

# 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.

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and contains a vocal line with lyrics. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The music is written in a simple, homophonic style with block chords and moving lines.

## Fight the Good Fight

846

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might.  
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;  
 3 Cast care a - side; lean on thy guide.  
 4 Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.

Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.  
 lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.  
 God's bound-less mer - cy will pro - vide.  
 God chang - eth not, and thou art dear.

Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
 Life with its way be - fore us lies;  
 Trust, and thy trust - ing soul shall prove  
 On - ly be - lieve, and thou shalt see

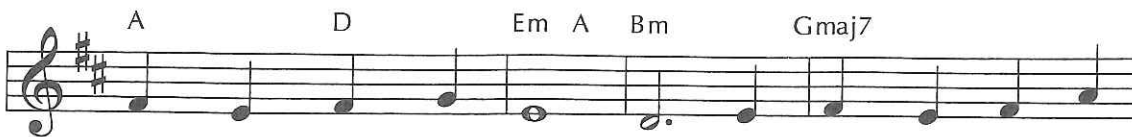
thy joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.  
 Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.  
 Christ is its life, and Christ its love.  
 that Christ is all in all to thee.

The opening phrase here (based on 1 Timothy 6:12) is not a military image but an athletic one, from a Greek verb meaning "struggle" or "grapple" or "wrestle." The sports context continues in later stanzas reflecting the experience of a runner (recalling Hebrews 12:1-2).

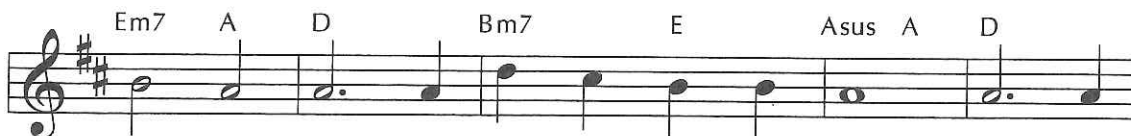
## 536 Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen



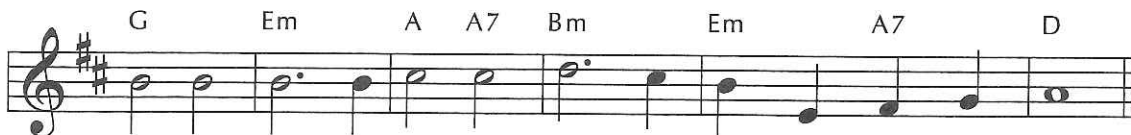
1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en, from this  
 2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low af - ter  
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture God has  
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion; cour - age



meal of love and grace; may we through such love en -  
 Christ, though wound - ed, whole; bro - ken, shared, our lives are  
 called us to re - ceive; pres - ent by God's lov - ing  
 be our dai - ly breath; mer - cy be our des - ti -



vi - sion whose we are, and whose, our praise. Al - le -  
 hal - lowed to re - lease and to con - sole. Al - le -  
 nur - ture, Spir - it - ed then let us live. Al - le -  
 na - tion from this day and un - to death. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia: God, the won - der of our days.  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia: Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia: Spir - it, grace by whom we live.  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

The second line of the first stanza shows that this hymn is meant for use in the context of the Lord's Supper, but the last stanza further clarifies its special purpose as a sending hymn celebrating the values guiding the work of the church in the world: service, courage, mercy.