

# 49 The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove,  
 2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.  
 3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,  
 4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;



the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!  
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.  
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.  
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,  
 Es - tab - lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,  
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,  
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:



we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.  
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.  
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.  
 the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!



Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

# 53 O God, Who Gives Us Life

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,  
 2 O God, who calls your peo-ple out to ven-ture and to dare,  
 3 O God of cov-e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,

who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:  
 to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:  
 your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.  
 when we de-spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,  
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,

Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.  
 re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.  
 as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

# 757 Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the  
 2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man  
 3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y  
 4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing

Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make  
 race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -  
 stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to  
 word, and walk the road the saints have trod till

plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their  
 spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly  
 cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -  
 all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the  
 proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord  
 store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that  
 we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.  
 spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.  
 was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.  
 calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.