

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR HOLY DAYS

When we reprinted the Bible Hymnal, we reduced page count—and therefore printing costs—by not including the indexes at the end of the original hymnal, which listed all the Psalms represented in the hymnal plus a handful of “suggested hymns for holy days.” It has come to our attention that our song leaders may benefit from the latter, however—so that the hymns selected relate more strongly to the meaning of the holy days. The only issue with the “suggested hymns for holy days” in the original hymnal index is that they seem extremely incomplete: Only a dozen hymns are listed, when it’s clear that several other Psalms are strongly related to the meaning of certain annual Sabbaths. The original list doesn’t differentiate between holy day seasons either. Here is an updated list of suggestions.

Note: These are only suggestions, and this list does not mean these hymns appropriate to specific holy days cannot be performed at other times of the year (e.g., “Onward, Christian Soldiers” relates well to Pentecost, but it also works well at the Feast of Tabernacles). The spirit of this list is to get the song leaders to consider prayerfully and thoughtfully their song selection for each service, especially on the high days.

SPRING HOLY DAYS

These hymns are dominated with subjects of cleansing, repentance, forgiveness or deliverance from Egypt.

- 18 My God, My God (Psa. 22)
- 21 Our God Is Good and Upright (Psa. 25)
- 22 To Thee I Lift My Soul (Psa. 25)
- 23 Mine Eyes Upon the Lord Continually Are Set (Psa. 25)
- 25 They Are Blest Who Are Forgiven (Psa. 32)
- 27 Turn Thou From Evil (Psa. 34)
- 31 Let Thy Chastening Be in Measure (Psa. 31)
- 34 O God, We Have Heard (Psa. 44)
- 35 Awake, O Eternal! (Psa. 44)
- 39 Nations Give Ear, Both Low and High (Psa. 49)
- 40 Give Thanks and Offer Praise (Psa. 50)
- 41 In Thy Loving Kindness, Lord (Psa. 51)
- 59 Unto God I Lift My Voice (Psa. 77)
- 79 Bless the Lord Eternal, O My Soul (Psa. 79)
- 81 Remember Us, O Eternal (Psa. 106)
- 89 O Give Thanks Unto Our God (Psa. 118)
- 92 I Hate the Thoughts of Vanity (Psa. 119)
- 93 Lord You Dealt Well With Me (Psa. 119)
- 116 I Will Sing to the Eternal (Exod. 15)
- 87-88 When Israel Out of Egypt Went (Psa. 114)
- 102 His Mercy Never Fails (Psa. 136)

PENTECOST

These hymns are dominated with subjects of God’s chosen nation, His saints, His law or His Spirit.

- 16-17 The Heavens God’s Glory Do Declare (Psa. 19)
- 26 Blessed Is the Nation God Is For (Psa. 33)
- 60 O Thou the Shepherd of Israel Art (Psa. 80)
- 61 Thou Shepherd That Dost Israel Keep (Psa. 80)
- 72 O Come and Let Us Worship Him (Psa. 95)
- 76 Sing to the Lord With Cheerful Voice (Psa. 100)
- 82-83 O Give Thanks and Praise the Eternal! (Psa. 105)
- 88 Praise Belongs to God! (Psa. 115)
- 90 O How Love I Thy Law! (Psa. 119)
- 91 For Thy Law Is Truth and Love (Psa. 119)
- 101 Praise God’s Name! (Psa. 135)
- 105 Where Shall I Go From Your Spirit, O God? (Psa. 139)
- 112-13 Praise Ye the Lord! (Psa. 148)
- 120 Go Ye Therefore Into All the World (Matt. 28; Mk. 16)
- 121 Not Many Wise Men Now Are Called (1 Cor. 1)
- 122 If I Have Not Charity (1 Cor. 13)
- 124 God Speaks to Us (John 14)
- 126 Onward, Christian Soldiers!
- 128 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

FALL HOLY DAYS

These hymns are dominated with subjects of the Messiah’s coming, God’s reign over the Earth or His everlasting city.

- 2 Why Do the Nations Make Plans in Vain? (Psa. 2)
- 7 How Excellent Is Thy Name! (Psa. 8)*
- 8 I Will Praise Thee, O Eternal! (Psa. 9)
- 9 Declare His Works to All Nations! (Psa. 9)
- 11 His Eyes Behold the Children of Men (Psa. 11)
- 15 The King Delights, Lord (Psa. 21)
- 36 Come, See the Works of God (Psa. 46)**
- 37 God Our Strength and Refuge Is (Psa. 46)**
- 38 Mount Zion Stands Most Beautiful (Psa. 48)
- 51 Joyfully Sing and Praise God! (Psa. 66)
- 54 Let All Nations Hail Him King! (Psa. 72)
- 55 Give Judgment to the King, O God (Psa. 72)
- 57 Let Us Sing to God (Psa. 75)
- 58 His Name Is Great! (Psa. 76)
- 62 Praise the Eternal With a Psalm (Psa. 81)***
- 63 Sing Songs of Praise to Him (Psa. 81)***
- 64 Rise and Judge, Eternal One! (Psa. 82, 83)

- 65 How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings (Psa. 84)*
- 66 O Lord of Hosts, My King, My God! (Psa. 84)*
- 73 The Lord Eternal Reigns! (Psa. 97)
- 74 Sing Praises and Rejoice! (Psa. 98)
- 75 Holy, Mighty Majesty! (Psa. 99)
- 78 He Shall Reign Forevermore! (Psa. 102)
- 84 O That Men Would Praise Their God (Psa. 107)****
- 98 God Is Our Refuge (Psa. 46)**
- 100 High on Zion’s Holy Hill (Psa. 132)
- 109 O Lord, Thou Art My God and King! (Psa. 145)
- 114 Hallelujah! Praise God! (Psa. 146)
- 115a Come Thou Almighty King
- 118 Blow the Horn, Let Zion Hear! (Joel 2)
- 119 Behold, the Day Will Come! (Zech. 14)
- 123 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken
- 127 Battle Hymn of the Republic

*This psalm’s inscription says “Gittith”—likely “for autumn.”

**Psa. 46 discusses God’s eternal city—appropriate for the Last Great Day.

***Psa. 81 is a “Gittith,” or *autumn*, psalm that references blowing the shofar on the new-moon high day (i.e., the Feast of Trumpets)

****Discusses God satisfying hungry/thirsty—appropriate for Atonement.