367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home. Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be. but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more. come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo-rious har - vest home!



Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past



- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.



The year after this text was written for a student sailing to America, it was included in the most influential British hymnal of the 19th century. The tune especially composed for it preserves the ancient Roman name of the island where Paul was shipwrecked, now called Malta.