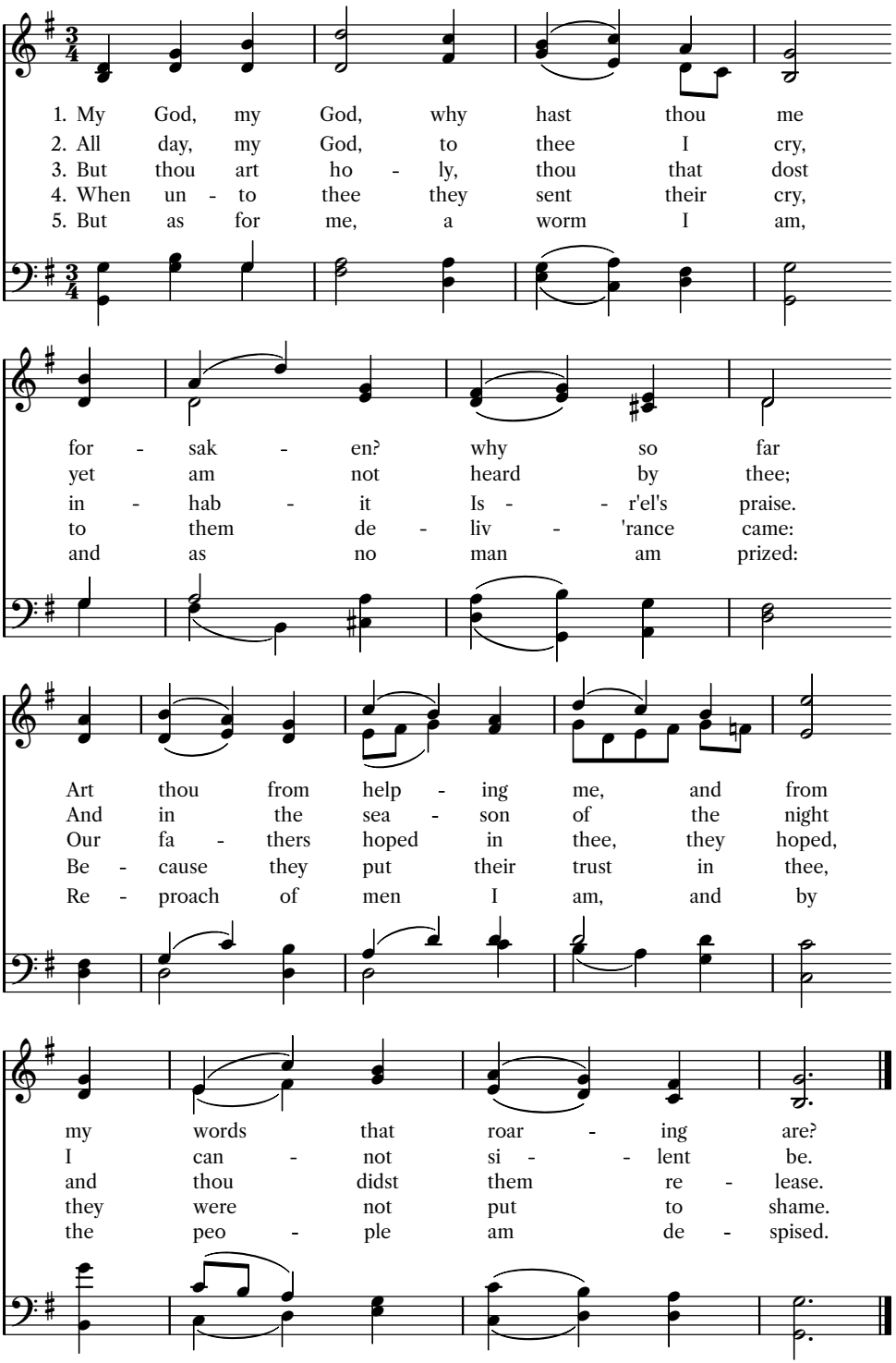My God, My God, Why Hast Thou Me



6. All that me see laugh me to scorn;
shoot out the lip do they;
They nod and shake their heads at me,
and, mocking, thus do say,

7. This man did trust in God, that he
would free him by his might:
Let him deliver him, sith he
had in him such delight.

8. But thou art he out of the womb
that didst me safely take;
When I was on my mother's breasts
thou me to hope didst make.

9. And I was cast upon thy care,
ev'n from the womb till now;
And from my mother's belly, Lord,
my God and guide art thou.

10. Be not far off, for grief is near,
and none to help is found.
Bulls many compass me, strong bulls
of Bashan me surround.

11. Their mouths they opened wide on me,
upon me gape did they,
Like to a lion ravening
and roaring for his prey.

12. Like water I'm poured out, my bones
all out of joint do part:
Amidst my bowels, as the wax,
so melted is my heart.

13. My strength is like a potsherd dried;
my tongue it cleaveth fast
Unto my jaws; and to the dust
of death thou brought me hast.

14. For dogs have compassed me about:
the wicked, that did meet
In their assembly, me inclosed;
they pierced my hands and feet.

15. I all my bones may tell; they do
upon me look and stare.
Upon my vesture lots they cast,
and clothes among them share.

16. But be not far, O Lord, my strength;
haste to give help to me.
From sword my soul, from pow'r of dogs
my darling set thou free.

17. Out of the roaring lion's mouth
do thou me shield and save:
For from the horns of unicorns
an ear to me thou gave.

18. I will show forth thy name unto
those that my brethren are;
Amidst the congregation
thy praise I will declare.

19. Praise ye the Lord, who do him fear;
him glorify all ye
The seed of Jacob: fear him all
that Isr'el's children be.

20. For he despised not nor abhorred
th' afflicted's misery;
Nor from him hid his face, but heard
when he to him did cry.

21. Within the congregation great
my praise shall be of thee;
My vows before them that him fear
shall be performed by me.

22. The meek shall eat, and shall be filled;
they also praise shall give
Unto the Lord that do him seek:
your heart shall ever live.

23. All ends of th' earth remember shall,
and turn the Lord unto;
All kindreds of the nations
to him shall homage do:

24. Because the kingdom to the Lord
doth appertain as his;
Likewise among the nations
the Governor he is.

25. Earth's fat ones eat, and worship shall:
all who to dust descend
Shall bow to him; none of them can
his soul from death defend.

26. A seed shall service do to him;
unto the Lord it shall
Be for a generation
reckoned in ages all.

27. They shall come, and they shall declare
his truth and righteousness
Unto a people yet unborn,
and that he hath done this.

Scottish Psalter, 1650

RICHMOND C.M.
Thomas Haweis, 1792