

"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

Isaac Watts did not start out to write a Christmas carol. Instead, he was writing a paraphrase of Psalm 98. The psalm celebrates God's protection and the restoration of His people. "Shout to the Lord all the earth" (Psalm 98:4), for example, became "Joy to the world." God has truly provided restoration for us through the coming of Jesus!

KIDPages

Use these pages:

- With children who arrive early
- In a small learning group
- As a take-home page (If a page is sent home, suggest that parents and children work on the KIDPage together.)

Three Creative Geniuses

Use this page to present information about those who created the hymn. Provide copies for children to complete the True or False? activity.

True or False?

Provide copies of the True or False? for children to show what they learned about the hymn creators and to discover the scripture on which the hymn is based.

"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

Harmony Map

Perform this chart with Boomwhackers®, bells, or handchimes.

"Joy to the World!" Dramatic Introduction

Enlist and rehearse three readers to present this dramatic introduction.

True or False? Answers:

1. True—P
2. False—S
3. True—A
4. False—L
5. True—M
6. True—9
7. True—8

Psalm 98

True or False?



Circle the correct letter in the TRUE or FALSE column, then write that letter or number in the matching numbered blank at the bottom of the page.

Statement

	True	False
1. Isaac Watts is known as the <i>Father of English Hymnody</i> .	P	B
2. Isaac Watts' hymns use long words that are difficult to understand.	R	S
3. Benjamin Franklin published Watts' hymns in America.	A	O
4. George Frideric Handel wanted to study law, but his father forced him to become a composer.	E	L
5. Before becoming a professional musician, Lowell Mason was a bank clerk.	M	A
6. Lowell Mason became the first public school music teacher in America.	9	U
7. Lowell Mason is known as the <i>Father of American Church Music</i> .	8	3

In the blanks you will see the passage of scripture that Isaac Watts paraphrased to write "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come."

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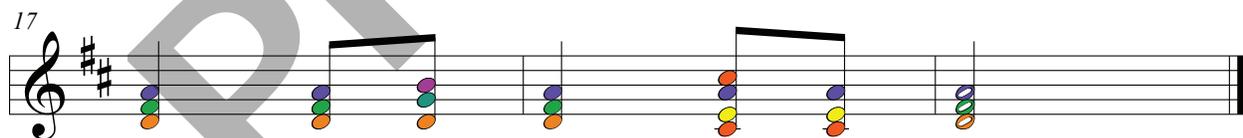
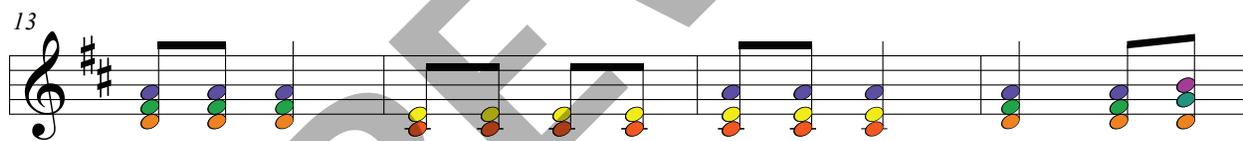
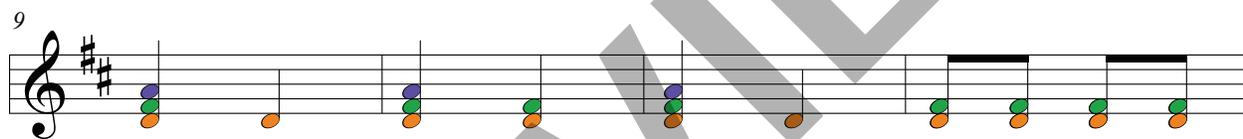
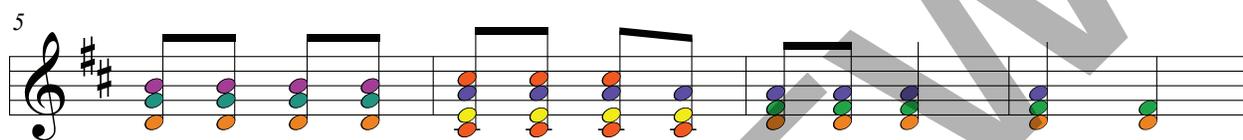
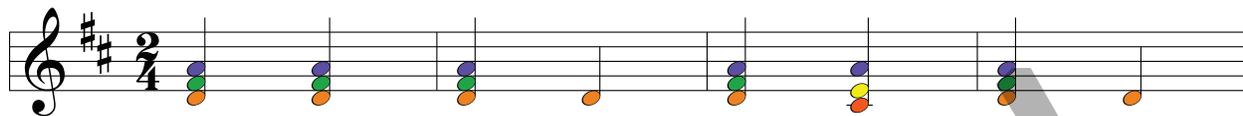
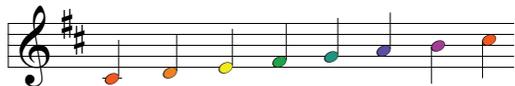
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“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

Harmony Map

Pitches needed:



A color version for Boomwhackers® is available on the Enhanced CD.

J OY T O THE W O R L D !

DRAMATIC INTRODUCTION

READER 1

My name is Isaac Watts. I am known as the Father of English Hymnody. I wrote hundreds of hymns, including "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come." I liked to use short, simple words in my hymns that anyone could understand. Yet, my hymns are rich in biblical truth and meaning. I rewrote the words of Psalm 98 to create this hymn, which has become a Christmas favorite.

READER 2

My name is George Frideric Handel. I loved to study music as a child, but my father wanted me to become a lawyer. I never gave up on my dream! My father finally allowed me to study music, and I became a famous musician and composer. I am sure you have heard some of my compositions, including the beloved oratorio, *Messiah*, which proclaims the gospel of Jesus! My music inspired Lowell Mason to arrange the music for "Joy to the World!"

READER 3

My name is Lowell Mason. I am known as the *Father of American Church Music*. I was also the first public school music teacher in America. As a young man, I worked as a bank clerk, but I spent every spare moment learning more about music. I became a professional musician and helped churches and schools with their musical activities. I arranged the music we sing with the joyful words written by Isaac Watts, "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come."