# HYMN SUGGESTIONS FROM MINNESOTA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

#### Hymn Many and great, O God (Dakota Hymn)<sup>1</sup>

- Wakantanka taku nitawa tankaya qa ota; mahpiya kin eyahnake ça, maka kin he duowanca; mniowanca śbeya wanke cin, hena oyakihi.
- Woehdaku nitawa kin he minagi kin qu wo; mahpiya kin iwankam yati, wicowaśte yuha nanka, wiconi kin he mayaqu nun, owihanke wanin.
- Many and great, O God, are your works, maker of earth and sky. Your hands have set the heavens with stars; your fingers spread the mountains and plains.

  Lo, at your word the waters were formed; deep seas obey your voice.
- 2 Grant unto us communion with you, O star-abiding One. Come unto us and dwell with us; with you are found the gifts of life.

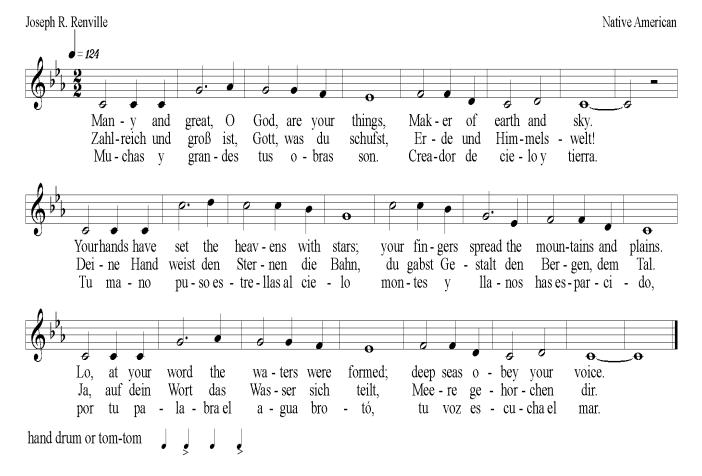
  Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life with you

Paraphraser: Philip Frazier; Author: Joseph Renville (1842)

Renville, was indigenous Dakota and the translator of this hymn is Francis Philip Frazier.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This hymn was sung by thirty-eight Dakota prisoners of war as they were led to execution at Mankato, Minnesota, on December 26, 1862. This song was first published in the Dakota Indian Hymnal (1916) and is perhaps the only Native American hymn to be sung broadly in North America beyond its original Dakota culture. The author, Joseph



2. Grant unto us communion with you, you star abiding one; come unto us and dwell with us; with you are found the gifts of life. Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life with you.

2. Wir bitten, gib' Gemeinschaft mit dir, du bist das Licht, das bleibt.
Komme zu uns und wohne bei uns, du hältst des Lebens Gaben bereit.
Segne mit Leben, das nie vergeht, das ewig lebt bei dir.

2. Que entre nosotros tu siempre estés Sé tú el principal En medio nuestro ven a morar contigo esté el don de le vida Bendícenos con vida sin fin Vida eterna en ti.

English, paraphrased by Philip Frazier. German, Dieter Trautwein, © Strube-Verlag GmbH, Pettenkoferstr. 24, D-80336 München, Germany. Spanish, Juan A. Gattinoni, CLAI, 1406 Buenos Aires, Argentina.

## Hymn Wade into the water<sup>2</sup>



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This is an African American Jubilee Spiritual by Frederick J. Work and John Wesley Work Jr. (1901), based upon the narrative of John 5:2-9. For the enslaved, this song represented the struggles of life and the empowerment of freedom. Within the context of the 'troubled' waters of life there are healing waters, because God is in the midst of the turmoil.

#### Hymn Come thou font of every blessing



### Hymn What a fellowship, what a joy divine<sup>3</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This hymn, authored in 1887 by E. A. Hoffman, was inspired by Deuteronomy 33:27. It is meant to help contemplate what it means to find refuge in our heavenly Father's arms in times of fear and trial, and to allow God's joy and peace to replace our loneliness and anxiety.

# Closing Hymn Lift every voice and sing<sup>4</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This is an African American Jubilee Spiritual which was written by James Weldon Johnson (1900). It is often referred to as the Black national anthem in the United States. The song is a prayer of thanksgiving for faithfulness and freedom for the enslaved voicing a cry for liberation and affirmation for African American people.