Come Sing to God (Psalm 30)

1. Come sing to God, O living saints; sing praises to God’s name.
2. In my success I felt secure; how good you’ve been to me.
3. What good is gained by my disgrace, what profit in defeat?
4. You change my grief to joy-filled dance; my sorrows you destroy.

God’s anger is not permanent; God’s love will never wane.
I said that this is my own work, assigning all to me.
My grave cannot confess your name, nor praise for you repeat.
In faithfulness you hear my cry and fill my life with joy.

Though tears may tarry for the night with sighs of deepest pain,
But when you turned aside your face, my life was filled with tears.
Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry; be merciful to me.
And so to you my heart shall sing; my voice your goodness raise.

Yet joy comes with the morning sun, a peace that is not vain.
I begged for help; to you I cried with loud and bitter tears.
Accept my longings heart’s request and from death set me free.
You are my God, forevermore. My life shall sing your praise.

In effect, the first stanza of this paraphrase of Psalm 30 states the general truth that has been learned from the personal experience described in the last three stanzas. It is set to an 18th-century German tune brought into use with English hymnody in the 19th century.