

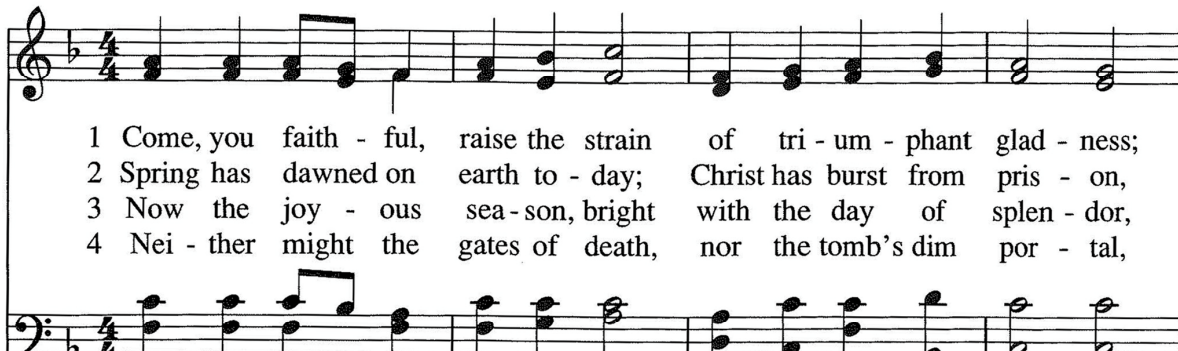
Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

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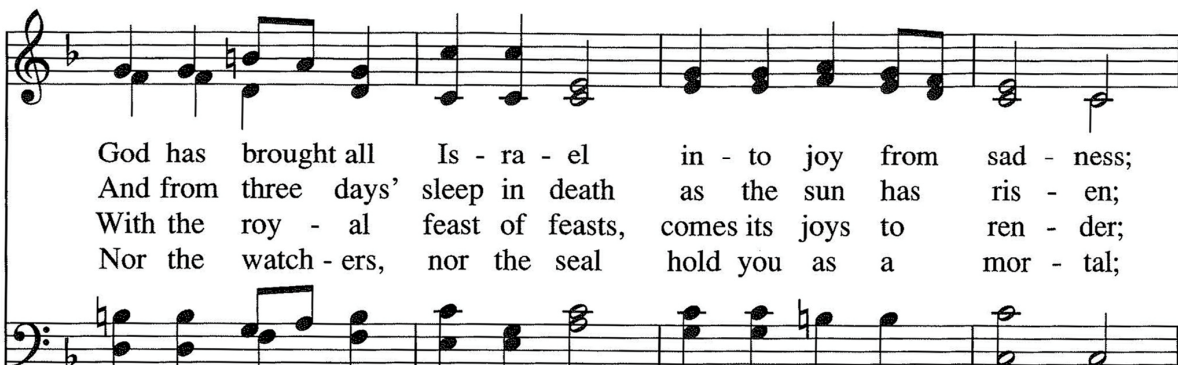
Attrib. to John of Damascus (c. 696–c. 754 C.E.)

Exod. 15; Luke 24

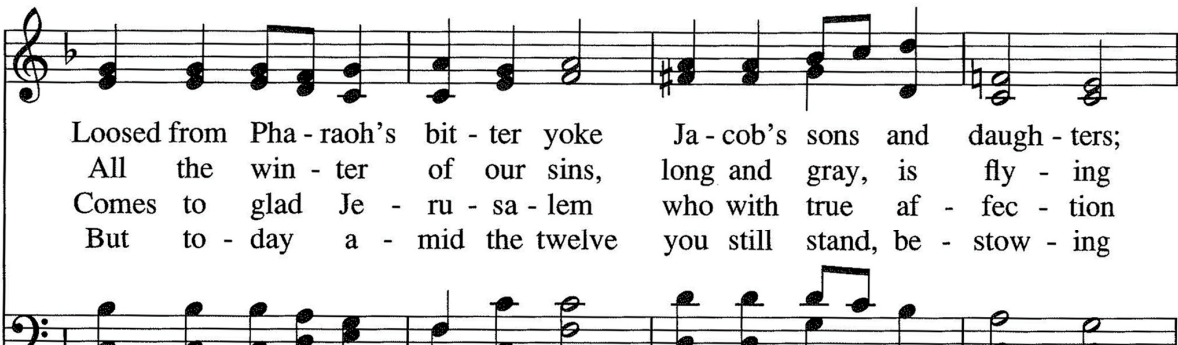
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1872; alt.



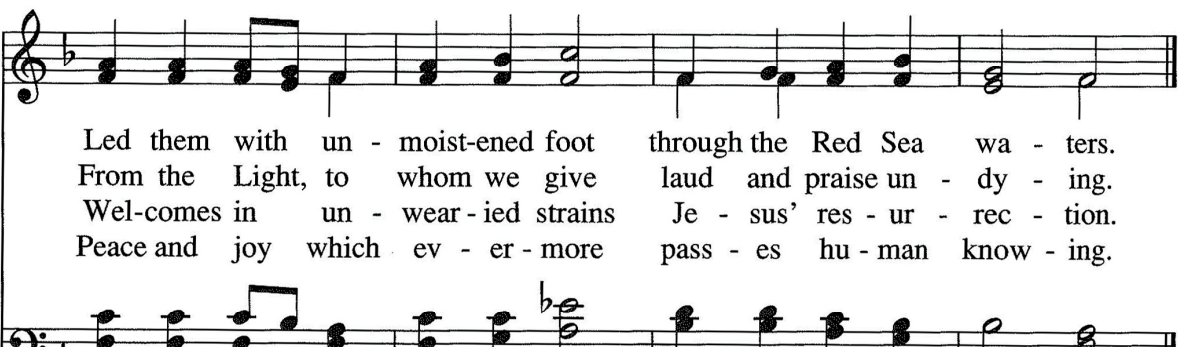
1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness;
2 Spring has dawned on earth to - day; Christ has burst from pris - on,
3 Now the joy - ous sea - son, bright with the day of splen - dor,
4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dim por - tal,



God has brought all Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness;
And from three days' sleep in death as the sun has ris - en;
With the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joys to ren - der;
Nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold you as a mor - tal;



Loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
All the win - ter of our sins, long and gray, is fly - ing
Comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem who with true af - fec - tion
But to - day a - mid the twelve you still stand, be - stow - ing



Led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
From the Light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
Wel - comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.
Peace and joy which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.

Little is known of St. John of Damascus, an early Greek theologian, but his writings have survived. Among these are poems that have been made into hymns and some that have been integrated into Greek Orthodox liturgy.

Tune: ST. KEVIN 7.6.7.6.D.
Arthur S. Sullivan, 1872

Pues si vivimos

(In All Our Living)

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St. 1, Mexican folk hymn; transl. anon.

St. 2, Elise S. Eslinger, 1983

Unison

1 Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa-ra Dios vi - vi - mos
 1 In all our liv - ing, we be-long to God;
 2 God sent Christ Je - sus to be our sha-lom,

y si mo - ri - mos, pa-ra Dios mo - ri - mos.
 and in our dy - ing, we are still with God;
 to show us mer - cy and heal - ing love;

Se-a que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
 So, wheth-er liv - ing, or wheth-er dy - ing,
 So in our liv - ing, and in our dy - ing,

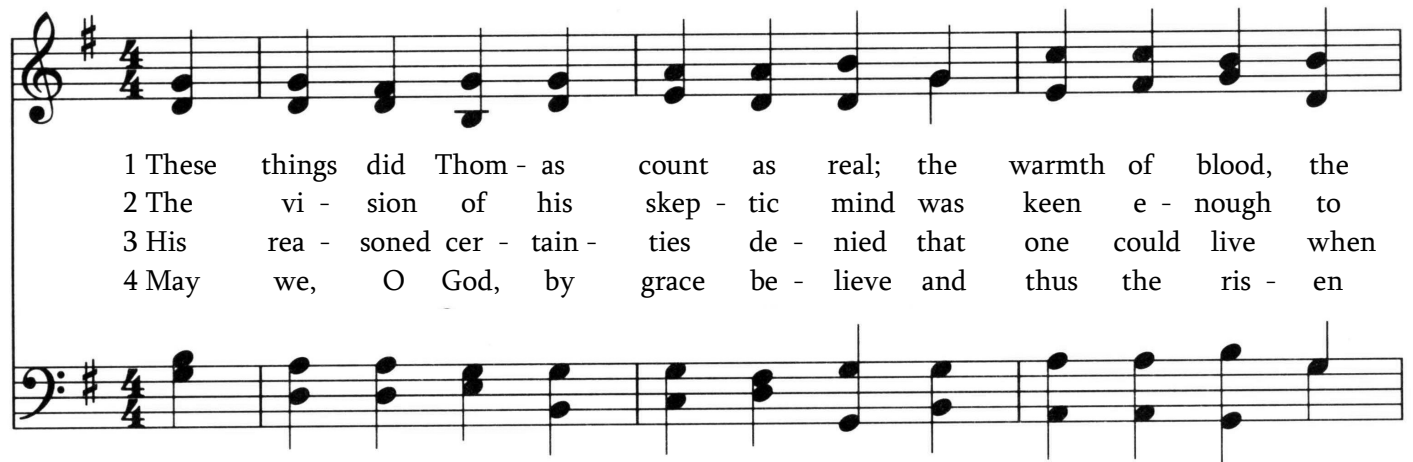
so - mos del buen Dios, so - mos del buen Dios.
 we be-long to God; we be-long to God.
 Christ is our sha - lom; Christ is our sha - lom.

This anonymous Mexican folk hymn was transcribed by hymnologist Gertrude Suppe after she first heard it sung by two church women visiting California from Mexico. It was published in Celebremos II (1983).

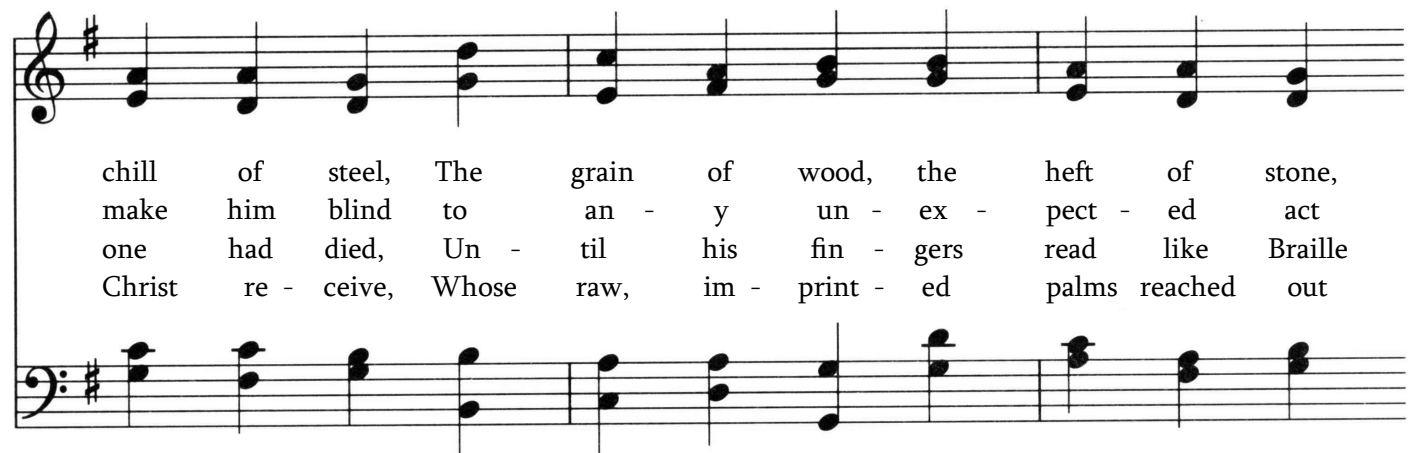
Tune: PUES SI VIVIMOS Irr.
 Anon.; arr. B. C. M., 1988

These Things Did Thomas Count

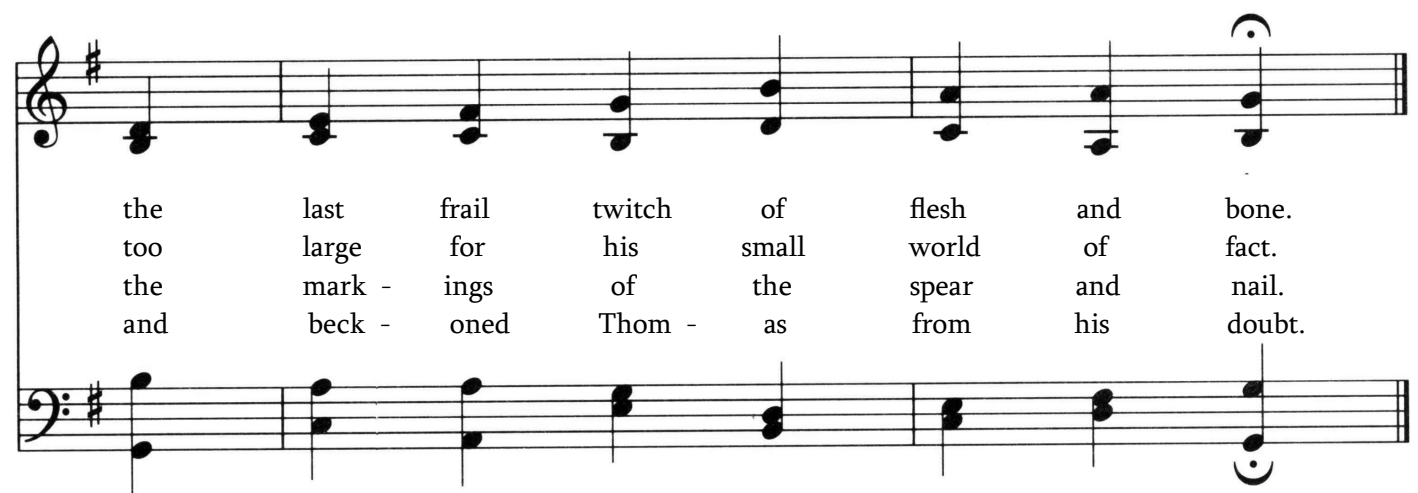
Thomas H. Troeger, 1984



1 These things did Thom - as count as real; the warmth of blood, the
2 The vi - sion of his skept - ic mind was keen e - nough to
3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied that one could live when
4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve and thus the ris - en



chill of steel, The grain of wood, the heft of stone,
make him blind to an - y un - ex - pect - ed act
one had died, Un - til his fin - gers read like Braille
Christ re - ceive, Whose raw, im - print - ed palms reached out



the last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
too large for his small world of fact.
the mark - ings of the spear and nail.
and beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

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Tune: TALLIS' CANON L.M.
Thomas Tallis, c. 1567

The Day of Resurrection

John of Damascus, 8th century

Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;
the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;
From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,
our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

A Greek canon—an extended poem of eight or nine odes, each based on a scriptural canticle—was the source of this hymn. John of Damascus gave up a high government position to enter a monastery.

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
Henry T. Smart, 1836