God Gives Us Himself

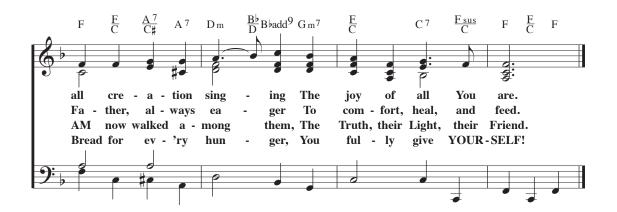
Exodus 13:21; Deuteronomy 8:2-4; Psalm 104:1-2, 27-30; John 6:48-51; 8:12; 10:10; 14:6; Colossians 2:9-10; 2 Peter 1:3-4



Alt. Tune: AURELIA
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MUSIC: Traditional Welsh Melody and Ken Bible



TOPICS: CHRIST HYMNS 1, Old Testament; God's Presence; True Wealth

LEAD-IN: In [Christ] all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

and in Him you have been made complete. (Colossians 2:9-10, NASB)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

God Gives Us Himself

In the creation.

God gave us Himself.

He engulfed us in

His power,

His wisdom.

His eternity,

His love and light and life.

Throughout Israel's forty years in the wilderness,

God gave them Himself.

He Himself was

their constant guidance,

their cloud by day and

pillar of fire by night.

He was

their daily bread,

their water from the rock,

their healer.

their teacher.

their protector,

their unfailing provider.

And when they arrived in the Promised Land,

throughout all their ups and downs,

their blessings and failures,

God gave them Himself.

He was

their Champion,

their leader, and

their source for every need.

Through the law and the prophets,

the tabernacle and the temple,

God did everything He could to immerse them in

His presence and

His goodness.

And then one night,

in the deep darkness,

His centuries-long promise came

beautifully,

unexpectedly true.

All that God is –

almighty,

all-wise,

everlasting,

all-loving

came to them.

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He shared all they were,
minus their sin,
and He shared with them all He is.
He bathed their lives in Himself
in a way they had never
known or imagined.
The All-in-all,
beautiful in holiness,
smiling and
touchable,
was now flesh and blood,
their Brother.
God Himself was now
with them and
for them and
in them
forever.
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