



Scripture Reading: Psalm 100:1-5

Give Thanks

Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands! Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. Know that the LORD, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *And* into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name.

For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, And His truth *endures* to all generations.

因為耶和華本為善。他的慈愛存到永遠；他的信實直到萬代。詩篇 100:5 (Chinese)

Karena Tuhan itu baiklah dan kemurahan-Nya kekal selama-lamanya dan setia-Nya pun teguh kepada orang turun-temurun. MAZMUR 100:5 (Indonesian)

대저 여호와는 선하시니 그 인자하심이 영원하고 그 성실하심이 대대에 미치지 못하도다 . 시편 100:5 (Korean)

THE MARVELOUS STORY OF HYMNS OF THANKS

The word *thanks* (and related concepts such as *praise* and *bless*) is found over a hundred times in the English Bible. Two main Hebrew and Greek words for *thanks* found in the Bible are *ydh* and *eucharisteo*. In the Old Testament, the concept of *thanks* occurs 102 times and *ydh* is used in 72 of those ascribing joyful praise to God (1 Chronicles 16:8-36). In the New Testament, *thankfulness* occurs 71 times and 1 Thessalonians 5:18 exhorts: “*In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*”

May the beloved *Thanks to God* hymn ring anew our gratitude as we usher in the New Year glorifying God our Heavenly Father who gave us the best gift of all, His Son Jesus. May you enjoy favor communing with God, experiencing Peace which surpasses all understanding (Philippians 4:7), renewing faith in God (Ephesians 2:8-9), with eyes fixed on Jesus our Hope (Hebrews 6:19-20, 1 Timothy 1:1), and heart overflowing with Love filled by Almighty God, who is Love (1 John 4:8). Happy New Year!

Thanks to God!

August Ludvig Storm (23 October 1862 – 1 July 1914) was converted at a Salvation Army meeting and wrote this hymn in Swedish for the Army publication, Stridsropet (The War Cry), on December 1891. In 1931, Storm’s original four stanzas listing thirty-two things to be thankful for, was translated into English by Carl Ernest Backstorm (1901-1984).

Expressing gratitude to God for all things under all circumstances, Lieutenant Colonel Storm encourages the believer to count your blessings trusting that “all things work for good to those who love God” Romans 8:28. Eight years after this hymn was published, August Storm suffered from back ailment which left him crippled at the age of thirty-seven. He continued to serve with the Salvation Army and a year before his death, he wrote another poem thanking God for years of peaceful calm as well as for years of pain and sorrow. After his funeral, the Swedish publication wrote a tribute: “*It was a delight to listen to his powerful, thoughtful, and well-articulated sermons. And the numerous verses that flowed from his pen are the best that have ever appeared in the Army’s publications.*”



THANKS TO GOD!

Thanks to God for my Redeemer, Thanks for all Thou dost provide!
Thanks for times now but a mem'ry, Thanks for Jesus by my side!
Thanks for pleasant, balmy springtime, Thanks for dark and stormy fall!
Thanks for tears by now forgotten, Thanks for peace within my soul!

Thanks, O God, for boundless mercy, From Thy gracious throne above
Thanks for ev'ry need provided, From the fullness of Thy love
Thanks for daily toil and labor, And for rest when shadows fall
Thanks for love of friend and neighbor, And Thy goodness unto all

Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered, Thanks for what Thou dost deny!
Thanks for storms that I have weathered, Thanks for all Thou dost supply!
Thanks for pain, and thanks for pleasure, Thanks for comfort in despair!
Thanks for grace that none can measure, Thanks for love beyond compare!

Thanks for roses by the wayside, Thanks for thorns their stems contain!
Thanks for home and thanks for fireside, Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain!
Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow, Thanks for heav'nly peace with Thee!
Thanks for hope in the tomorrow, Thanks through all eternity!

感謝神

感謝神，賜我救贖主，感謝神，豐富預備，
感謝神，過去的同在，感謝神，主常蔭庇，
感謝神，賜溫暖春天，感謝神，蕭索秋景，
感謝神，抹乾我眼淚，感謝神，賜我安寧。

感謝神，禱告蒙應允，感謝神，未蒙垂聽，
感謝神，渡過了風暴，感謝神，豐富供應，
感謝神，賜我苦與樂，感謝神，絕望得慰，
感謝神，無比的慈愛，感謝神，無限恩惠。

感謝神，賜路旁玫瑰，感謝神，玫瑰有刺，
感謝神，賜家庭溫暖，感謝神，盼望福祉，
感謝神，賜喜樂憂愁，感謝神，屬天安寧，
感謝神，賜明天盼望，感謝神，永遠不停。