

# 275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er  
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be  
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -  
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

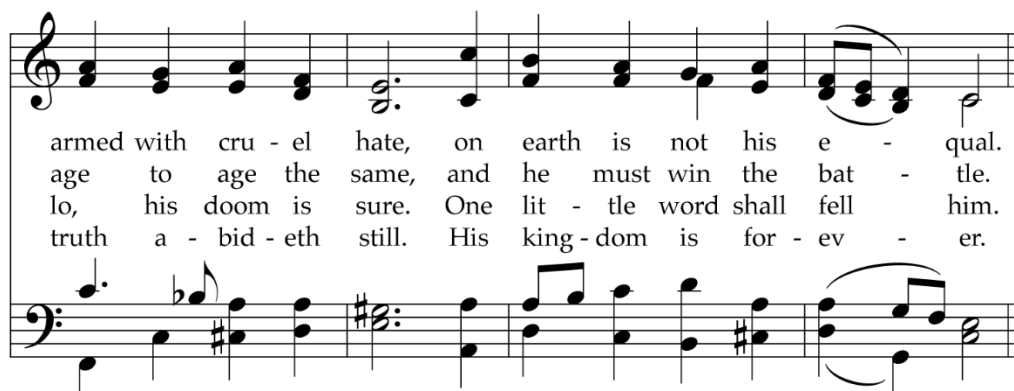
fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of  
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the  
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his  
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth  
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ  
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we  
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and  
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from  
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for  
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN



armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.  
age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.  
lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.  
truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

BAPTISM

# 486 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

1 Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, bap - tized  
 2 Child of love, our love's ex - pres - sion, love's cre -  
 3 Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you  
 4 Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to

with the Spir - it's sign, with this wa - ter God has  
 a - tion, loved in - deed! Fresh from God, re - fresh our  
 are, from God you came. Back to God we hum - bly  
 lis - ten for God's call. Grow to laugh and sing and

sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.  
 spir - its; in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.  
 give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.  
 wor - ship; trust and love God more than all.

This hymn addressed to a newly-baptized child begins each stanza with a facet of the child's identity, culminating in "child of God." By being directed to one person rather than the whole congregation, this text occupies a special category among the "songs of encouragement."

# Come to Me, O Weary Traveler 183



- 1 "Come to me, O wea - ry trav - eler; come to me with your dis - tress;
- 2 "Do not fear, my yoke is eas - y; do not fear, my bur - den's light;
- 3 "Take my yoke and leave your trou - bles; take my yoke and come with me.
- 4 "Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - eler; rest in me and do not fear.



come to me, you heav - y bur - dened; come to me and find your rest."  
do not fear the path be - fore you; do not run from me in fright."  
Take my yoke, I am be - side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty."  
Rest in me, my heart is gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care."

This paraphrase and expansion of Matthew 11:28–30 by a Canadian minister is structured so that the first three syllables of each stanza provide the hymn's skeleton and summary. The immediacy of the text is enhanced by the folksong-like setting later composed for it.

# There Is a Place of Quiet Rest 824

Near to the Heart of God

1 There is a place of qui - et rest, near to the heart of God,  
 2 There is a place of com - fort sweet, near to the heart of God,  
 3 There is a place of full re - lease, near to the heart of God,

a place where sin can - not mo - lest, near to the heart of God.  
 a place where we our Sav - ior meet, near to the heart of God.  
 a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

*Refrain*

O Je - sus, blest Re - deem - er, sent from the heart of God,

hold us, who wait be - fore thee, near to the heart of God.

A Presbyterian campus pastor and choir director in Missouri wrote this simple but moving hymn in response to the death of two young nieces from diphtheria. By distilling such personal grief into the shared assurances of faith, these words have brought comfort to many.