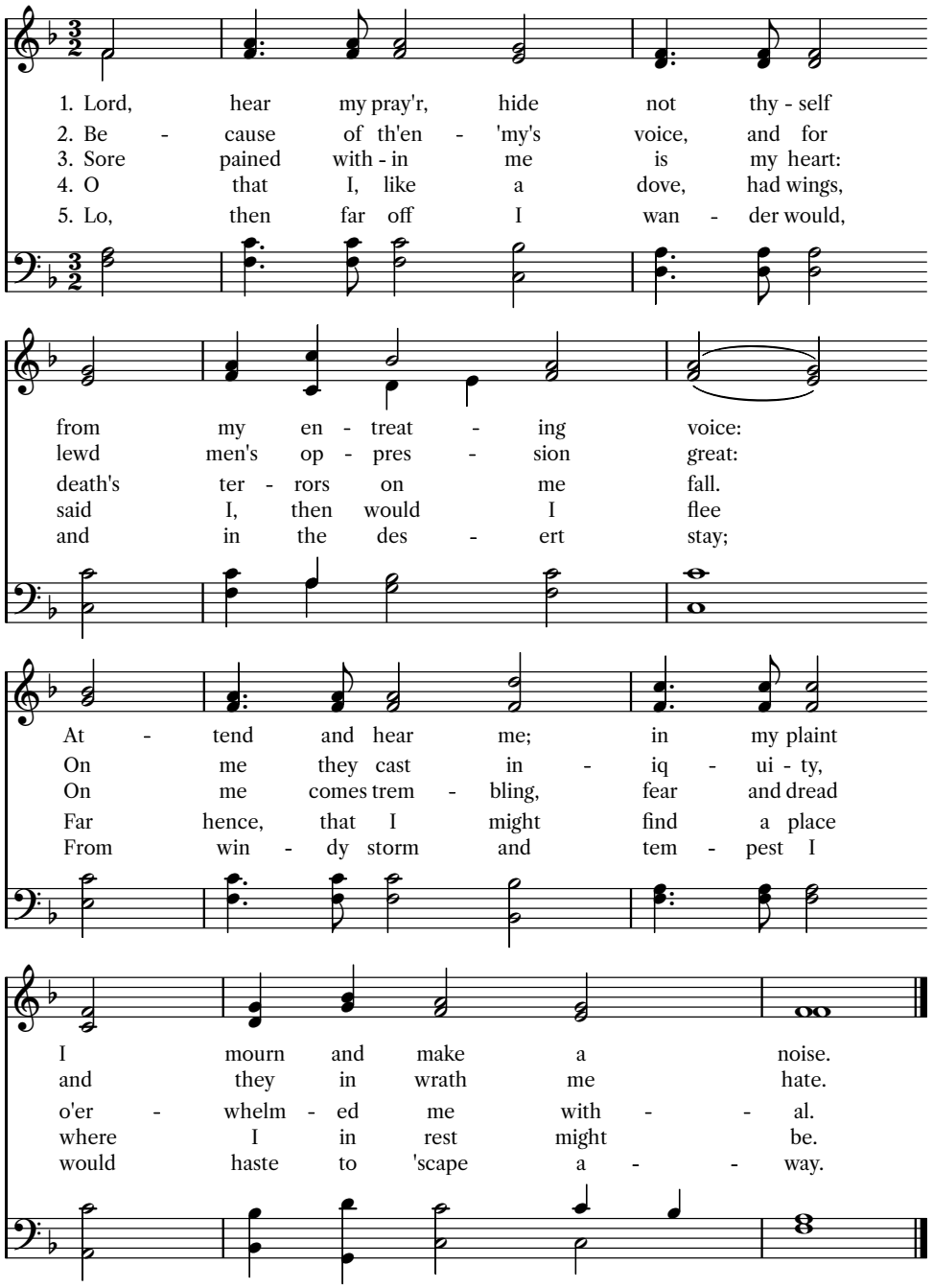Lord, Hear My Pray'r, Hide Not Thyself



6. O Lord, on them destruction bring,
and do their tongues divide;
For in the city violence
and strife I have espied.

7. They day and night upon the walls
do go about it round:
There mischief is, and sorrow there
in midst of it is found.

8. Abundant wickedness there is
within her inward part;
And from her streets deceitfulness
and guile do not depart.

9. He was no foe that me reproached,
then that endure I could;
Nor hater that did 'gainst me boast,
from him me hide I would.

10. But thou, man, who mine equal, guide,
and mine acquaintance wast:
We joined sweet counsels, to God's house
in company we passed.

11. Let death upon them seize, and down
let them go quick to hell;
For wickedness doth much abound
among them where they dwell.

12. I'll call on God: God will me save.
I'll pray, and make a noise
At ev'ning, morning, and at noon;
and he shall hear my voice.

13. He hath my soul delivered,
that it in peace might be
From battle that against me was;
for many were with me.

14. The Lord shall hear, and them afflict,
of old who hath abode:
Because they never changes have,
therefore they fear not God.

15. 'Gainst those that were at peace with him
he hath put forth his hand:
The covenant that he had made,
by breaking he profaned.

16. More smooth than butter were his words,
while in his heart was war;
His speeches were more soft than oil,
and yet drawn swords they are.

17. Cast thou thy burden on the Lord,
and he shall thee sustain;
Yea, he shall cause the righteous man
unmoved to remain.

18. But thou, O Lord my God, those men
in justice shalt o'erthrow,
And in destruction's dungeon dark
at last shalt lay them low:

19. The bloody and deceitful men
shall not live half their days:
But upon thee with confidence
I will depend always.

Scottish Psalter, 1650

ARLINGTON C.M.
Thomas Augustine Arne, 1762