

TO YOU, O GOD, WE LIFT OUR VOICE

Barbara Hamm

To you, O God, we lift our voice
to sing our joyful hymns of praise,
for grace and mercy daily giv'n,
sustaining us through all our days.

To you, O God, we lift our hearts
in gratitude for all you give:
the sun, the moon, the fruitful earth,
which gives us bread that we may live.

To you, O God, we lift our hands,
to help and comfort, heal and bless,
to serve where love and need direct,
in answer to your faithfulness.

All that we are, we have from you,
in whom we live and breathe and move,
transformed, becoming something new,
as grace and mercy yet shall prove.

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Acts 17:28 • Romans 12:2

Prompted by two different Scriptures which have long been favorites of mine, the theme of this text is transformation. Praise leads us to gratitude, and gratitude to love and service, culminating in what becomes for us a continuous process of transformation. Drawing upon the science of chaos theory, I imagine this in a spiritual context as a dynamic, complex, interconnected process in which we both are and are becoming (think of a pot of boiling water on the stove, with bubbles continually forming and bursting as new bubbles appear). The original version of this text, written in the summer and fall of 2016, has been significantly revised.

Use: Christian Life, Conversion, Creation, Discipleship, Praise, Stewardship, Thanksgiving, Transformation



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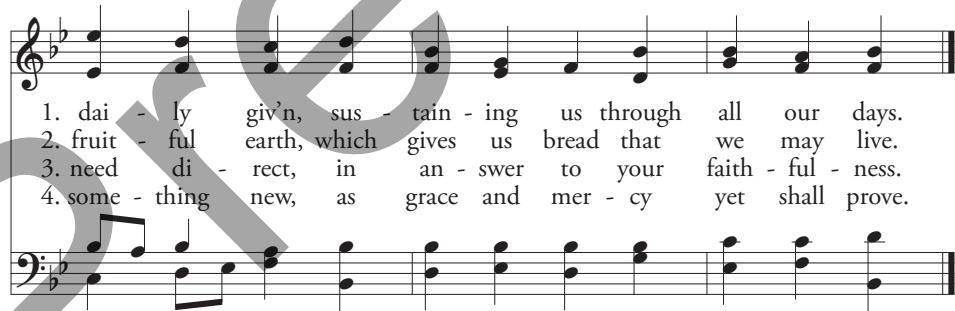
WINCHESTER NEW



1. To you, O God, we lift our voice to sing our
2. To you, O God, we lift our hearts in grat - i -
3. To you, O God, we lift our hands, to help and
4. All that we are, we have from you, in whom we



1. joy - ful hymns of praise, for grace and mer - cy
2. tude for all you give: the sun, the moon, the
3. com - fort, heal and bless, to serve where love and
4. live and breathe and move, trans - formed, be - com - ing



1. dai - ly giv'n, sus - tain - ing us through all our days.
2. fruit - ful earth, which gives us bread that we may live.
3. need di - rect, in an - swer to your faith - ful - ness.
4. some - thing new, as grace and mer - cy yet shall prove.

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Music: WINCHESTER NEW; Georg Wittwe's *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, Hamburg, 1690;
adapt by William H. Havergall, 1793–1870; arr. by William H. Monk, 1823–1889, alt.

