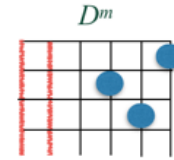
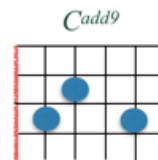
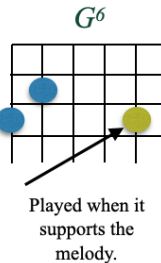


Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Words by George Weissel, 1642; Music: "Truro", from Psalmody Evangelica, by Thomas Williams, 1789
Sing along with the Virtual Church @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-V-6GopZyhs>



C F G⁶ C
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
G⁷ A^m F Cadd⁹ D^m C G⁶
Be-hold, the King of glo-ry waits;
G⁶ D G C D⁷ G
The King of kings is drawing near;
G⁷ C D^m G⁶ C
The Savior of the world is here!



Play not
upon the
reddened
strings.

C F G⁶ C
O blest the land, the ci - ty blest,
G⁷ A^m F Cadd⁹ D^m C G⁶
Where Christ the ru-ler is confessed!
G⁶ D G C D⁷ G
O happy hearts and happy homes;
G⁷ C D^m G⁶ C
To whom this King of tri-umph comes!

C F G⁶ C
Fling wide the portals of your heart;
G⁷ A^m F Cadd⁹ D^m C G⁶
Make it a temple, set a - part.
G⁶ D G C D⁷ G
From earthly use for heaven's employ;
G⁷ C D^m G⁶ C
A - dorned with prayer and love and joy.

Other Verses

C F G⁶ C
Redeemer, come, with us a - bid;
G⁷ A^m F Cadd⁹ D^m C G⁶
Our hearts to Thee we o - pen wide;
G⁶ D G C D⁷ G
Let us Thy inner presence feel;
G⁷ C D^m G⁶ C
Thy grace and love in us reveal.

C F G⁶ C
Thy Holy Spirit lead us on,
G⁷ A^m F Cadd⁹ D^m C G⁶
Un-til our glorious goal is won;
G⁶ D G C D⁷ G
Eternal praise, eternal fame;
G⁷ C D^m G⁶ C
Be offered, Savior, to Thy Name!

Scripture

“**Lift Up Your Heads**” by 17th century hymn-writer Georg Weissel captures, explores, and responds to the imagery of the Advent season. The hymn was translated to English by Catherine Winkworth.

In five stanzas Weissel ties together the prophecies of the Psalm 24, the foretelling of the Messiah in the prophets, the humble coming of Jesus, our response, and the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Psalm 24, The King of Glory Entering Zion, a Psalm of David.

The earth is the LORD’S, and all it contains,
The world, and those who dwell in it.
For He has founded it upon the seas
And established it upon the rivers.
Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?
And who may stand in His holy place?
He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood
And has not sworn deceitfully.
He shall receive a blessing from the LORD
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.
This is the generation of those who seek Him,
Who seek Your face—even Jacob.

Selah.

Lift up your heads, O gates,
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may come in!
Who is the King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty,
The LORD mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O gates,
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may come in!
Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
He is the King of glory.

Selah.

Some Bible scholars wonder if this Psalm may have been written by David when the Ark of the Covenant was brought back to Jerusalem. The triumphant procession (described in **1 Chronicles 15 and 16**) describes the scene when the ark of God Himself was brought into the city of God. There may have been triumphal shouting to the gates to open and let in the King!

We sing this psalm to praise God for the ultimate fulfillment of this Psalm in our King Jesus. Just as the Ark of the Covenant was the presence of God among His people Israel, so Jesus is our Immanuel, “God with us.”



The Altrossgarten Church in Königsberg, which Weissel inaugurated in 1623 and where he served as minister

Georg Weissel (1590 – 1 August 1635) was a German Lutheran minister and hymn writer. Born in Domnau in Ducal Prussia, a vassal of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Weissel studied theology and music at the University of Königsberg, with the musicians Johann Eccard and Johann Stobäus, among others.

Catherine Winkworth is "the most gifted translator of any foreign sacred lyrics into our tongue, after Dr. Neale and John Wesley; and in practical services rendered, taking quality with quantity, the first of those who have labored upon German hymns. Our knowledge of them is due to her more largely than to any or all other translators; and by her two series of *Lyra Germanica*, her *Chorale Book*, and her *Christian Singers of Germany*, she has laid all English-speaking Christians under lasting obligation."



Catherine Winkworth

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