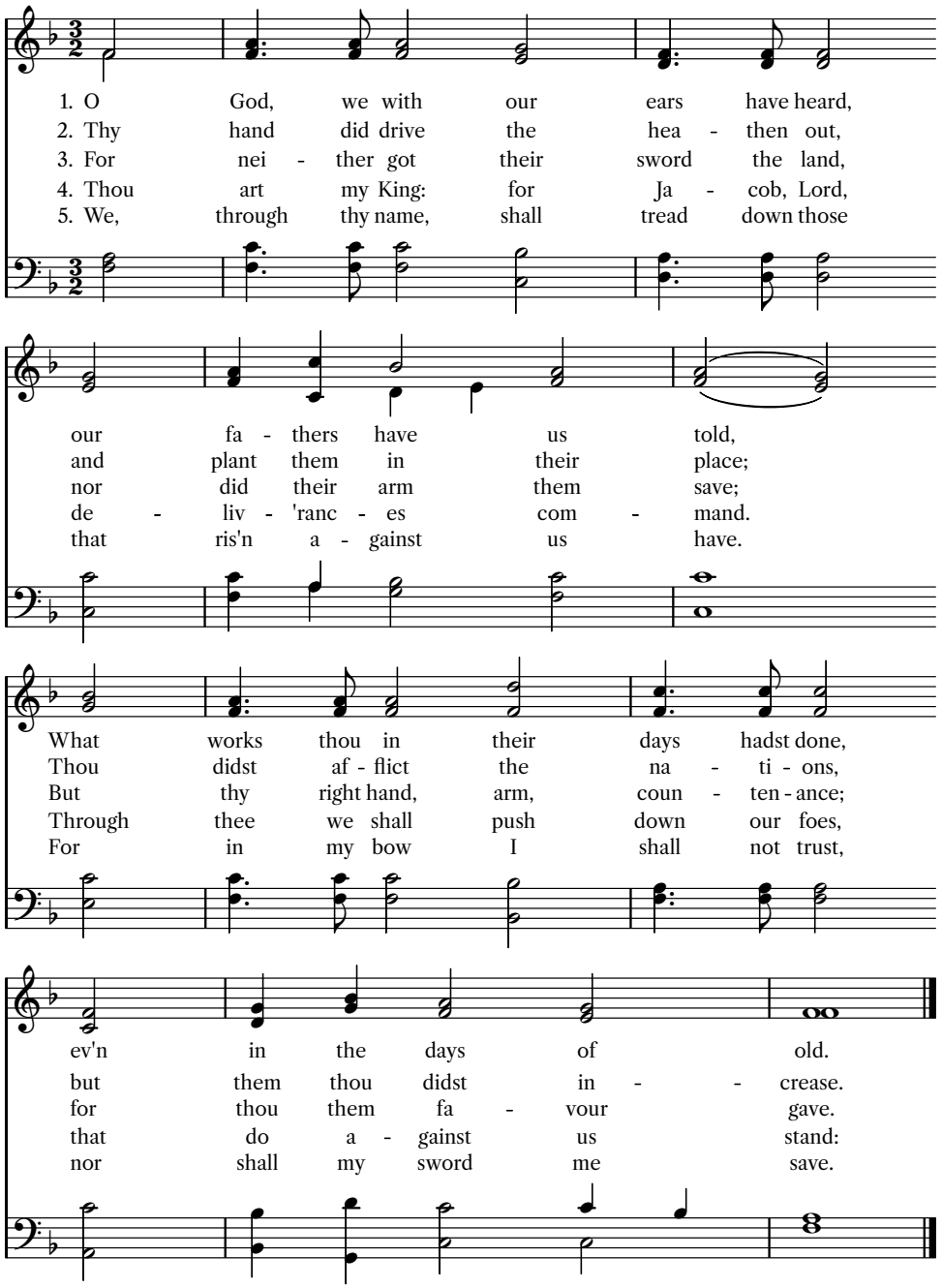O God, We with Our Ears Have Heard



6. But from our foes thou hast us saved,
our haters put to shame.
In God we all the day do boast,
and ever praise thy name.

7. But now we are cast off by thee,
and us thou putt'st to shame;
And when our armies do go forth,
thou goest not with the same.

8. Thou mak'st us from the enemy,
faint-hearted, to turn back;
And they who hate us for themselves
our spoils away do take.

9. Like sheep for meat thou gavest us;
'mong heathen cast we be.
Thou didst for nought thy people sell;
their price enriched not thee.

10. Thou mak'st us a reproach to be
unto our neighbours near;
Derision and a scorn to them
that round about us are.

11. A by-word also thou dost us
among the heathen make;
The people, in contempt and spite,
at us their heads do shake.

12. Before me my confusion
continually abides;
And of my bashful countenance
the shame me ever hides:

13. For voice of him that doth reproach,
and speaketh blasphemy;
By reason of th' avenging foe,
and cruel enemy.

14. All this is come on us, yet we
have not forgotten thee;
Nor falsely in thy covenant
behaved ourselves have we.

15. Back from thy way our heart not turned;
our steps no straying made;
Though us thou brak'st in dragons' place,
and cover'dst with death's shade.

16. If we God's name forgot, or stretched
to a strange god our hands,
Shall not God search this out? for he
heart's secrets understands.

17. Yea, for thy sake we're killed all day,
counted as slaughter-sheep.
Rise, Lord, cast us not ever off;
awake, why dost thou sleep?

18. O wherefore hidest thou thy face?
forgett'st our cause distressed,
And our oppression? For our soul
is to the dust down pressed:

19. Our belly also on the earth
fast cleaving, hold doth take.
Rise for our help, and us redeem,
ev'n for thy mercies' sake.

Scottish Psalter, 1650

ARLINGTON C.M.
Thomas Augustine Arne, 1762