

755 Alleluia! Laud and Blessing

(Psalms 111 and 112)



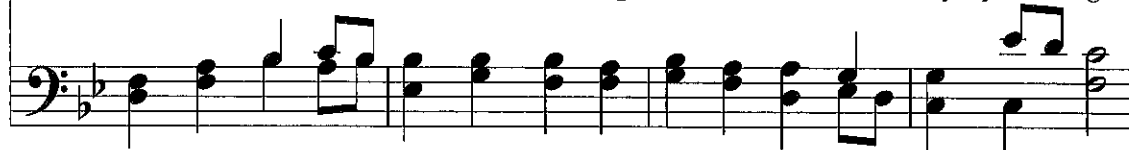
1 Al - le - lu - ia! Laud and bless - ing to our God, whose Word is sure;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! God sus - tains us; match - less are the gifts we share;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Ho - ly Par - ent, all your chil - dren now re - claim;



by whose grace we find re - demp - tion, in whose love we live se - cure.
 light in dark - ness, hope in con - flict, an - swers to our deep - est prayer.
 may our lives re - flect your jus - tice, heirs to your most sa - cred name.



Righ - teous - ness and rich com - pas - sion shall at - tend us all our days;
 Ours to give as we are giv - en: arms to lift when oth - ers fall;
 Fill our hearts with un - der - stand - ing, brace our weak - ness by your might;



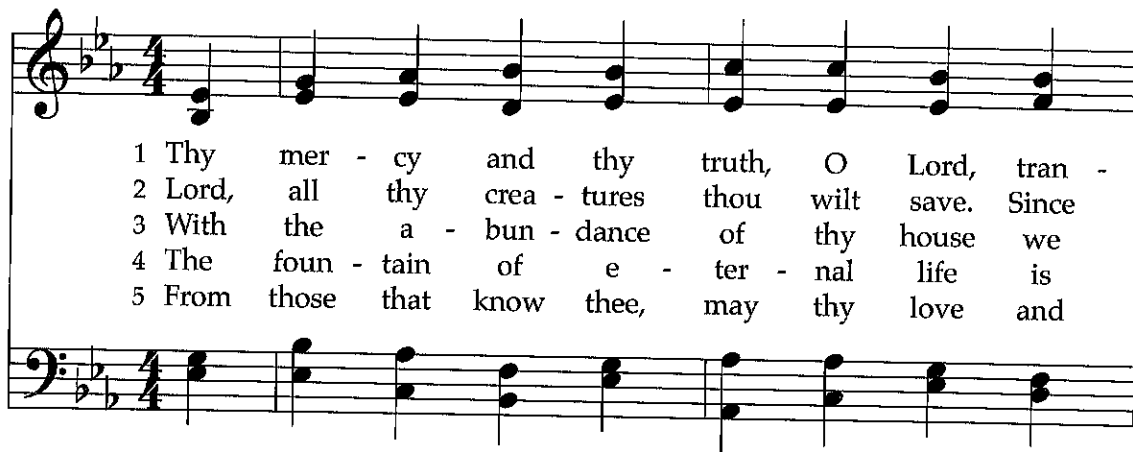
may God's prom - ise to be faith - ful ech - o through our songs of praise!
 im - ag - es of God's great good - ness, faith - ful ser - vants to God's call.
 awe - some hon - or, born in wis - dom; your great glo - ry, our de - light!



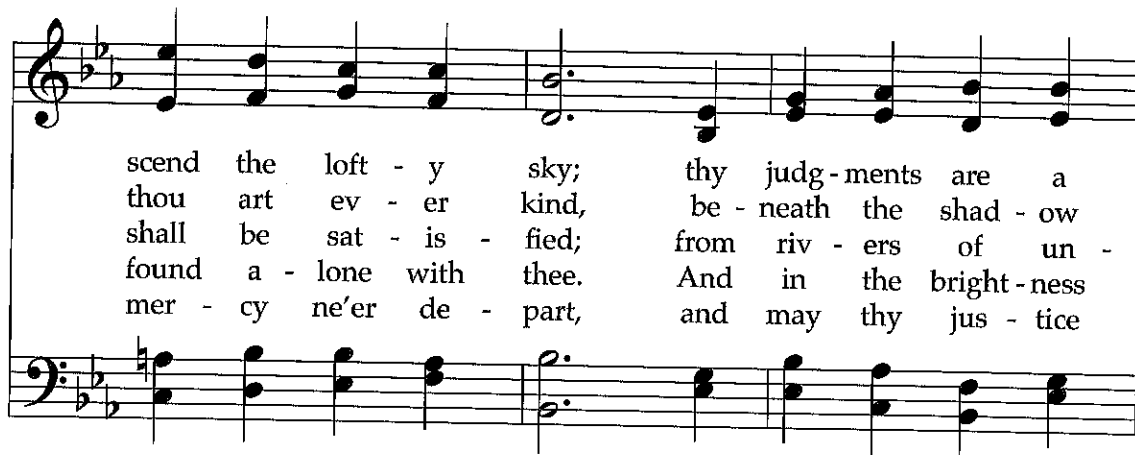
Psalms 111 and 112 are appropriately brought together in this paraphrase. Both form acrostics: each poetic line begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet in order. In addition, both psalms begin with "hallelujah," and they share much vocabulary as well as a theme of praise.

Thy Mercy and Thy Truth, O Lord 477

(Psalm 36)



1 Thy mer - cy and thy truth, O Lord, tran -
 2 Lord, all thy crea - tures thou wilt save. Since
 3 With the a - bun - dance of thy house we
 4 The foun - tain of e - ter - nal life is
 5 From those that know thee, may thy love and



scend the loft - y sky; thy judg - ments are a
 thou art ev - er kind, be - neath the shad - ow
 shall be sat - is - fied; from riv - ers of un -
 found a - lone with thee. And in the bright - ness
 mer - cy ne'er de - part, and may thy jus - tice

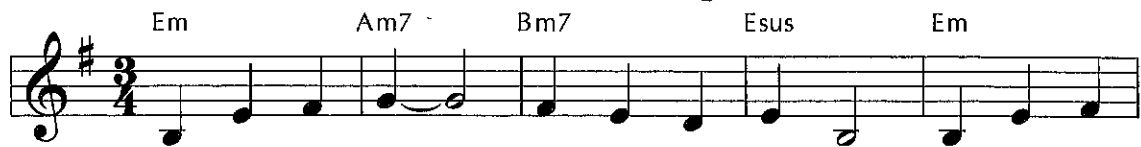


might - y deep, and as the moun - tains high.
 of thy wings we may a ref - uge find.
 fail - ing joy our thirst shall be sup - plied.
 of thy light we clear - ly light shall see.
 still pro - tect and bless the up - right heart.

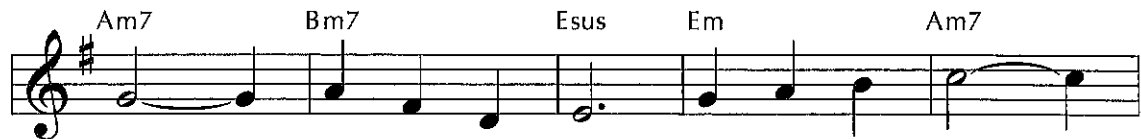
These five stanzas celebrating God's merciful care for all creation correspond to Psalm 36:5-10 and were prepared by a joint committee of nine North American churches in the Reformed tradition. They are set here to a simple but memorable tune from the mid-16th century.

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

Christ, Be Our Light



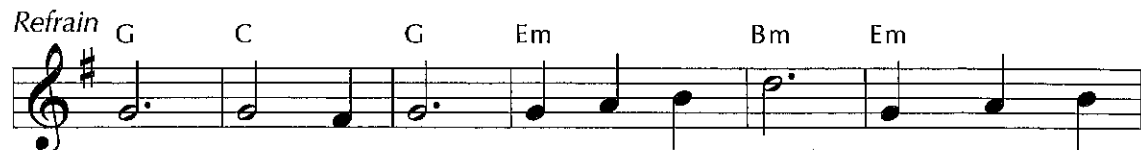
1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
 2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
 3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
 4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



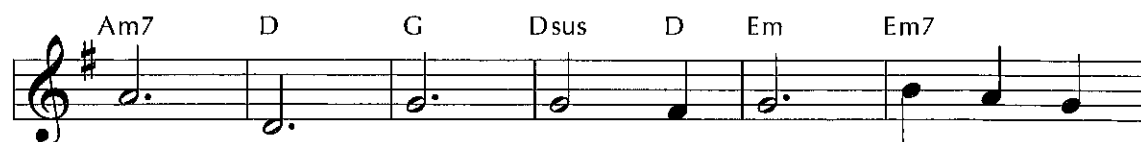
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



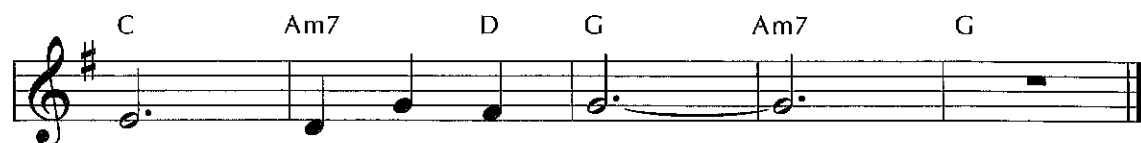
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.