Refrain*

Had Christ, who once was  
slain,  
not burst his three-day  
prison,  
our faith had been in  
vain.

But now has Christ  
arisen, arisen,  
arisen, arisen.

*Refrain*

3. Death's flood has lost  
its chill  
since Jesus crossed  
the river.  
Lover of souls,  
from ill my passing  
soul deliver.

*Refrain*

# Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his  
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."  
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

1 "Go, my children, with my blessing,  
never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you,  
you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing,  
you are my own."

2 "Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you,  
what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
at peace and pure."

3 "Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving,  
joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
joyful and free."