Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Charles Wesley, 1747; alt. Mal. 3:1; 2 Cor. 3:18; 5:17; Eph. 5:27 1 Love di-vine, all loves ex - cel-ling, joy of heaven, on earth be found, 2 Breathe, O breathe your lov - ing Spir-it in - to ev - ery trou-bled breast; 3 Come, al-might - y to de - liv - er, let us all your life re - ceive; 4 Fin - ish, then, your new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less may we prove; Fix in us hum - ble dwell-ing, all your faith - ful mer - cies crown; let us find your prom-ised rest; Let us all in you in - her - it, Sud-den - ly re - turn, and ne - ver, ne - ver - more your tem - ples leave. Let us see your great sal - va - tion per-fect - ly re - stored in all com - pas - sion; pure, un-bound - ed love im - part. sus, you are Take love of sin-ning; Al-pha and O - me-ga be; a - way our You we would be al - ways bless-ing, love you as your an - gels love, Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place, Vis - it us with your sal - va-tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart. of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty. Pray and praise for your un - fail-ing, wound-ed arms out-stretched a - bove. Crowned as saints, we ev - er shall be lost in won-der, love, and praise.

This hymn is said to have been suggested by a "Song of Venus" from Dryden's King Arthur. It is one of 6,500 written by Charles Wesley, the "sweet singer of Methodism," who was skilled at interweaving literary and scriptural images.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.

John Zundel, 1855

Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL

For another harmonization, see 368, 495

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

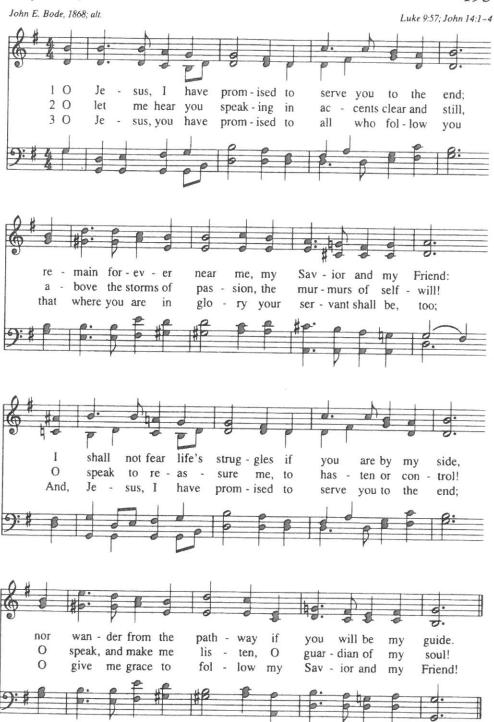
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Thomas A. Dorsey was known as "Georgia Tom" when he played piano for blues singer Ma Rainey. He started writing gospel songs after what he called "a definite spiritual change." This inspirational song, composed following the deaths of his wife, Nettie, and a newborn child, derives from the tune Maitland.

Tune: PRECIOUS LORD Irr. with refrain Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

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John Ernest Bode wrote these words when his daughter and two sons were confirmed. Although the Oxford scholar and rector wrote books of hymns, this is the only one to achieve lasting fame.

Tune: ANGEL'S STORY 7.6.7.6.D.
A. H. Mann, 1883
Alternate tune: MUNICH