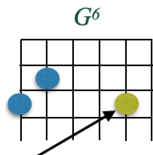


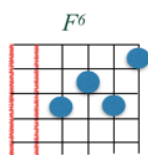
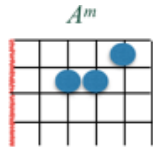
Rejoice the Lord Is King!

Words by Charles Wesley set to tunes by John Frederick Lamp, Public Domain

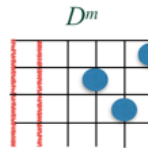
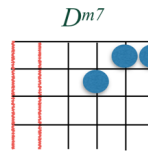
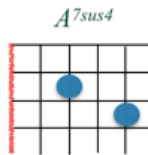
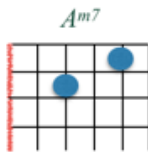
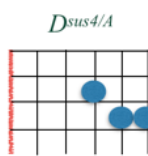
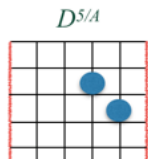
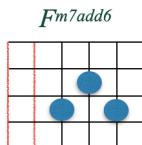
Sing along with the Oregon Catholic Press Choir @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvpXPiBmRs4>



Played when it supports the melody.



C G⁶ A^m
Rejoice, the Lord is King!
G F C F⁶ F^{m7add6} G⁶
Your Lord and King a - - - - dore;
C D^{5/A} D^{sus4/A} D
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
D D⁷ G⁶ D G
And triumph ev-er - more.



C G⁶ A^m
His Kingdom cannot fail,
G F C F⁶ F^{m7add6} G⁶
He rules o'er earth and heaven;
C D/A D^{sus4/A} D
The keys to death and hell,
D D⁷ G⁶ D G
Are to our Je - sus given.

CHORUS

CHORUS
G F G⁷ A^m A^{m7} A^{7sus4} F
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
G D^{m7} G⁶ A^m D^m C G⁶ C
Rejoice, a - gain I say, re - joice.

C G⁶ A^m
The Lord and Saviour reigns,
G F C F⁶ F^{m7add6} G⁶
The God of truth and love;
C D/A D^{sus4/A} D
When He had purged our sins,
D D⁷ G⁶ D G
He took His seat a - bove.

CHORUS

ANOTHER VERSE
Rejoice in glorious hope,
Jesus, the Judge, shall come,
And take His servants up,
To their eternal home.

Scripture and History

Charles Wesley wrote the text for "**Rejoice, the Lord is King!**" in 1746 for *Hymns on the Great Festivals and Other Occasions*, set to tunes by John Frederick Lampe.



John Frederick Lampe
Image from Wikipedia

The text of this hymn is quite clear in its message: It is a call to worship the risen Christ. In fact, in its original setting, it is listed under the heading "On the Resurrection," obviously pointing towards Easter. By tradition, Christians of all denominations have also come to associate this hymn with Thanks Giving. It is a comfort to know that Christ conquered death as well as sin!

Verse three of this Charles Wesley hymn says, "His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n; The keys of death and hell, Are to our Jesus given."

This is a joyous text as affirmed by the refrain at the end of the first three stanzas: "Lift up your heart, lift up your voice, Rejoice; again I say, rejoice!"

The call to "Lift up your heart" is also a part of the Sursum Corda that begins the Eucharistic prayer.

Creedal imagery also abounds in this text -- for example, the idea of Christ as our judge, enthroned above us. This hymn is a call to believe in the risen Christ. When one reads the text, you can almost see Charles Wesley standing on a box on a street corner, shouting these words to the masses.

The evangelistic focus of this hymn reflects the energy of the Wesley brothers as they founded the Methodist movement. Since the early Methodists were calling people toward Christ, it is possible that this text is not so much for congregants in attendance but for people who do not yet know the majesty of Christ. The text itself sums up in simple terms much of who we believe Christ was and still is: Christ is our Savior, King, and Judge.

The original tune, composed for the text by John Frederick Lampe, (born Johann Friedrich Lampe; probably 1703 – 25 July 1751) was a musician born in Saxony, then moved to England in 1724 and played the bassoon in opera houses.

Lampe wrote operatic works in English in defiance of the vogue for Italian opera. Lampe, along with Henry Carey and J. S. Smith, founded the short-lived English Opera Project. He became a friend of Charles Wesley, and wrote several tunes to accompany Wesley's hymns.

Lampe was based for a time in Dublin and later in Edinburgh, where he died. He is buried in Canongate Kirk yard on the Royal Mile. The grave lies to the north-east of the church behind the Fettes vault.

from an article by Jarrod Johnston, a master of sacred music candidate at Perkins School of Theology and a student of Dr. C. Michael Hawn on www.umcdiscipleship.org/, and from Wikipedia



Charles Wesley
Image from
www.umcdiscipleship.org/