

American Guild of Organists
Christ Episcopal Church
Marking the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

No Greater Art: A Revolutionary Change in Congregational Song

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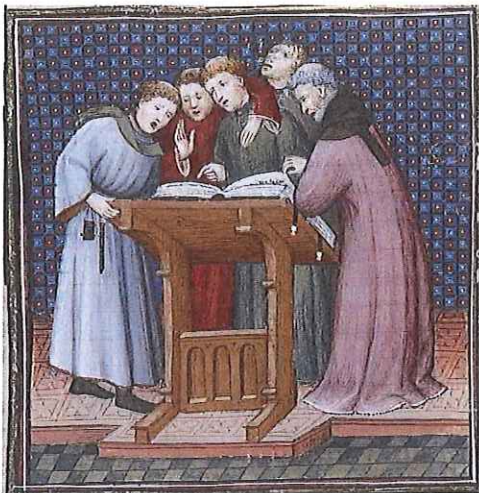
Welcome

Singing

Kindly stand as you are able

“All glory be to God on high” [*See attached sheet*]

1: All 3: Lower voices
2: Higher voices 4: All



Congregational song at the beginning of the sixteenth century

Stages of life events; changing of the seasons;
feast days
Vernacular singing

The Mass and other sacramental celebrations
Singing in Latin by a choir or ensemble
Congregational passivity
Medieval ocular theory: sufficient to gaze in
order to participate in ritual actions

Martin Luther (1483 – 1546)

Street singer, church chorister, lute player, monastic chorister, hymn composer

1517: Publication of the *Ninety-Five Theses*

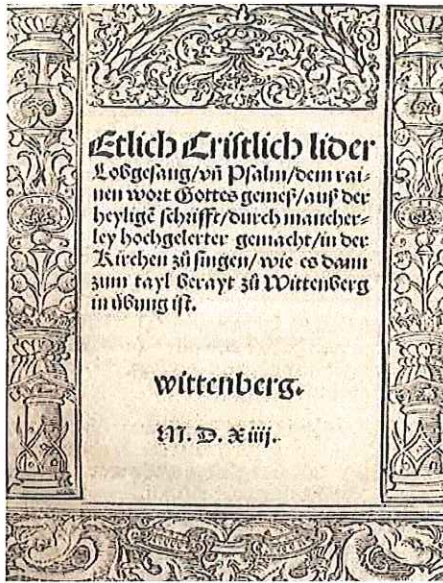
1519: Publication of *Two Kinds of Righteousness*

1520: Publication of the *Address to the German Nobility*

A congregational polity with access to the Scriptures

1522: Publication of the *September Bible* in German

1524: Publication of *Etlich Cristlich lider: Lobgesang und Psalm (Achtliederbuch)*



To make a good beginning and to encourage others who can do it better, I have myself, with some others, put together a few hymns, in order to bring into full play the blessed Gospel, which by God's grace has risen again so that we may boast, as Moses does in Exodus 15, that Christ has become our praise and our song, and that we may know nothing save Christ our Savior (1 Corinthians 2)
Luther's preface to the Achtliederbuch

Singing

Kindly stand as you are able

"From heaven above to earth I come," *Hymnal 1982*, No. 80

1: All 3: Higher voices
2: Lower voices 4: All

From professional choir to assembly song

Sing the biblical story into the assembly's consciousness and memory

Encounter the charter of reform (songs of protest)

Blend old with new

Proclaim the grace of God for all creation

Offer thanksgiving to God and orient the assembly toward service in daily life

With the visual arts, promote a multimedia program of reform (in competition with Anabaptist, Calvinist, and Roman forms of Christianity)

Singing

Kindly stand as you are able

"From deepest woe I cry to thee," *Hymnal 1982*, No. 151

Paraphrase of Psalm 130

1: All 2: Women 3: All

The range of Luther's compositions

The reformed Mass: Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Agnus Dei

The Daily Office: Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer; the Great Litany

The liturgical year: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Purification, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, Holy Trinity

The Catechism: The Ten Commandments, The Creed, Lord's Prayer, Holy Baptism, Holy Communion



Singing

Remain seated

“We all believe in one true God” [See attached sheet]

Verse 1 only

“O Lamb of God” [See attached sheet]

Supporting the Voice of the Assembly

Care for churches and synagogues, cathedrals and universities

Liturgical leaders sing a sung liturgy

Teach the assembly to sing

Teach children to sing

Musical support from *behind* the assembly

While the organ remains central, expand instrumentation

Expand range of music: Hispanic, Asian, Hawai’ian | Pacific Islander, African

Sources

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