

Songs That SHAPED OUR FAITH

Timeless Truths Across Changing Voices



THROUGH
HISTORY



ROOTED IN
SCRIPTURE



SHAPED FOR
WORSHIP



SUNG BY
GENERATIONS



RELEVANT
TODAY

— One message. Many voices. One unchanging God. —



Wilbur Reid

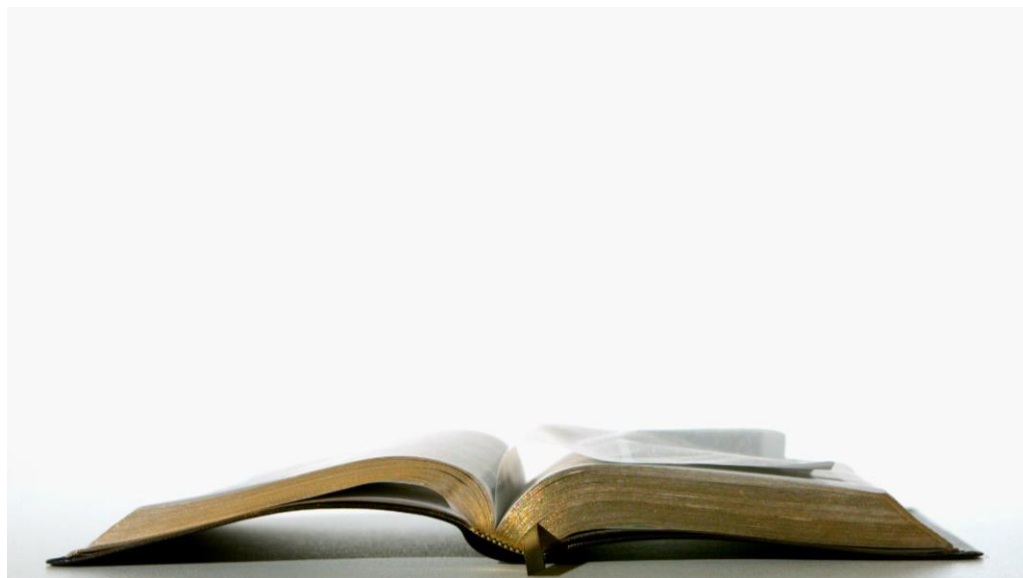


Fellowship in Christ Class
Woodlawn Christian Church



Summer 2026





Best-Selling and Most Influential Christian Literature

Summer 2025

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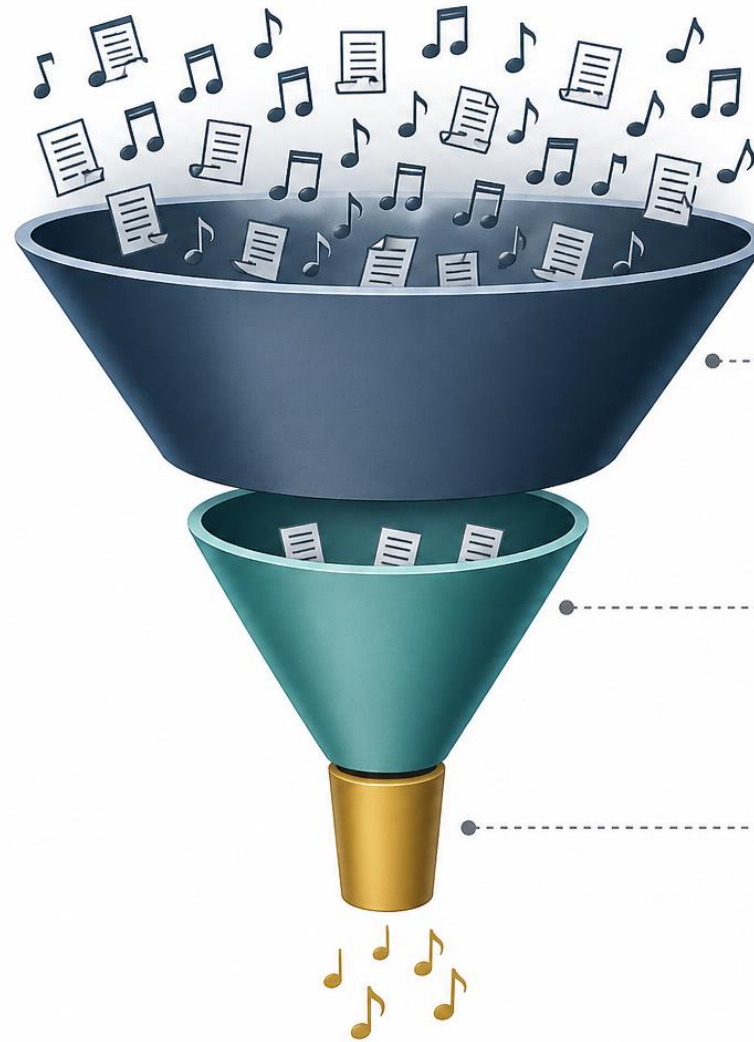
Fellowship in Christ Class
Woodlawn Christian Church



Summer 2026



The Brutal Filter



Christian hymns
written throughout history:

950,000

Typical hymnal:

600

Typical congregation
actively sings:

50

The hymns we sing didn't just survive — they ran a gauntlet that eliminated 99.995% of everything ever written.

The same filter is running today on contemporary Christian music.

Why the church sings

1. God commanded it
 - Deuteronomy 31:19 *“Write down this song and teach it to the Israelites and have them sing it, so that it may be a witness for me against them.”*
 - Colossians 3:16 *“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.”*
 2. Teaches doctrine to ordinary people
 3. Encountering God produces praise
 4. Song sustains the church through suffering
 5. Song builds community
- **The through-line: song is not decoration for theology. It is theology — embodied, memorized, and carried forward by ordinary people across generations.**

BEFORE WE GET STARTED

◆ TWO THINGS TO PUT ON THE TABLE ◆

1

THIS IS NOT A MUSIC CLASS



We're not here to study music theory or style.



We listen to the **WORDS**.
The lyrics are our text.



Focus on what a song is **SAYING**.

2

THIS IS A CLASS ABOUT CONGREGATIONAL SINGING



We study the songs the church actually **SINGS TOGETHER**.



Not performance pieces.
Not recordings.



Songs ordinary believers have sung
across generations, across churches.



THAT'S THE TRADITION WE'RE TRACING.

13 Movements of Congregational Singing

Highlighted by 6 songs teaching about song itself, showing continuity of messaging over 1800 years.

—• MOVEMENT 1 •—

THE OLD TESTAMENT FOUNDATION

◆ 1400–400 BC ◆

God's people sing the story of Scripture.
Psalms, promises, and foundations.



SCRIPTURE
IN SONG



PSALMS &
POETRY



GOD'S KINGDOM
PROMISED



THE SAME GOD. THE SAME STORY. THE FIRST VOICES.



• MOVEMENT 2 •

SONGS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

~AD 30–100



THE FIRST THING
THE CHURCH DID
WAS SING THEOLOGY.
IT WAS STILL WORKING OUT.

Song was one of the primary tools for forming and carrying doctrine forward — exactly what Colossians 3:16 commands.



PHILIPPIANS 2:6–11

The Christ-Hymn

Within twenty years of the resurrection, the church was singing a fully formed Christology — that Jesus is Lord. This likely began as a hymn sung in worship.



REVELATION 4 & 5

The Heavenly Hymn

John describes worship in heaven as song. This is almost certainly liturgical — the church's rehearsal on earth for the worship we will join in eternity.



COLOSSIANS 3:16

God's Command

“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.”



The earliest Christians didn't wait for a hymnal.
They sang the truth they were discovering together.

MOVEMENT 3 – THE PSALMS AS THE PRIMARY VOICE

(~AD 100–350)



As Christianity moved into the Gentile world,
the Psalter came with it.



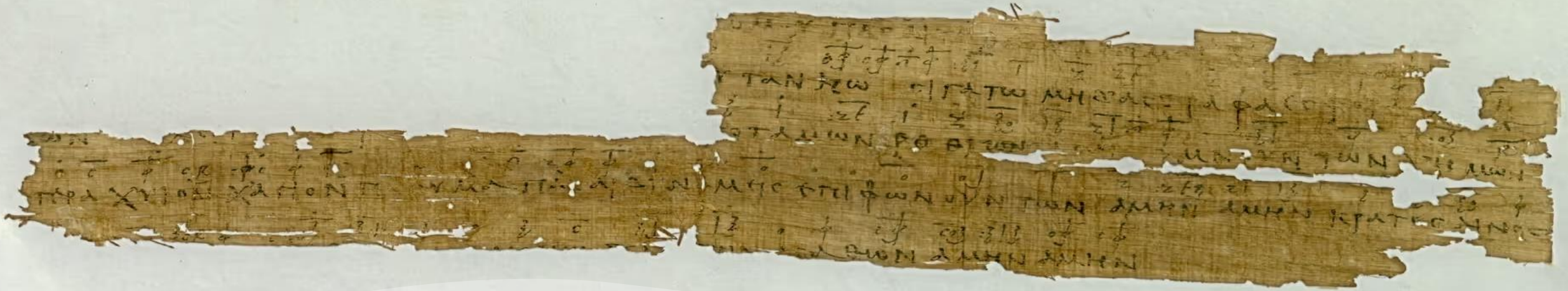
For the first three centuries, congregational singing **usually** meant singing psalms.



The congregation had a **voice**, and it sang Scripture.



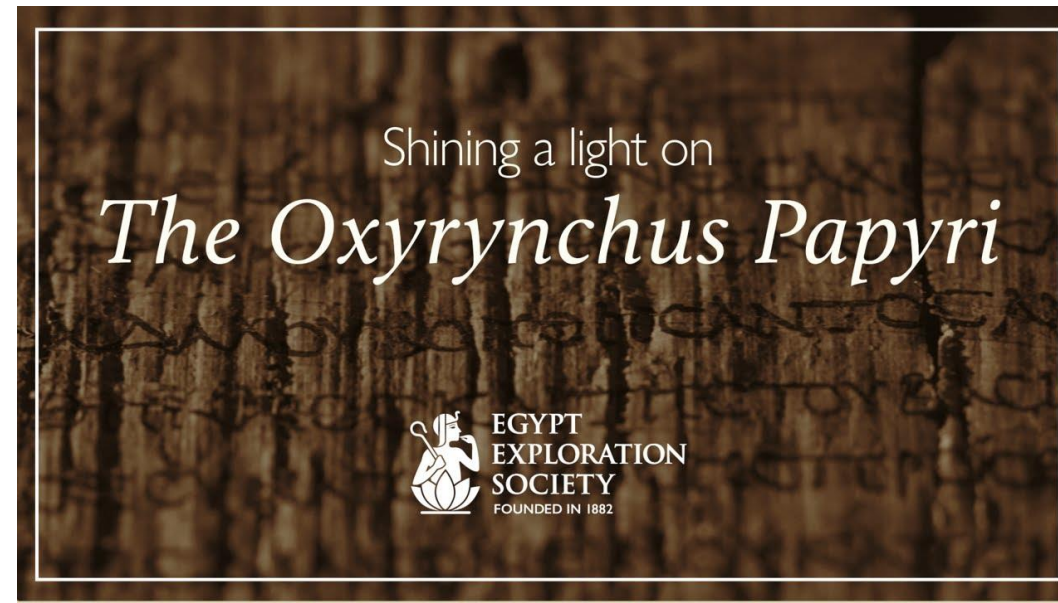
Sung responsively and antiphonally, rooted in the inspired text.



“The First Hymn”

Papyrus fragment: P.Oxy 1786
discovered in 1918

Dating to AD280 – oldest known hymn



Fragment of a papyrus scroll with a blue rectangular highlight. The text is written in a cursive script, likely a form of Greek or Latin, and is partially obscured by the highlight.

Fragment of a papyrus scroll with a yellow rectangular highlight. The text is written in a cursive script, likely a form of Greek or Latin, and is partially obscured by the highlight.

Fragment of a papyrus scroll with a white rectangular highlight. The text is written in a cursive script, likely a form of Greek or Latin, and is partially obscured by the highlight.

σιγάτω

μηδ' ἄστρα φαεσφόρα
κελαδέσθων

ποταμῶν ῥοθίων πᾶσαι.

ὑμνοῦντων δ' ἡμῶν

πατέρα χ υἰὸν χ ἅγιον πνεῦμα
πᾶσαι δυνάμεις ἐπιφωνούντων

ἀμήν ἀμήν,

κράτος αἶνος αἰεὶ

καὶ δόξα θεῷ δωτηῆρι μόνω

πάντων ἀγαθῶν

ἀμήν ἀμήν.

Let all be silent:

The shining stars not sound forth,
All rushing rivers stilled,

As we sing our hymn

To the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit,
As all Powers cry out in answer,
“Amen. Amen.”

Might, praise, and glory forever
to God, the only Giver
of all good gifts.

Amen. Amen.

The First Hymn, 280/2025

Chris Tomlin and Ben Fielding



Who is worthy of all worship?

The First Hymn, 280/2025
Chris Tomlin and Ben Fielding



MOVEMENT 4 – THE FIRST WORSHIP WAR

(~AD 386)

The first controversy over congregational singing was **HYMNS vs. PSALMS**.



Ambrose **popularized** the use of original, doctrinally rich hymns to teach orthodoxy and refute heresies.



People—especially women and children—sang these hymns **everywhere**.



The theology **spread** because the melody carried it.



The “**new music**” **won**—and became the **foundation** of every hymn we sing.



Song became a weapon for truth and a shield against error.

MOVEMENT 5 – THE MEDIEVAL SILENCE

(~AD 600–1500)

As the church institutionalized, congregational singing gradually **disappeared**.



The trained choir **sang**.
The people **watched**.



By the high medieval period, the mass was a **professional performance**—beautiful, in Latin.



Ordinary worshipers had **no voice** of their own.



This lasted nearly a **thousand years**.



WEEK 1

BE THOU MY VISION

Early Irish Hymn



AUTHOR

Ancient Irish Hymn



YEAR

8th Century

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art...*



BE THOU
MY VISION,
O LORD OF MY HEART;



WAKING OR SLEEPING,
THY PRESENCE
MY LIGHT.



THOU IN ME DWELLING,
AND **I WITH THEE ONE;**
THOU MY GREAT FATHER,
I THY TRUE SON.



THOU AND THOU ONLY,
FIRST IN MY HEART,
HIGH KING OF HEAVEN,
MY TREASURE THOU ART.

Be Thou My Vision

First Baptist Dallas



MOVEMENT 6 – LUTHER GIVES THE SONG BACK

(1517–1529)

The Reformation restored
the congregational voice.



Luther believed the **people**
should **sing**.



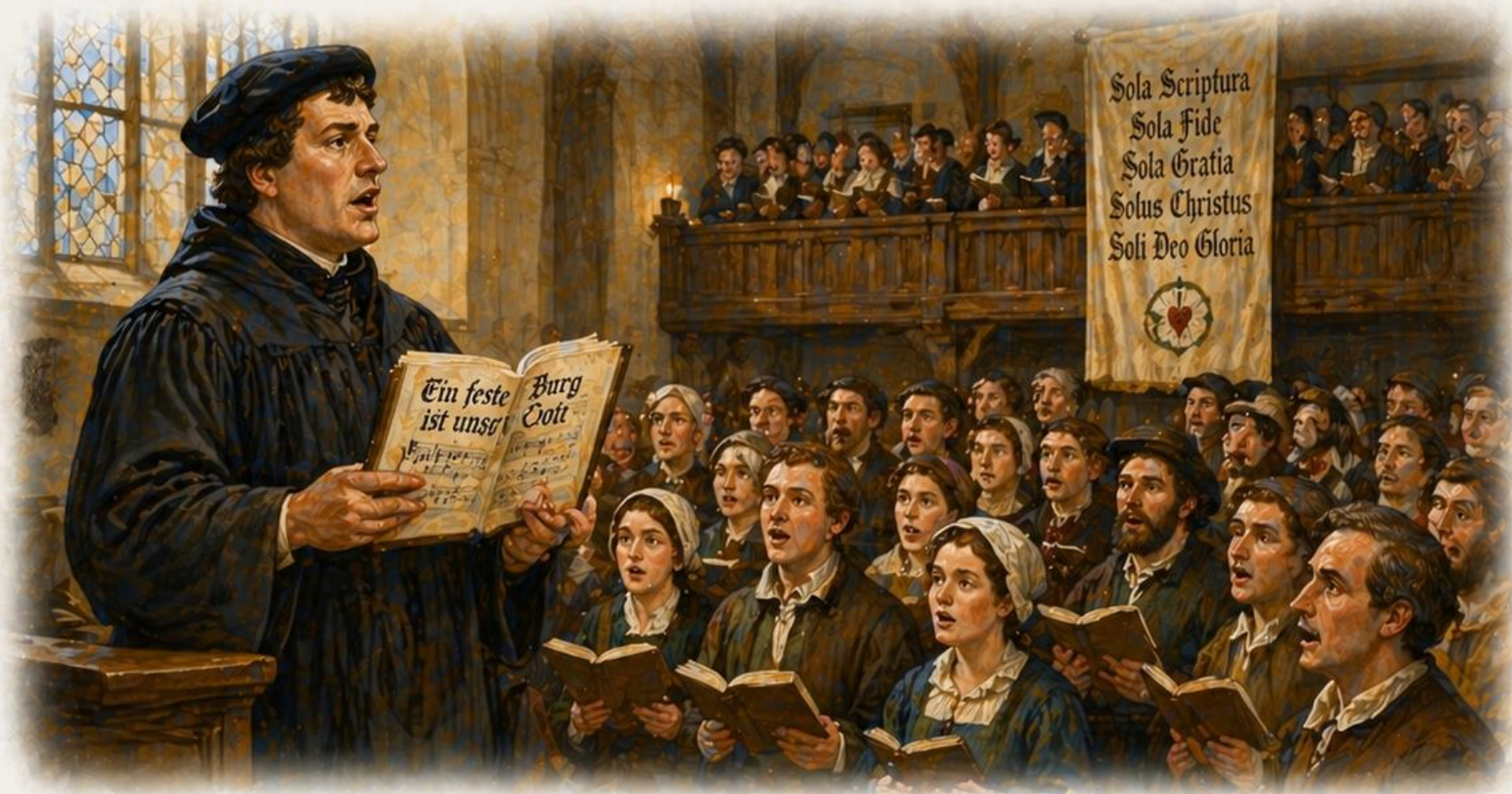
In their own **language**, to
memorable melodies.



With **theological content**
they could carry home.



He wrote *Ein feste Burg* for
exactly this reason, setting
hymns to **folk melodies**
people already knew.



The congregation sang again—in their language, their melodies, their faith.

SONGS THAT SHAPED OUR FAITH

Ancient & Reformation

c. 700 – 1529

c. 700



Be Thou My Vision

Ancient Irish
(8th century)

Tr. Mary Byrne, 1905
Versified Eleanor Hull, 1912

Lesson 1 · May 3

1225



All Creatures of Our God and King

Francis of Assisi

Tr. William Draper

Lesson 6 · Jun 7

1677



Fairest Lord Jesus

Anonymous
Münster Gesangbuch

Tr. Joseph August Seiss

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

1529



A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther

Reformation Germany

Lesson 1 · May 3



WEEK 1

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

Reformation Hymn



AUTHOR

Martin Luther



YEAR

1529

*A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing...*



A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD



A MIGHTY FORTRESS
IS OUR GOD,
A BULWARK NEVER FAILING.



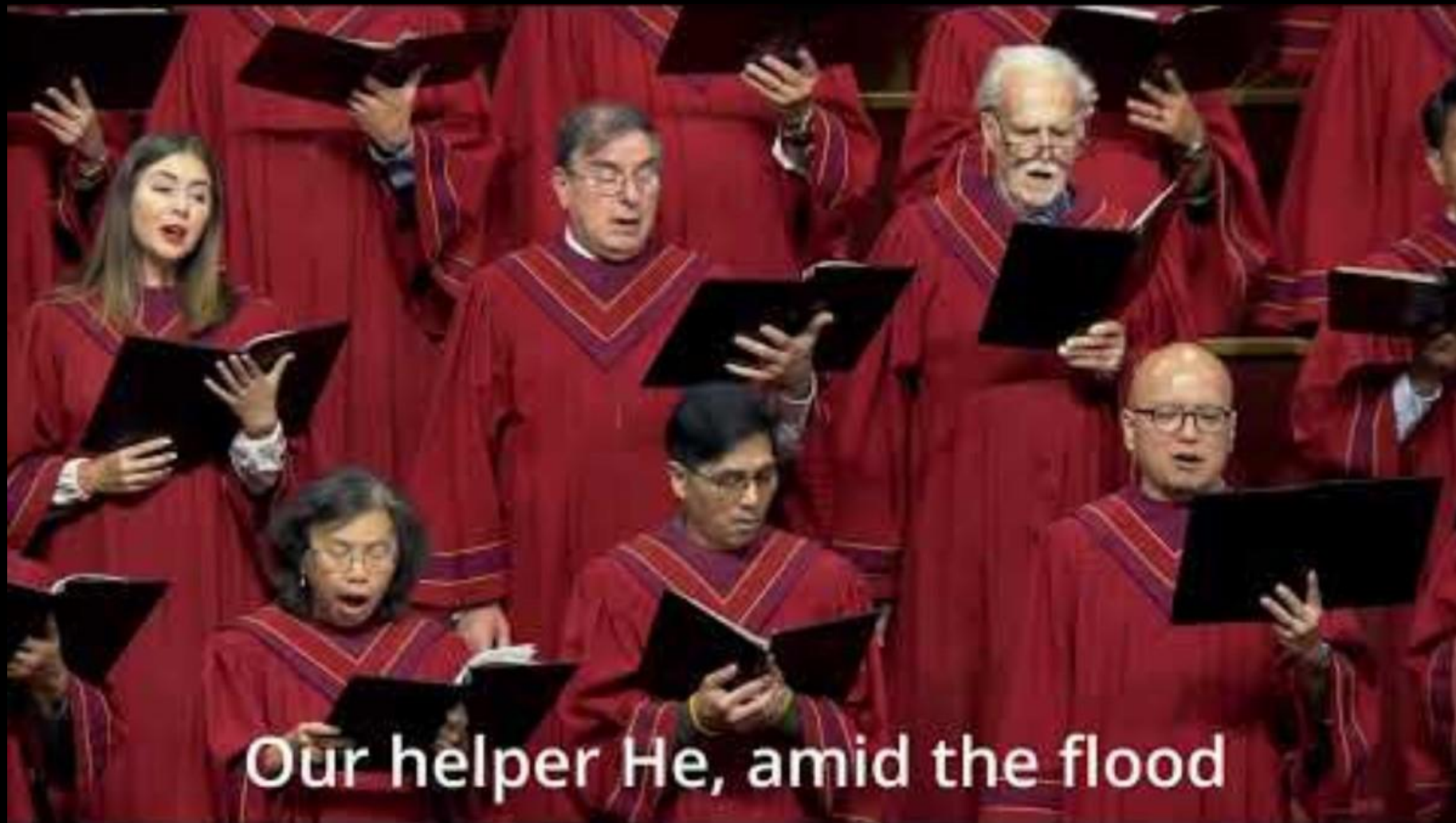
OUR HELPER HE,
AMID THE FLOOD
OF MORTAL ILLS PREVAILING.



THE LORD OF HOSTS
IS WITH US;
THE GOD OF JACOB
IS OUR REFUGE.

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Grace Community Church



Our helper He, amid the flood

◆ MOVEMENT 7 ◆

CLASSIC ENGLISH HYMNODY

◆ 1674–1800 ◆

Singable, theologically rich hymns shaped by poets and pastors.



**POETS INSPIRED
BY SCRIPTURE**

Watts, Wesley, Newton,
and others gave voice
to deep biblical truth.



**ROOTED IN
THE CHURCH**

Hymns were born in
worship, revival, and
pastoral faithfulness.



**SOUND DOCTRINE.
SINGABLE TRUTH.**

Theology you can trust,
melodies you can
remember.



TIMELESS WORDS. LASTING FAITH.
Our heritage. Our strength. Our song.



Classic English Hymnody

1674 – 1800 · 16 Songs · 8 Lessons

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Thomas Ken · 1674

Lesson 3 · May 17

L3

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Joachim Neander · 1680

Tr. Catherine Winkworth

L3

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Isaac Watts · 1719

Lesson 2 · May 10

L2

Joy to the World

Isaac Watts · 1719

Based on Psalm 98

Lesson 9 · Jun 28

L9

And Can It Be

Charles Wesley · 1738

Lesson 10 · Jul 5

L10

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Charles Wesley · 1739

Lesson 5 · May 31

L5

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Charles Wesley · 1739

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

L7

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Robert Robinson · 1757

Lesson 10 · Jul 5

L10

There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

William Cowper · 1772

Lesson 12 · Jul 19

L12

Amazing Grace

John Newton · 1779

Lesson 1 · May 3

L1

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Edward Perronet · 1779

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

L7

Rock of Ages

Augustus Toplady · 1776

Lesson 10 · Jul 5

L10

How Firm a Foundation

Unknown ('K') · 1787

Lesson 1 · May 3

L1

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

John Fawcett · 1782

L6

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Isaac Watts · 1707

L12

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Timothy Dwight · 1800

L6



WEEK 1

AMAZING GRACE

Classic English Hymnody



AUTHOR

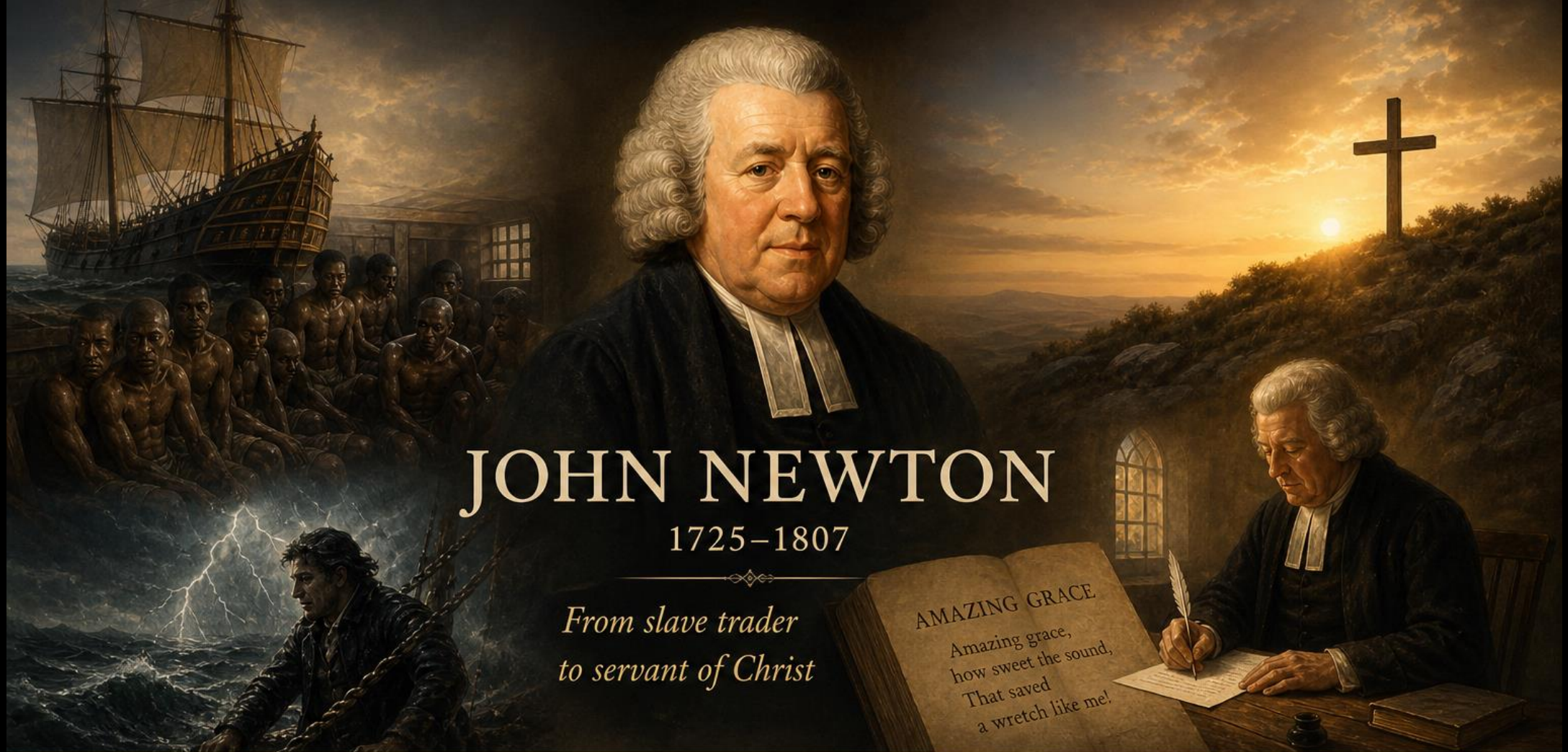
John Newton



YEAR

1779

*“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me...”*



JOHN NEWTON

1725–1807

*From slave trader
to servant of Christ*

AMAZING GRACE
Amazing grace,
how sweet the sound,
That saved
a wretch like me!

THE JOURNEY OF JOHN NEWTON

1725



Born in
London

1743



Became a
slave ship sailor

1746



Became a
slave ship captain

1748



Saved in a storm –
experienced
God's mercy

1754



Left the sea
and began
ministry

1764



Ordained as
an Anglican
minister

1772



Wrote the hymn
Amazing Grace

1807



Died in peace,
a servant of
Christ

Amazing Grace

Il Divo



◆ MOVEMENT 8 ◆

VICTORIAN & GOSPEL HYMNS

◆ 1800s ◆

A revival of faith and feeling.
Powerful lyrics and stirring melodies
that carried the Gospel to every heart.



REVIVAL FIRE

Great awakenings sparked a passion to sing of salvation and grace.



MEMORABLE MELODIES

Beautiful, accessible tunes that lifted hearts and strengthened faith.



THE FAITH GOES FORTH

Hymns spread the Gospel across nations, cities, and communities.



BIBLE TRUTH IN SONG

Clear doctrine, deep devotion, lasting impact.



SINGING THE HOPE WE HAVE IN CHRIST.
From every pew to every place.



Victorian & Gospel Hymns

1826 – 1899 · 29 Songs · 12 Lessons

Holy, Holy, Holy

Reginald Heber · 1826

Lesson 3 · May 17

L3

Just As I Am

Charlotte Elliott · 1835

Lesson 4 · May 24

L4

My Hope Is Built (The Solid Rock)

Edward Mote · 1834

Lesson 8 · Jun 21

L8

O Worship the King

Robert Grant · 1833

Lesson 5 · May 31

L5

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Bridges / Thring · 1851

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

L7

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

George Croly · 1854

Lesson 4 · May 24

L4

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Duffield / Webb · 1858

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

L7

The Church's One Foundation

Samuel Stone · 1866

Lesson 6 · Jun 7

L6

Abide with Me

Henry Francis Lyte · 1847

Lesson 11 · Jul 12

L11

Onward, Christian Soldiers

Baring-Gould / Sullivan · 1865

Lesson 6 · Jun 7

L6

Jesus Paid It All

Hall / Grape · 1865

Lesson 10 · Jul 5

L10

Blessed Assurance

Crosby / Knapp · 1873

Lesson 8 · Jun 21

L8

It Is Well with My Soul

Spafford / Bliss · 1873

Lesson 2 · May 10

L2

Take My Life and Let It Be

F.R. Havergal · 1874

Lesson 13 · Jul 26

L13

To God Be the Glory

Crosby / Doane · 1875

Lesson 5 · May 31

L5

I Will Sing of My Redeemer

Philip Bliss · 1876

Lesson 12 · Jul 19

L12

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Fanny Crosby · 1875

Lesson 13 · Jul 26

L13

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Hoffman / Showalter · 1887

Lesson 2 · May 10

L2

Trust and Obey

Sammis / Towner · 1887

Lesson 13 · Jul 26

L13

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

H. Ernest Nichol · 1896

Lesson 6 · Jun 7

L6

I Need Thee Every Hour

Hawks / Lowry · 1872

Lesson 4 · May 24

L4

Whiter Than Snow

Nicholson / Fischer · 1872

Lesson 4 · May 24

L4

I Surrender All

Van DeVenter / Weeden · 1896

Lesson 4 · May 24

L4

Standing on the Promises

R. Kelso Carter · 1886

Lesson 8 · Jun 21

L8

Send the Light

Charles Gabriel · 1890

Lesson 10 · Jul 5

L10

Jesus Saves

Owens / Kirkpatrick · 1882

Lesson 12 · Jul 19

L12

When We All Get to Heaven

Hewitt / Wilson · 1898

Lesson 11 · Jul 12

L11

When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder

James Milton Black · 1893

Lesson 11 · Jul 12

L11

There Is Power in the Blood

Lewis Jones · 1899

Lesson 12 · Jul 19

L12

◆ MOVEMENT 9 ◆

EARLY 20TH CENTURY GOSPEL

◆ 1900–1940 ◆

A season of Spirit-filled singing and soul-stirring songs born from revival, joy, and resilience. The Gospel found its voice and carried hope to a hurting world.



REVIVAL ROOTS

Songs born in revival meetings and camp gatherings.



NEW VOICES

Gospel pioneers raised up a sound of faith and freedom.



POWERFUL MESSAGE

Songs proclaimed salvation, victory, and the promises of God.



CONGREGATIONAL JOY

Sung with passion, clapping hands, and full hearts.



SAME GOSPEL. NEW EXPRESSION. ETERNAL IMPACT.

The songs were new, but the message never changed.



Early 20th Century Gospel

1904 – 1949 · 18 Songs · 10 Lessons

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Adelaide Pollard · 1907

Lesson 4 · May 24

L4

God Will Take Care of You

Civilla Martin / Walter Martin · 1904

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

L7

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Civilla Martin / Charles Gabriel · 1905

Lesson 8 · Jun 21

L8

He Keeps Me Singing

Luther Bridgers · 1910

Lesson 9 · Jun 28

L9

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

Johnston / Towner · 1910

Lesson 10 · Jul 5

L10

The Old Rugged Cross

George Bennard · 1912

Lesson 12 · Jul 19

L12

In the Garden

C. Austin Miles · 1912

Lesson 4 · May 24

L4

Since Jesus Came Into My Heart

McDaniel / Gabriel · 1914

Lesson 9 · Jun 28

L9

Wonderful Grace of Jesus

Haldor Lillenas · 1918

Lesson 10 · Jul 5

L10

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Chisholm / Runyan · 1923

Lesson 2 · May 10

L2

I Have the Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart

George W. Cooke · 1925

Lesson 9 · Jun 28

L9

I Stand Amazed in the Presence

Charles Gabriel · 1905

Lesson 9 · Jun 28

L9

Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson · 1926

Lesson 3 · May 17

L3

In My Heart There Rings a Melody

Elton Roth · 1924

Lesson 9 · Jun 28

L9

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

van Dyke / Beethoven · 1907

Lesson 9 · Jun 28

L9

He Lives

Alfred Ackley · 1933

Lesson 11 · Jul 12

L11

Victory in Jesus

E.M. Bartlett · 1939

Lesson 11 · Jul 12

L11

How Great Thou Art

Boberg / tr. Stuart K. Hine · 1949

Lesson 5 · May 31

L5

◆ MOVEMENT 10 ◆

MID-CENTURY TRANSITIONAL

◆ 1940–1980 ◆

A bridge between the traditional and the contemporary. New melodies, broader influence, and a changing world shaped a new sound.



EXPANDING HORIZONS

Hymns met new melodies and international influences.



A WORLD IN CHANGE

Global events, missions, and cultural shifts reshaped worship.



TRUTH REMAINS

The same gospel, new expressions—faithful to Scripture, relevant to today.



THE CHURCH ADAPTS

Worship styles diversified, yet the heart of worship endured.



GENERATIONS CONNECTED

Songs helped unite tradition and change across generations.



NEW MELODIES. SAME MESSAGE. GREATER REACH.

The church kept singing—faithful yesterday, relevant today, ready for all tomorrow.



Mid-Century Transitional

1955 – 1984 · The bridge between the hymnal and contemporary worship

4 songs · intentionally lean · the era that changed the sound without changing the faith

1955

What a Day That Will Be

Jim Hill

Lesson 11 · Jul 12

Written after watching his mother-in-law lie paralyzed for three years. He wrote it on a piece of cardboard. She smiled for the first time in three years. Lesson 11 · Hope, Heaven, and Resurrection.

1966

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Peter Scholtes

Lesson 6 · Jun 7

Written by a Catholic priest during the civil rights movement for an ecumenical gathering. John 13:35 set to music.

1971

Because He Lives

Bill and Gloria Gaither

Lesson 11 · Jul 12

Written when the Gaithers questioned whether to bring a child into a turbulent world. "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow."

1984

Thy Word

Amy Grant / Michael W. Smith

Lesson 3 · May 17

The moment many in this class first accepted contemporary worship. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet" — the same Word, a new melody.

♦ MOVEMENT 11 ♦

EARLY CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

1980–1999

A renewed passion for heartfelt worship.
Simple lyrics. Powerful melodies.
Songs that invited the church to sing,
raise hands, and draw near to God.



HEARTFELT & AUTHENTIC

Songs born from a
desire for genuine
worship and
spiritual renewal.



SIMPLE BUT SINGABLE

Memorable choruses
and accessible
melodies that
everyone could sing.



PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE

Congregations
engaged more
actively in worship
through song.



SCRIPTURE CENTERED

God's Word set
to music, pointing
hearts toward truth
and transformation.




WIDENING INFLUENCE

New songs traveled
across churches,
denominations,
and nations.



SAME HEART. NEW SOUND. ETERNAL PURPOSE.

Leading people into God's presence—then as now.



SHOUT TO THE LORD
ALL THE EARTH
LET US SING
POWER AND MAJESTY
PRAISE TO THE KING

Early Contemporary Worship

1988 – 1999 · The era that changed the sound of Sunday morning

5 songs · the overhead projector generation · new voice, ancient faith

1988

Awesome God

Rich Mullins

Lesson 5 · May 31

Mullins wrote this before he was famous, convinced no one would ever hear it. Lesson 5 · Worship and Praise.

1990

Agnus Dei

Michael W. Smith

Lesson 5 · May 31

"Worthy is the Lamb" — the ancient Latin liturgy in a new American voice. Lesson 5 · Worship and Praise.

1991

Step by Step

Rich Mullins

Lesson 13 · Jul 26

Mullins adapted an ancient Celtic prayer. He died before finishing his last album — still on the road, still following.

1993

Shout to the Lord

Darlene Zschech · Hillsong, Australia

Lesson 5 · May 31

Hillsong's first global hit — worship crossing international boundaries. Translated into dozens of languages. The Spirit produced praise that went global, just as in Acts 2.

1999

Above All

Paul Baloche / Lenny LeBlanc

Lesson 12 · Jul 19

Written the night before the authors led worship at a Billy Graham crusade. "You took the fall and thought of me above all." Lesson 12 · The Cross and Atonement.

♦ MOVEMENT 12 ♦

2000s CONTEMPORARY

♦ 2000–2010s ♦

A generation shaped by technology, creativity, and global connection.

Songs of authenticity, lingering in God's presence, and living out faith in everyday life.



AUTHENTIC EXPRESSION

Honest lyrics that reflect real faith and real life.



MUSICAL DIVERSITY

Blending rock, pop, folk, and more—creating new sounds for worship.



A GLOBAL MOVEMENT

Songs and leaders from around the world shaping our worship.



THE CHURCH ENGAGED

Congregations participating, connecting, and responding.



NEW TOOLS. NEW REACH.

Technology expands the way songs are written, shared, and sung.



SAME MESSAGE. FRESH VOICES. ENDLESS IMPACT.

*Different sounds for a new generation—
pointing to the same Savior.*



2000s Contemporary

2000 – 2009 · 10 Songs · 9 Lessons · From Nashville to London to Sydney

2000

Here I Am to Worship

Tim Hughes
United Kingdom

*A British worship leader
— not American. Shows
the witness went global.*

Lesson 1 · May 3

2000

Worthy Is the Lamb

Darlene Zschech
Hillsong, Australia

*From the church that
gave us Shout to the
Lord — a sending church.*

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

2001

Ancient Words

Lynn DeShazo

*"Ancient words, ever true,
changing me and changing
you." Why the church keeps
returning to old words:
because they are alive.*

Lesson 3 · May 17

2001

I Can Only Imagine

MercyMe
Bart Millard

*Written after Millard's
father's death. Stephen
didn't have to imagine —
he saw it.*

Lesson 11 · Jul 12

2001

In Christ Alone

Keith Getty
Stuart Townend

*The modern hymn.
Getty and Townend
refused to soften
the theology. Philip
didn't soften Isaiah 53.*

Lesson 12 · Jul 19

2002

Blessed Be Your Name

Matt and Beth Redman

*Written after friends'
miscarriages. Became
an anthem after 9/11.*

Lesson 2 · May 10

2004

Revelation Song

Jennie Lee Riddle

*Paired with Holy, Holy,
Holy (1826). Both from
Revelation 4. 178 years
apart. Same throne.*

Lesson 3 · May 17

2004

How Great Is Our God

Tomlin / Reeves / Cash

*Sung in over 50
languages. One of the
most-translated worship
songs in history.*

Lesson 13 · Jul 26

2008

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Matt Redman / Jonas Myrin

*Inspired by Praise to
the Lord (1680) and
Psalm 103. Three
centuries, one Source.*

Lesson 5 · May 31

2009

Glorious Day

Casting Crowns
Mark Hall

*The resurrection story
in a single sweeping
song. Lesson 9 ·
Hope and Resurrection.*

Lesson 9 · Jun 28



WEEK 1

HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

2000s Contemporary




AUTHOR

Tim Hughes




YEAR

2001



*“Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.”*





HERE I AM
TO WORSHIP



HERE I AM
TO BOW DOWN



HERE I AM
TO SAY THAT
YOU'RE MY GOD



YOU'RE ALTOGETHER
LOVELY
ALTOGETHER WORTHY
ALTOGETHER WONDERFUL
TO ME

Here I am to Worship

Hillsong Worship



♦ MOVEMENT 13 ♦

CURRENT CONTEMPORARY

♦ 2010s–PRESENT ♦

A worship movement shaped by authenticity, creativity, and kingdom mission.

Songs that reflect our world, our struggles, and our hope in an ever-present God.



HEART-CENTERED WORSHIP

Songs that invite real connection with God.



DIVERSE EXPRESSIONS

A rich blend of styles, cultures, and generations.



A WORLD IN CRISIS

Songs that bring hope, healing, and justice to our time.



BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

Rooted in Scripture, centered on the Gospel.



CONTINUALLY EVOLVING

New songs emerge, carrying timeless truth forward.



KINGDOM IMPACT

Worship fuels mission and transforms lives.



SAME SAVIOR. NEW SONGS. ETERNAL PURPOSE.

Today's worship continues the story—pointing to the glory that is yet to come.



Current Contemporary

2011 – 2025 · 12 Songs · 10 Lessons · The same gospel, the newest voice

2011

Lord, I Need You

Matt Maher / Passion Music

Paired with I Need Thee Every Hour. Same surrender, 139 yrs apart.

Lesson 4 · May 24

2011

Build Your Kingdom Here

Rend Collective · Ireland

Paired with The Church's One Foundation. Same prayer, 145 yrs.

Lesson 6 · Jun 7

2012

Cornerstone

Hillsong / Edward Mote (1834)

Quotes The Solid Rock word-for-word. The series thesis made concrete.

Lessons 1 & 13

2014

It Is Well

Kristene DiMarco · Bethel

Spafford's hymn reimaged. Same title, same faith, 141 years apart.

Lesson 2 · May 10

2014

No Longer Slaves

Helser / Helser · Bethel Music

"I am no longer a slave to fear, I am a child of God." Romans 8.

Lesson 8 · Jun 21

2016

Praise God (Doxology)

Chris Tomlin / Thomas Ken (1674)

Ken's 350-year-old Doxology in a new voice. Same praise, new sound.

Lesson 5 · May 31

2016

What a Beautiful Name

Fielding / Ligertwood · Hillsong

Paired with All Hail the Power. Same name, 237 years apart.

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

2016

Build My Life

Pat Barrett · Passion Music

"I will build my life upon Your love." Paul's post-Damascus life.

Lesson 13 · Jul 26

2017

Who You Say I Am

Fielding / Morgan · Hillsong

Paired with Blessed Assurance. Same source, 144 years apart.

Lesson 8 · Jun 21

2018

Is He Worthy

Andrew Peterson / Ben Shive

A call-and-response anthem drawn straight from Revelation 5.

Lesson 7 · Jun 14

2018

Goodness of God

Bethel Music

Paired with Take My Life. "All my life You have been faithful."

Lesson 13 · Jul 26

2025

The First Hymn

Chris Tomlin / Ben Fielding
orig. P.Oxy 1786, c. 3rd century

The oldest surviving Christian hymn, rediscovered. 1,800 years. Still sung.

Lesson 1 · May 3

One faith. Many songs. The story continues.



WEEK 1

CORNERSTONE

Current Contemporary




AUTHOR

Hillsong Worship




YEAR

2011



*“My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.”*



Cornerstone · 2012

Hillsong (Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin / Edward Mote)

The Solid Rock

Edward Mote · 1834

*“My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’
blood and righteousness...
on Christ the solid Rock I stand, all other
ground is sinking sand.”*



178 years

Cornerstone

Hillsong · 2012

*“Christ alone, Cornerstone — weak made
strong in the Savior’s love...”*

Quotes The Solid Rock word-for-word.

Young people are singing an 1834 hymn without knowing it. People who love the old hymns are hearing their theology in a 2012 Hillsong song.

178 years apart. The same words. The same Rock.



CHRIST ALONE
CORNERSTONE



WEAK MADE STRONG
IN THE SAVIOR'S LOVE



THROUGH THE STORM
HE IS LORD




WHEN DARKNESS SEEMS
TO HIDE HIS FACE
I REST ON HIS UNCHANGING GRACE



ON CHRIST, THE SOLID ROCK,
I STAND


Cornerstone. *Hillsong Worship*






FROM AD 280 TO TODAY

THE SAME GOSPEL DIFFERENT VOICES



THE THEOLOGY DOESN'T CHANGE.
THE MELODIES DO.



NEXT WEEK'S LESSON:
GOD'S FAITHFULNESS
THROUGH ALL SEASONS

JOIN PRESIDENT & MRS OVERDORF,
DR. MARK ZIESE & DR. WILBUR REID
TO
BIBLICAL EGYPT

with optional Alexandria Extension



DR. WILBUR REID

PRESIDENT & MRS OVERDORF

DR. MARK ZIESE

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