

## Sing Hallelujah, Christ Doth Live

The musical score is written in a two-staff system (treble and bass clefs) with a common time signature (C). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The score is divided into four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are as follows:

Sing hal-le-lu-jah, Christ doth live, our Light for-ev-er-more. The  
Sing hal-le-lu-jah, praise the Lord! Sing with a cheer-ful voice; ex -

Prince of Peace all glo-ry give, his bless-ed Name a-dore; with  
alt our God with one ac-cord, and in his name re-joice. Ne'er

kings of old, your hom-age pay to him who in a man-ger lay; with  
cease to sing, thou ran-somed host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost, un -

Ju-dah's shep-herds, bring a-gain the an-gels' song to men.  
til in realms of end-less light your prais-es shall u-nite.

The occasion for which this text was written tells its story. Lewis Huebner, an elder, chorister and flautist of the Lititz Moravian congregation, felt a need for a Christmas stanza for use with Johann Christian Bechler's beloved tune. Bechler had served as pastor at Lititz in the early nineteenth century, where his music continues to hold a special place. Huebner wrote this text to convey the Christmas Gospel for the lovefeast at Lititz where it was used for the first time in 1944. Its use with the traditional first stanza of "Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord" was instantly accepted and continues to be the final hymn of those services.

This tune was composed by Johann Christian Bechler (1784-1857), a Moravian clergyman, seminary professor, bishop and composer (see page 30). This tune appears to have been written *circa* 1814.