



THE HYMNS THAT SHAPE US

WEEK 6 – Thine Is the Glory

OPENING PRAYER

God of all creation, of the music that moves us and the hymns that shape us, thank you for the gift of worship. Thank you for the ways you have met us in spaces of praise and lament. We ask now that your Holy Spirit would be at work in our hearts as we continue to meditate on your goodness to us. For it is in the name of Jesus Christ, our coming King, we pray. Amen.

CHECK IN

Invite folks to check in with one of these two questions:

- 1) **After singing “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” this past Sunday, were there things you noticed or experienced differently in worship?**
- 2) **Was there one thing brought up in the interview with Raphael that particularly resonated with you or confused you?**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Take a look at the hymn page attached to this study guide. Read the words aloud.
 - **Are there particular phrases that stick out to you? Comfort or confuse you?**

1 Thine is the glory, risen conqu’ring Son!
Endless is the victr’y thou o’er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay.

Refrain

Thine is the glory, risen conqu’ring Son!
Endless is the victr’y thou o’er death has won!

2 Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb,
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing:
Christ who died is living; death has lost its sting.
[Refrain]

3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life.
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through thy
deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to
thy home above! ***[Refrain]***

- 2) Raphael talks about the elements of successful melodies at the beginning of the interview. Even if you're not a musician, perhaps you could track with what he was saying about what makes a song catchy and singable.
- Notes don't go too high or too low
 - Phrases repeat
 - Stepwise motion (no big leaps in notes)

Handel's "Thine Is the Glory" has each of these elements. Do you find this hymn easier to sing than most? Do you *enjoy* singing it? Are there hymns that come to mind that do NOT fit this "successful melody" checklist – hymns you might dread seeing listed in Sunday's bulletin?

- 3) Read John 20:1- 18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Read 1 Peter 1:18-21

¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the

world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

- **What echoes of this week’s hymn do you find in the above passages?**
- 4) The focal point of this hymn is the word “vict’ry”. Raphael speaks about how it is emphasized both lyrically and musically as we sing it with strength and confidence with each refrain.
- **What images does the word “victory” bring up for you? What does it mean to say Christ has the victory? How does that truth sit with you?**
 - **Are there other passages of Scripture that speak to this victory or explicitly tell of Jesus’ glory?**
- 5) **Has your perception of “Thine Is the Glory” changed at all as you’ve learned more about it? What might be one “take away” for you this week as you anticipate singing this hymn in worship on Sunday?**

CLOSING PRAYER

Take time to offer prayer requests before closing together in prayer. If you would like, you can also read a portion of this week’s hymn as the closing prayer.

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

238 Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son; end - less is
 2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly
 3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught

the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
 he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad - ness
 with - out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - querors

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering
 to thy home a - bove.

This Easter text, first in French and later in English, was written to fit the music, a chorus created for Handel's oratorio *Joshua* and moved to *Judas Maccabeus* in 1751. It grew widely popular following its use at the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches in 1948.

TEXT: Edmond Louis Budry, 1884; trans. R. Birch Hoyle, 1923, alt.
 MUSIC: George Frederick Handel, 1748

JUDAS MACCABEUS
 5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5 with refrain

