

Hymn: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" was written by a man named Henry van Dyke, who was an American author and clergyman who lived in the 20th century. He wrote the hymn in 1907 as a poem titled "Hymn of Joy," which would later become popularly known by its contemporary name based upon the first lyric of the song. He was inspired by the beauty of the mountains surrounding him on one of his travels and wanted to express his feelings of gratitude and praise to God through his poetry.

The words of the hymn reflect van Dyke's deep faith and his awe of the beauty of the world around him. He used vivid imagery to paint a picture of nature rejoicing and singing praises to God. The hymn celebrates the wonders of creation and the joy of being alive.

The melody that accompanies the lyrics of "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" was composed by Ludwig van Beethoven, a famous German composer. Beethoven originally wrote this melody as the final movement of his Symphony No. 9, also known as the "Choral Symphony." This symphony is one of Beethoven's most famous works and is celebrated for its uplifting and triumphant spirit. When Henry van Dyke wrote the hymn, he was insistent that the words be set to this work of Beethoven's for its jubilant nature.

The melody perfectly complements van Dyke's words, creating a sense of exuberance and praise. When sung together, the combination of the joyful lyrics and the stirring melody inspires worshippers to lift their voices in praise and thanksgiving. Over the years, "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" has become a cherished hymn in churches around the world. Through its uplifting words and stirring melody, it inspires worshippers to express their joy and gratitude to the Creator.

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

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F C7 F C F C7 F C

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
 4 Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;

F Bb F7 Bb F C7 F C7 F

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, join - ing all with - in its span.

C F C7 F C7 A Dm G7 C

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er— all who live in love are thine;
 Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife;

F Bb F7 Bb F C7 F C7 F

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to thy joy di - vine.
 joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward in the tri - umph song of life.