

## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

439

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Ps. 46

Transl. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing,  
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,  
 3 And though this world with dev - ils filled should threat - en to un - do us,  
 4 That word be - yond all earth - ly powers for - ev - er is a - bid - ing;

Our pres - ent help a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.  
 But there is one who takes our side, the One of God's own choos - ing.  
 We will not fear for God has willed the truth to tri - umph through us.  
 The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us sid - ing.

For still our an - cient foe does seek to work us woe with craft and pow - er  
 You ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus sets us free! With might - y power to  
 The powers of e - vil grim, we trem - ble not for them; their rage we can en -  
 Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may

great, and armed with cru - el hate, on earth with - out an e - qual.  
 save, vic - to - rious o'er the grave, Christ will pre - vail tri - um - phant.  
 dure, for lo, their doom is sure: one lit - tle word shall fell them.  
 kill; God's truth shall tri - umph still; God's reign en - dures for - ev - er.

*There is speculation that this psalm paraphrase was written in 1527 when Martin Luther's friend was burned at the stake, or in 1529, when Lutheran German princes protested the revocation of their liberties. It has been translated into more than fifty languages.*

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7.

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Harm. The New Hymnal for American Youth, 1930; alt.

For another version, see 440

DISCIPLESHIP

498

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

John 13:1-20; Gal. 5:13-14

Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994

Refrain  
Unison

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Knelt at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their  
 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, var - ied in col - or and  
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should  
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, show - ing our faith by our  
 5 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

feet, Je - su, you act - ed as ser - vant to them.  
 race, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.  
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.  
 deeds, serv - ing the neigh-bors we have from you.  
 feet, this is the way we should live with you.

*This African folk melody was presented to the Church at Chereponi, Northern Ghana, by Ghanaian musicologist, A. A. Mensah, when United Church of Christ missionaries, Al and Sue Krass were serving there. Like Tom Colvin, a Scottish missionary in neighboring Tamale, Al Krass was encouraging the making of hymns to indigenous melodies. Tom Colvin wrote these words to this adapted form of the melody in dedication to the Church at Chereponi.*

Tune: CHEREPONI Irr. with refrain  
 Ghanaian folk song; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1969  
 Arr. Jane Marshall, 1982

# For the Healing of the Nations

Fred Kaan, 1965

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, God, we pray with  
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your  
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the  
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing  
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,  
 earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,  
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of  
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through  
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon  
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.  
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.  
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.  
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

*Fred Kaan's most widely published text was first sung at Pilgrim Church in Plymouth, England, at a service of worship marking Human Rights Day in 1965. It has been used for many subsequent occasions, including the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.*

Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY 8.7.8.7.8.7.  
 Henry Purcell, c. 1680  
 Arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1842