

Simply Charlotte Mason presents

Singing the Great Hymns



Compiled by Jordan Smith



“The singing of hymns at home and of the hymns and canticles in church should be a special delight.” —Charlotte Mason

Singing the Great Hymns will

- nourish your children's minds with beautiful thoughts of God.
- teach your children sound doctrine in a simple, easy-to-remember way.
- preserve a rich heritage of faith-filled, inspiring words from godly men and women.
- encourage your whole family to form a delightful habit of praise!

This collection of great hymns makes it easy to do hymn study. Singing a great hymn just once or twice a week will gently introduce the lyrics and music in a memorable, meaningful way. Simply select one hymn to sing together until everyone has learned each stanza. Six hymns are included for each of twelve school years, giving your children the treasure of more than 70 beautiful hymns in their hearts and minds.

Singing the Great Hymns includes these helpful resources for learning the hymns.

- Audio recording of every hymn, so you can hear the tune or enjoy a simple piano accompaniment to your singing.
- Sheet music for each hymn, so you and your children can practice reading music or play along.
- Comprehensive collection of lyrics, so you can enjoy the richness of all the stanzas or select your favorites to learn.

Experience the special delight of the great hymns of the faith!

Simply
Charlotte Mason
.com

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Singing the Great Hymns
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“The Habit of Praise.—Perhaps we do not attach enough importance to the habit of praise in our children’s devotion. Praise and thanksgiving come freely from the young heart; gladness is natural and holy, and music is a delight. The singing of hymns at home and of the hymns and canticles in church should be a special delight; and the habit of soft and reverent singing, of offering our very best in praise, should be carefully formed” (Vol. 3, p. 143).

—Charlotte Mason

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How to Use

What Is Hymn Study?

Hymn study is a wonderful way to teach your children the great hymns of the faith. Based on the principles Charlotte Mason used to teach poetry and folk songs, hymn study gently introduces lyrics and music in a memorable, meaningful way.

It's simple to incorporate hymn study into your home school. Just select one hymn to sing together until everyone has learned each stanza. That's all there is to it!

If you want to go deeper, you can look up and read the story behind the hymn and its writer. You might also have your children use a hymn's lyrics for copywork, dictation, or recitation.

How This Book Works

We've selected 72 great hymns to use for hymn study. These hymns are arranged into twelve groups with six hymns in each group. We recommend you learn one hymn group each school year. We've tried to include hymns for various holidays. Feel free to use the hymns in any order.

To help you learn each hymn, a simple instrumental arrangement has been included as an electronic download. If you're unfamiliar with the tune, or just want an accompaniment for singing, you can listen to the included music. You'll also find sheet music for each hymn if you or your children would like to play it on your own instrument.

Additional Notes

- In case you are unfamiliar with hymns, here's a quick explanation of how a hymn should be sung: The numbered stanzas are sung in sequence. If the hymn includes a refrain, it should be sung between stanzas. To help you with the sequence, we've included a note (*Refrain*) to show you when to sing the refrain.
- As you learn these hymns, you will likely come across unfamiliar words, or you may see familiar words used in unusual ways. Take the time to look up difficult words and discern the meanings.
- You may also notice that words here and there in the stanzas have changed over the years. If you know a different version, feel free to substitute the words with which you are most familiar.
- Just as the beautiful words of poetry should be read in a beautiful way, so the lyrics of hymns should be sung in a meaningful way. Try to fit the pace you sing to the feeling behind the words, and be expressive. Think about what the hymn is saying. Is it a prayer? A joyful proclamation? A call to worship? How would you sing it in light of its meaning?
- Many of these hymns have quite a few stanzas, some of which may be difficult to sing. We've chosen to include all the stanzas we could find; for certain hymns, recommended stanzas have been marked in bold. This doesn't mean you are required to use only the marked stanzas. We encourage you to choose the ones you want to use. You may even want to include your children in deciding which stanzas your family wants to sing.
- We've included the tune names for each hymn. This is because many hymns use the same tunes. If you study more hymns in the future, you will discover that it's not uncommon to find hymns set to tunes you already know. This means you can learn a new hymn with less effort.

Enjoy studying the great hymns!

Hymn Group 1

- I Sing the Mighty Power of God
- Like a River Glorious
- To God Be the Glory
- Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
- Crown Him with Many Crowns
- O Come, All Ye Faithful

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Isaac Watts

Tune: Ellacombe

1. I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.
2. I sing the goodness of the Lord, Who filled the earth with food;
He formed the creatures with His Word and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed where'er I turn my eye:
If I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the sky!
3. There's not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow by order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care,
And everywhere that we can be, Thou, God art present there.

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Isaac Watts

Tune: Ellacombe

I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun - tains rise, That

spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y skies. I

sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day; The

moon shines full at God's com - mand, and all the stars o - bey.

Like a River Glorious

Frances R. Havergal

Tune: Wye Valley

1. Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious in its bright increase;
Perfect, yet it floweth fuller every day;
Perfect, yet it groweth deeper all the way.

Refrain

Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest:
Finding, as He promised, perfect peace and rest.

2. Hidden in the hollow of His blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, never traitor stand;
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry touch the spirit there. (*Refrain*)
3. Every joy or trial falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love.
We may trust Him fully all for us to do;
They who trust Him wholly find Him wholly true. (*Refrain*)

Like a River Glorious

Frances R Havergal

Tune: Wye Valley

Like a riv - er glor - ious is God's per - fect peace, Ov - er all vic - tor - ious

The first system of the hymn is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Like a riv - er glor - ious is God's per - fect peace, Ov - er all vic - tor - ious'.

in its bright in - crease; Per - fect, yet it flow - eth full - er ev - ery day,

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'in its bright in - crease; Per - fect, yet it flow - eth full - er ev - ery day,'.

Per - fect, yet it grow - eth deep - er all the way. Stayed up - on Je - hov - ah,

The third system begins with a measure rest for 13 measures. The lyrics are: 'Per - fect, yet it grow - eth deep - er all the way. Stayed up - on Je - hov - ah,'. The word 'Refrain' is written above the staff.

hearts are full - y blest: Find - ing, as He prom - ised, per - fect peace and rest.

The fourth system begins with a measure rest for 19 measures. The lyrics are: 'hearts are full - y blest: Find - ing, as He prom - ised, per - fect peace and rest.'.

To God Be the Glory

Fanny Crosby

Tune: To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glory, great things He has done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

- Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.
2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (*Refrain*)
 3. Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (*Refrain*)

To God Be the Glory

Fanny Crosby

Tune: To God Be the Glory

To God be the glo - ry, great things He has done, So loved He the world that He

gave us His Son, Who yield - ed His life an at - one-ment for sin, And o - pened the

Refrain

life - gate that all may go in. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His

voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the

Fath - er through Je - sus the Son, And give Him the glor - y, great things He has done.

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