



# All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Designed for children in grades 1-6, contents include:

- Teaching Steps
- Hymn Score
- Author and Composer Information
- Hymn Activities
- Instrumental Descant
- Dramatic Reading

Growing in Grace,  
a division of Celebrating Grace, Inc.

[www.growing-in-grace.com](http://www.growing-in-grace.com)  
(877) 550-7707  
6501 Peake Road, Building 800  
Macon, GA 31210

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## "All Creatures of Our God and King"

Francis of Assisi wrote this hymn in seclusion during the hot summer of 1225. It is a meditation on Psalm 145 and Psalm 148. Francis is known for his love of nature. He saw the hand of God in all creation. The son of a wealthy merchant, he led a carefree, adventurous youth. He eventually rejected his money and happy-go-lucky lifestyle and embraced a life of poverty and service to God and humanity. The anonymous tune from 17th century Germany combines perfectly with the text, calling all living things and the inanimate world to rejoice in the worship of its Creator.

### 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.

### Rich Man - Poor Man

Use this page to present information about Francis of Assisi. Guide children to answer the questions from the story. Tell children that a *canticle* is another name for a song or hymn based on a Bible passage.

### Trinity Maze

Provide copies of Trinity Maze for children to learn the meaning of the word *doxology*.

### "All Creatures of Our God and King" Descant

Perform this descant with bells or Choirchimes®.

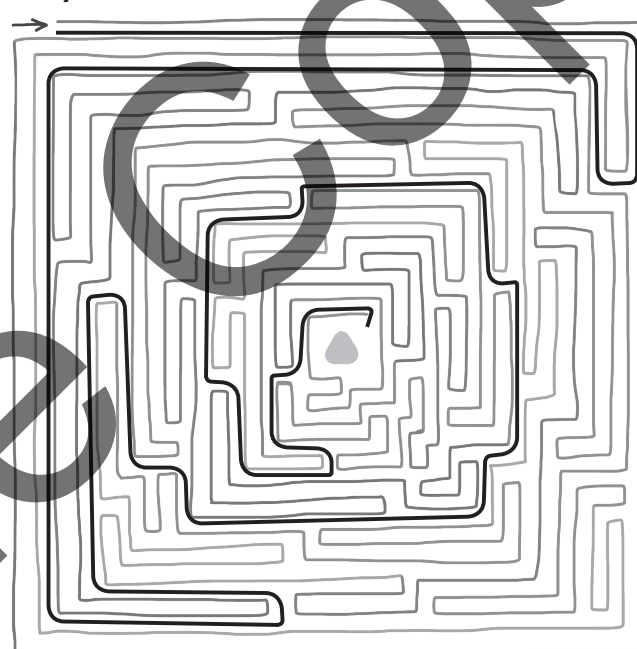
### "Lift Up Your Voice" Dramatic Reading

Enlist and rehearse three readers to present this dramatic reading or reprint it as a responsive reading for the congregation.

### Rich Man - Poor Man Answers:

1. Assisi
2. soldier
3. poverty
4. nature and animals
5. Canticle of the Sun

### Trinity Maze Answers:



DOXOLOGY

# All Creatures of Our God and King

Francis of Assisi  
Trans. by William H. Draper

*Brightly* (♩ = 92)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
*Geistliche Kirchengesäng*  
Arranged by Mark D. Edwards

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff for the piano accompaniment and a single staff for the voice. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'Brightly' with a quarter note equal to 92 beats per minute. The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number (1, 4, 8, 12) at the beginning of the voice staff. The lyrics are written below the voice staff. A large, diagonal 'Sample Copy' watermark is overlaid across the entire page.

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us

4 sing Al - le - lu - ia, al - le lu - ia! Thou burn-ing sun with gold - en

8 beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O — praise Him, O —

12 praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le lu - ia!

# RICH MAN ~ POOR MAN

Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) is one of the most respected religious figures in history. He was born in Assisi, Italy. His father was a successful cloth merchant. Francis grew up leading a life of wealth and luxury. At age 19, the high-spirited Francis decided to become a soldier and go to war. He was soon captured and was held as a prisoner in a dungeon for a year. After enduring imprisonment and a serious illness, Francis rejected his worldly life. Over the angry protest of his father, Francis gave all his money to the church and decided to live a life of poverty. Although he was poor in material possessions, he was rich in joy! He loved God and all God's creation.

Francis was known for his love of nature and animals. He saw all creation as a gift and blessing from God. During the hot summer of 1225, Francis wrote a song titled "Canticle of the Sun." This song was translated and became "All Creatures of Our God and King."

In his song, Francis calls on all creation to praise God. All creatures, the sun, moon, wind, clouds, water, fire, and God's followers are included in the call to praise. The last stanza is a grand doxology in which all creation and the people of God join in praising the Trinity: Our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.



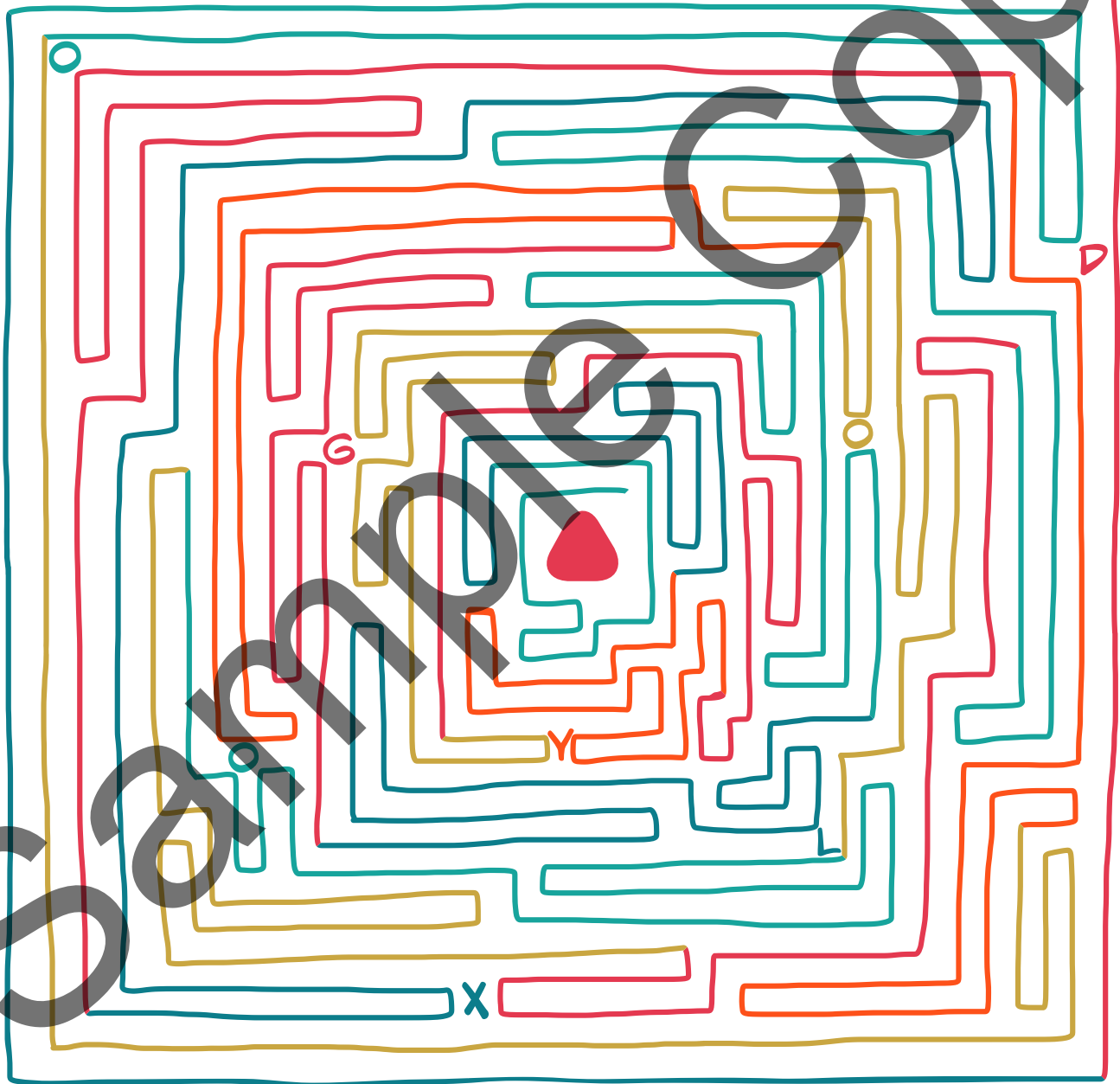
## ANSWER THIS

1. In what city was Francis born?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What did Francis become when he was age 19?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What kind of life did Francis decide to live?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What were the things Francis was known to have loved?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
5. What was the name of the song Francis wrote in 1225?  
\_\_\_\_\_

# TRINITY MAZE

Stanza 5 says, "Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One." To solve the maze, begin at *Start* and find your way to the triangle in the center. As you solve the maze, write each letter you come to in the blanks below and you will discover a special term for any stanza of a hymn that praises the Trinity.

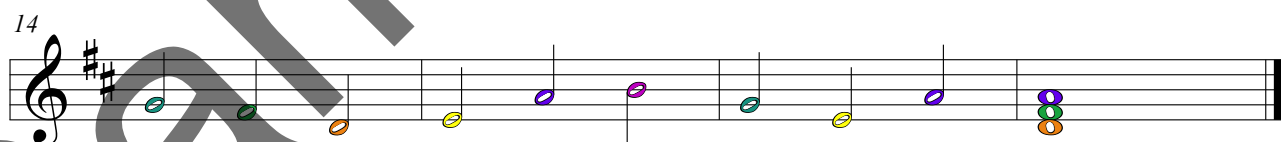
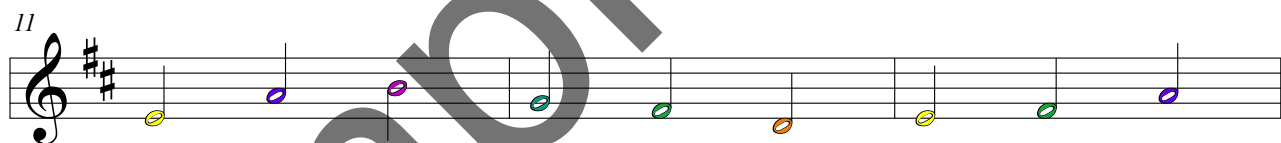
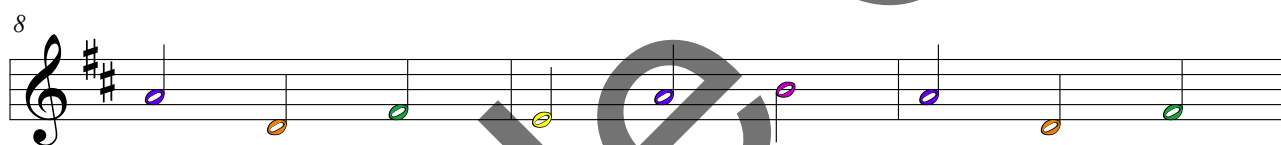
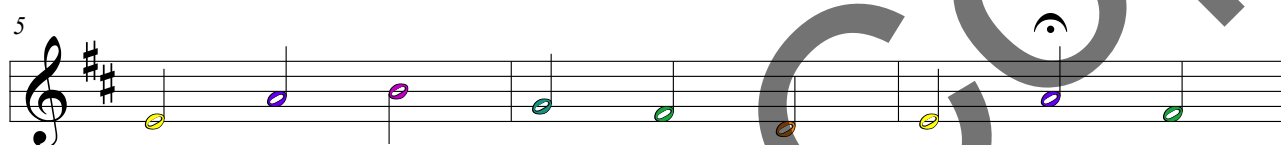
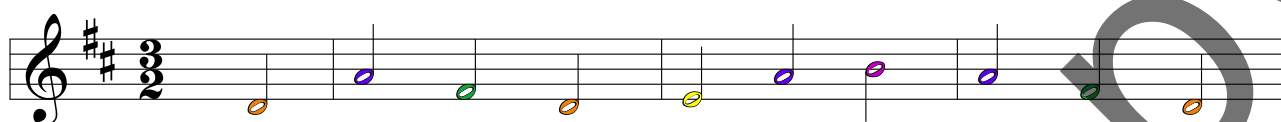
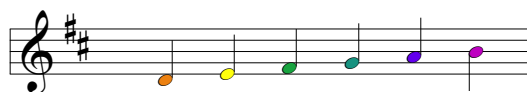
START



# "All Creatures of Our God and King"

## Descant

Pitches needed:



# Lift Up Your Voice!

## Dramatic Reading



Reader 1: Praise God from the heavens; praise God in the heights above.

Reader 2: Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, all you shining stars.

Reader 3: Praise God, highest heavens and waters above the skies.

ALL: Lift up your voice!

Reader 1: Praise God from the earth, all creatures of the ocean depths.

Reader 2: Praise God, mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars.

Reader 3: Praise God, wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds.

ALL: Lift up your voice and sing!

Reader 1: Praise God, you kings of the earth and all nations.

Reader 2: Praise God, you princes and all rulers on earth.

Reader 3: Praise God, young men and women, old men and children.

ALL: Lift up your voice and with us sing!

Reader 1: God's name alone is exalted.

Reader 2: The splendor of the Lord is above the earth and the heavens.

Reader 3: Praise God, all you faithful servants.

ALL: Lift up your voice and with us sing *alleluia*!

*Based on Psalm 148*