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Give Thanks to God Who Hears Our Cries

(Psalm 107)

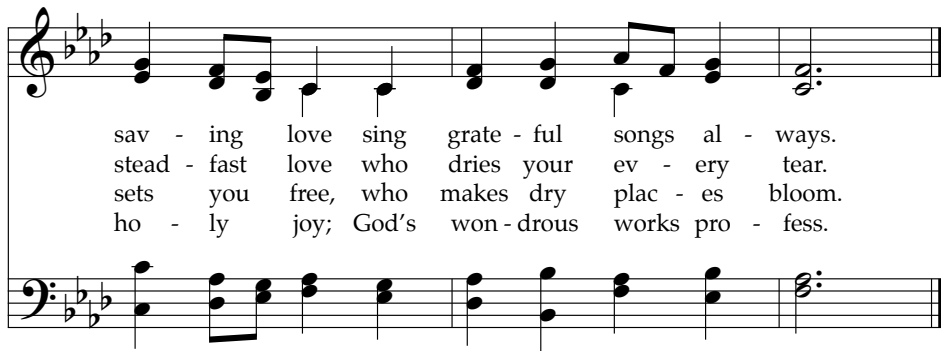
1 Give thanks to God who hears our cries and saves in
 2 If you have ev - er wan - dered where no hu - man
 3 If you have ev - er lived in - side the pris - on
 4 If you drew near the gates of death, too sick to

trou-bled days with won - drous works to hu - man - kind that
 help was near, and in your trou - ble cried to God, who
 of your gloom and cried to God, who broke your bonds and
 eat or dress, and cried to God, who heard your voice and

call for high - est praise. Let all who know God's
 res - cued you from fear, then thank the God of
 raised you from your tomb, then praise the One who
 healed all your dis - tress, then sing with sounds of

The singing of psalm paraphrases is the most long-standing musical practice in Reformed tradition, dating from John Calvin's own congregation in Geneva in the 16th century. This recent paraphrase of Psalm 107 illustrates the interpretive flexibility that is a hallmark of the form.

THANKSGIVING



The image shows a musical score for a Thanksgiving hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble staff at the top and a bass staff at the bottom. Both staves are in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The lyrics are: 'sav - ing love sing grate - ful songs al - ways. stead - fast love who dries your ev - ery tear. sets you free, who makes dry plac - es bloom. ho - ly joy; God's won - drous works pro - fess.'

5 If you have felt your courage fail
before a violent sea
and cried to God, who stilled the storm,
and made the wild wind flee,
then in the congregation praise
the One who heard your plea.

6 So praise the One whose love is great,
whose kindness is well-known.
Consider well the healing hand
and help you have been shown,
and tell the world what God has done.
Praise God and God alone!