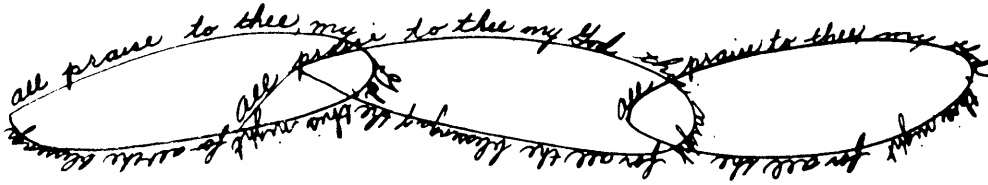


ALL PRAISE TO THEE, MY GOD, THIS NIGHT



ROUNDS ARE FUN: IN MOVEMENT IN SPEAKING IN MUSIC

Divide into four groups. Let each group invent an eight count pattern of movement for one of the four phrases of **ALL PRAISE TO THEE**. Teach the patterns to each other until everyone knows all four phrases in sequence. Try the movement sequences as a **ROUND CANON**, with each group beginning the pattern as the group before them reaches the fourth count of the second measure. Keep the entire sequence going for three consecutive times.

Speak the words as a round, keeping a steady pulse but varying pitch and intensity for each phrase. Then, sing the hymn as a round, adding the movements as you sing. Isn't it fun to do and interesting to watch?

ROUNDS or **CANONS** were one of the earliest forms of music, invented for the purpose of adding interest to the musical compositions of medieval times. Though many forms of polyphonic music have come from the canon, rounds are based on repetitions of the same exact theme, paced to enter at a specific distance behind the first statement of the theme and continuing until each separate entry completes the end of the theme. What rounds have you learned at school or at camp?

The last stanza to Bishop Thomas Ken's **ALL PRAISE TO THEE** and to his morning hymn, "Awake My Soul," and a midnight hymn, "My God, I Now From Sleep Awake" is the same for all three texts: "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" and the other words that you will recognize as the "Doxology" sung in church each Sunday. Sing these Doxology words as a round, using the Tallis' Canon tune. For a really exciting effect, add *movement* in canon style!

Bishop Ken's hymns are important ones to know about. At a time when the Church of England would permit only Psalmody to be used in worship services, Ken's hymns led the way for the kinds of church music we use in worship services today.

Bishop Ken is remembered also for his boldness in reminding King Charles II of his responsibilities to God. When Charles died and James II came to the throne, Ken's boldness caused him to be imprisoned in the Tower of London for a time. His dying wish was that six of the poorest men of the parish should carry him to the grave and that his friends should sing one of his hymns as he was buried. This wish was fulfilled.

Thomas Tallis, the composer of the tune to which **ALL PRAISE TO THEE** is sung, was famous first in 16th century England as the church musician who dared to write harmonizations in "four partes" for the Psalms in John Day's "The Whole Book of Psalmes," published in 1563.

RHYTHMIC CANON is fun too. Try some of these patterns in the form of a round:

While many of us dream about writing magnificent hymns or elaborate symphonic compositions, think how much joy has come through the simple text and tune of **TALLIS' CANON**. And such fun when really sung as a **ROUND**!

1. $\frac{4}{4}$

2.

3.

4.