

## Six Metrical Versions of Psalm

Sternhold and Hopkins, *The Whole Book of Psalms Collected into English Metre* (1560?)

- 1 Have mercy on us, Lord;  
and grant to us thy grace;  
To show to us do thou accord  
the brightness of thy face;
- 2 That all the earth may know  
the way to godly wealth,  
And all the nations here below  
may see thy saving health.
- 3 Let all the world, O God,  
give praise unto thy Name;  
And let the people all abroad  
extol and laud the same.
- 4 Throughout the world so wide  
let all rejoice with mirth;  
For thou with truth and right dost guide  
the nations of the earth.
- 5 Let all the world, O God,  
give praise unto thy Name;  
And let the people all abroad  
extol and laud the same.
- 6 Then shall the earth increase,  
great store of fruit shall fall;  
And then our God, the God of peace,  
shall ever bless us all.
- 7 God shall us greatly bless,  
and then both far and near  
The folk which all the earth possess  
of him shall stand in fear.

Words: Isaac Watts (1748†)

*The nation's prosperity, and the church's increase.*

- 1 Shine, mighty God, on Britain shine,  
With beams of heav'nly grace;  
Reveal thy power through all our coasts,  
And show thy smiling face.
- 2 Amidst our isle, exalted high,  
Do thou our glory stand,  
And, like a wall of guardian fire,  
Surround the fav'rite land.
- 3 When shall thy name, from shore to shore,  
Sound all tile earth abroad;  
And distant nations know and love  
Their Savior and their God?
- 4 Sing to the Lord, ye distant lands,  
Sing loud with solemn voice;  
While British tongues exalt his praise,  
And British hearts rejoice.
- 5 He, the great Lord, the sov'reign Judge,  
That sits enthroned above,  
Wisely commands the worlds he made  
In justice and in love.
- 6 Earth shall obey her Maker's will,  
And yield a full increase;  
Our God will crown his chosen isle  
With fruitfulness and peace.
- 7 God the Redeemer scatters round  
His choicest favors here,  
While the creation's utmost bound  
Shall see, adore, and fear.

*The Scottish Psalter* (1650)

*To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm or Song.*

### FIRST VERSION

- 1 Lord, bless and pity us,  
shine on us with thy face:
- 2 That th' earth thy way, and nations all  
may know thy saving grace.
- 3 Let people praise thee, Lord;  
let people all thee praise.
- 4 O let the nations be glad,  
in songs their voices raise:  
Thou'lt justly people judge,  
on earth rule nations all.
- 5 Let people praise thee, Lord; let them  
praise thee, both great and small.
- 6 The earth her fruit shall yield,  
our God shall blessing send.
- 7 God shall us bless; men shall him fear  
unto earth's utmost end.

*The Scottish Psalter* (1650)

### SECOND VERSION

- 1 Lord, unto us be merciful,  
do thou us also bless;  
And graciously cause shine on us  
the brightness of thy face:
- 2 That so thy way upon the earth  
to all men may be known;  
Also among the nations all  
thy saving health be shown.
- 3 O let the people praise thee, Lord;  
let people all thee praise.
- 4 O let the nations be glad,  
and sing for joy always:  
For rightly thou shalt people judge,  
and nations rule on earth.
- 5 Let people praise thee, Lord; let all  
the folk praise thee with mirth.
- 6 Then shall the earth yield her increase;  
God, our God, bless us shall.
- 7 God shall us bless; and of the earth  
the ends shall fear him all.

Brady and Tate, *A New Version of the Psalms of David* (1696)

- 1 To bless thy chosen race,  
in mercy, Lord, incline;  
And cause the brightness of thy face  
On all thy saints to shine.
- 2 That so thy wondrous ways  
may through the world be known,  
While distant lands their tribute pay,  
and thy salvation own.
- 3 Let diff'ring nations join  
to celebrate thy fame;  
Let all the world, O Lord, combine  
to praise thy glorious Name.
- 4 O let them shout and sing  
with joy and pious mirth,  
For thou, the righteous Judge and King,  
shalt govern all the earth.
- 5 Let diff'ring nations join  
to celebrate thy fame;  
Let all the world, O Lord, combine  
to praise thy glorious Name.
- 6 Then shall the teeming ground  
a large increase disclose;  
And we with plenty shall be crowned,  
which God, our God, bestows.
- 7 Then God upon our land  
shall constant blessings show'r,  
And all the world in awe shall stand  
of his resistless pow'r.

*Genevan Psalter*  
(98 98 665 665)

May God be merciful and gracious,  
and on us may he shine his face.  
Let all the earth come to acknowledge  
your wondrous and lifegiving ways.  
May each pagan nation  
learn of your salvation.  
Let the peoples praise,  
praise with jubilation.  
May all sound your praises  
from every nation.

Let all the peoples raise their voices  
and shout aloud with joyful songs;  
for you are judge among the nations  
and justly set aright all wrongs.  
You rule all creation,  
every distant nation.  
Let the peoples praise,  
praise with jubilation.  
May all sound your praises  
from every nation.

The soil has yielded up its harvest,  
and God, our God, has blessed our land.  
May God bestow on us his blessings  
and grant us bounty from his hand.  
Let earth fall before him,  
fear him and adore him.  
Let the peoples praise,  
praise with jubilation.  
May all sound your praises  
from every nation.