

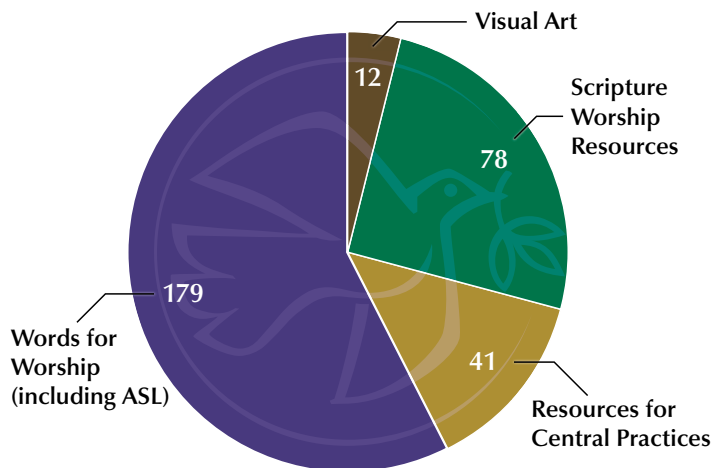
GUIDE TO ADOPTING

VOICES
Together

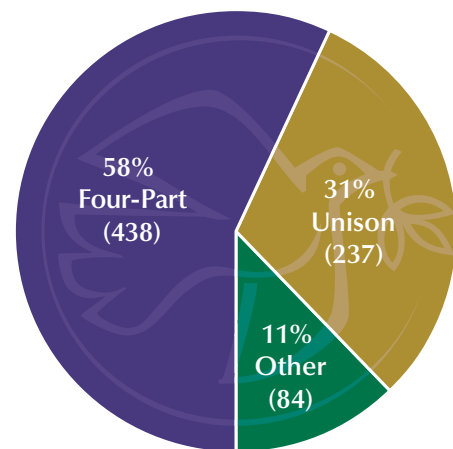


What's in *Voices Together*?

Worship resources



What is the breakdown of voicing?



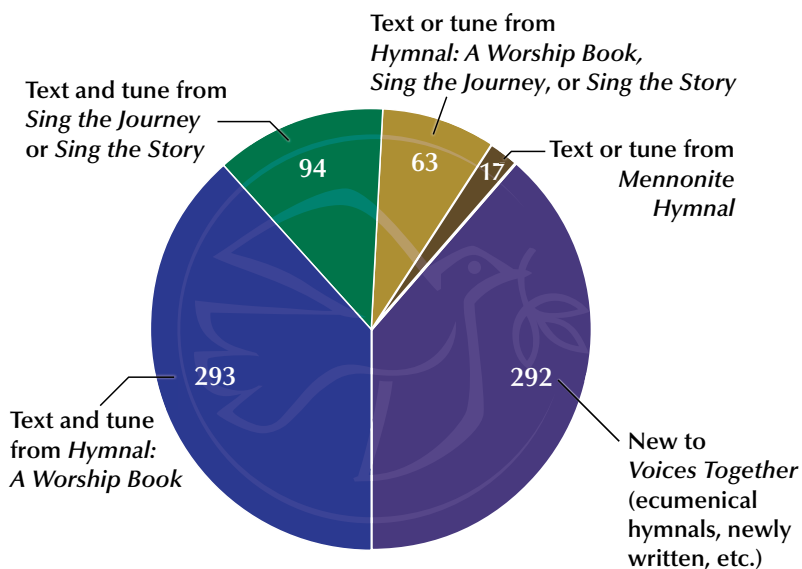
Worship resources facts

- Total worship resources: 310
- Worship resources in languages other than English: 9 in Spanish, 4 in French, 1 in German, and 1 resource that includes 22 languages
- Resources come from 6 continents
- Some 13 worship resources date from the 1500s; 15 come from before 1500
- Worship resources for schools, camps, hospitals, homes, community vigils, meetings, and more

Voices Together includes many images of God

- “We Worship God the Rock” (#424), 2 Samuel 22:2-3
- “Womb of Life and Source of Being” (#112) and “O God, Great Womb” (#176), Job 38
- “Everlasting God” (#981), Psalm 46
- “My Lighthouse” (#597), Psalm 107:28-30 and Luke 1:79
- “O Everlasting Love” (#733), Matthew 11:28-30
- “God Lights a Lamp” (#299), Luke 15:8-10
- “Gardener God” (#1002), John 15:1

Where do the songs come from?

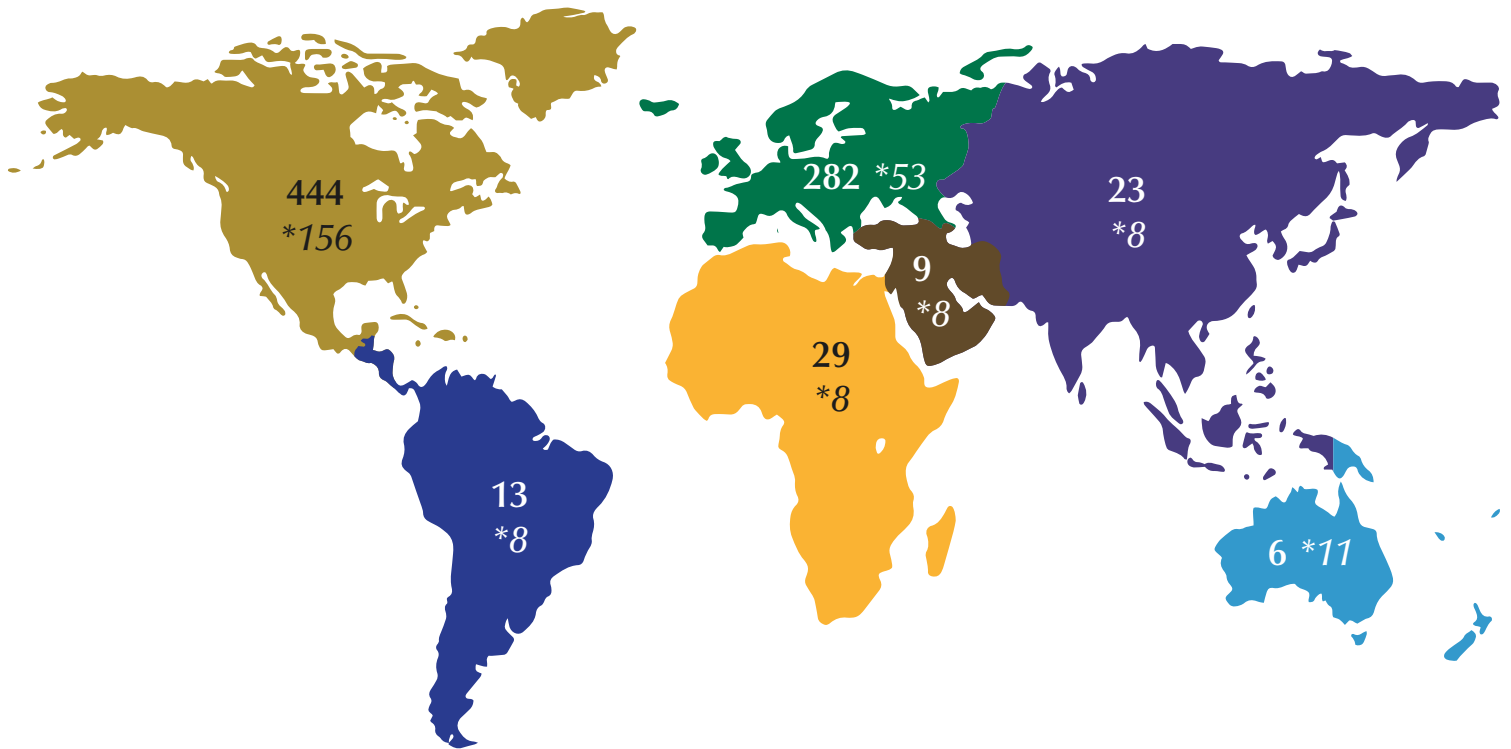


Anabaptist contributors

- 131 songs with text or tune (or both) by an Anabaptist contributor
- 80 individual Anabaptists contributed text or tune
- 110 worship resources from Anabaptist sources
- More than 50 individual Anabaptists contributed words for worship or visual art

Geographic origins of songs and worship resources

* indicates worship resources



Heart song survey

Over the past several years, Mennonite congregations in North America were surveyed about songs that are meaningful for them.

Top songs from *Hymnal: A Worship Book, Sing the Journey, Sing the Story*

- "Be Thou My Vision"
- "My Life Flows On"
- "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"
- "When Peace like A River"
- "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
- "Nothing Is Lost on the Breath of God"
- "In the Bulb There Is a Flower"
- "What Is This Place"
- "Guide My Feet"

Top songs from beyond *Hymnal: A Worship Book, Sing the Journey, Sing the Story*

- "How Great Thou Art"
- "10,000 Reasons"
- "Be Still My Soul"
- "In Christ Alone"
- "Build Your Kingdom Here"
- "Easter Anthem"

Worship resources top requests

- Generous God, you gave us life (*HWB* #751)
- Creemos en Dios Padre todopoderoso (We believe in God, the Father Almighty) (*STJ* #135)

Guide to indexes:

The back of the book holds the best-kept secrets!

First Lines and Common Titles Indexes

- Start here to find your favorite songs and worship resources

Contributors Index

- Find out which items were written by Anabaptists
- Anonymous songs are identified by region or cultural tradition

Metrical Index

- Use this if you want to find a familiar tune for a new text

Tune Index

- Discover additional texts paired with a tune you love

Scriptural Allusions and References Index

- Find a fitting song or worship resource for specific Scripture passages

Topics and Uses in Worship Index

- Find items that connect to topics, origins, seasons, and days of the Christian year

Non-English Languages Index

- Find songs and worship resources in a variety of languages

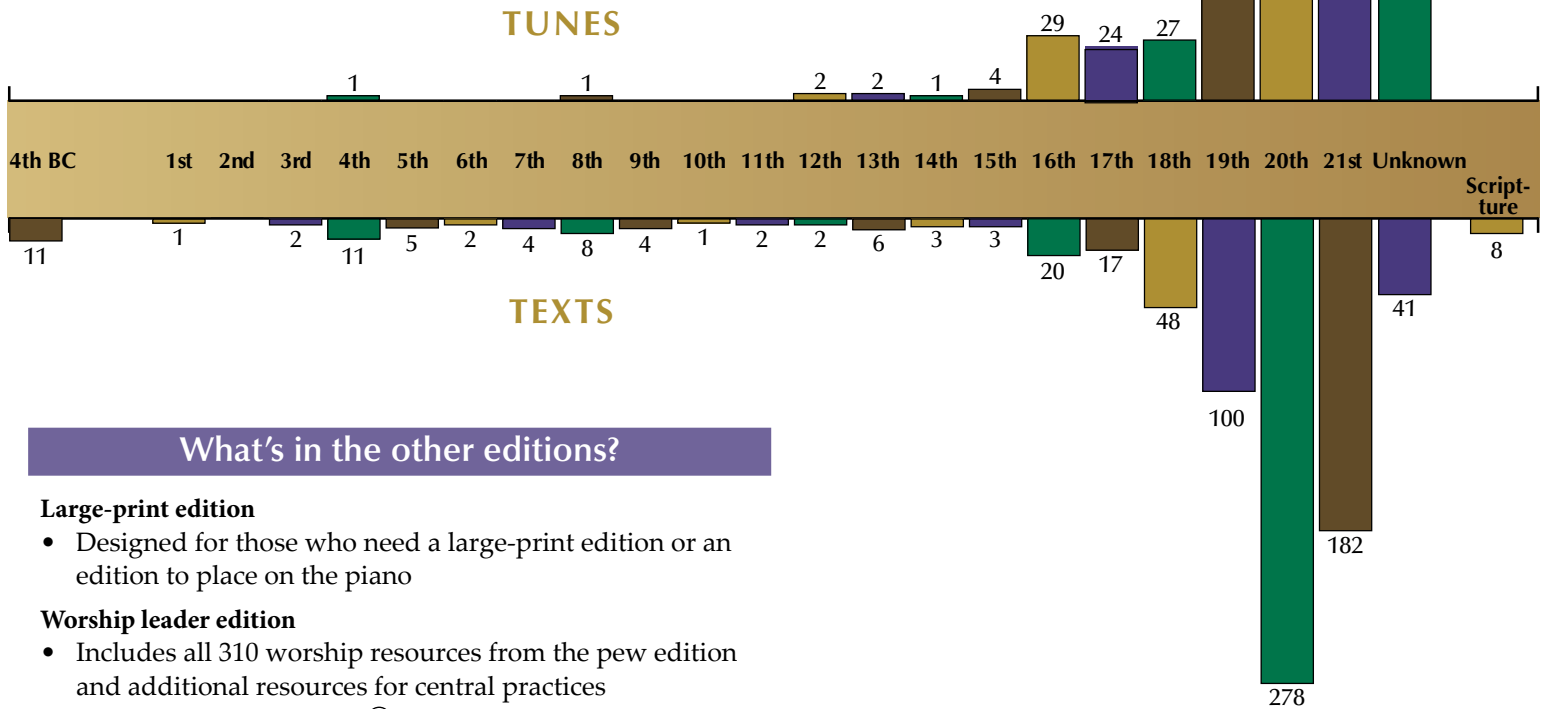
Copyright Holders Index

- Find information on copyright holders for reproducing, projecting, and streaming

What languages are represented?

English 740	Arabic 7	Cheyenne 3	Shona 2	Guarani 1	Sotho 1
Spanish 49	Hebrew 5	Indonesian 3	Urdu 2	Hmong 1	Telegu 1
German 23	Korean 4	Mandarin 3	Cantonese 1	Khmer 1	Thai 1
Swahili 17	Xhosa 4	Japanese 2	Catalan 1	Kiowa 1	Tonga 1
French 13	Zulu 4	Lao 2	Chin 1	Marathi 1	Tshiluba 1
Latin 13	American Sign Language 3	Lingala 2	Dakota 1	Muscogee 1	Twi 1
Greek 8		Navajo 2	Dutch 1	Norwegian 1	
		Portuguese 2	Filipino 1		

Timeline of tunes and texts



What's in the other editions?

Large-print edition

- Designed for those who need a large-print edition or an edition to place on the piano

Worship leader edition

- Includes all 310 worship resources from the pew edition and additional resources for central practices
- 65 companion resources @
 - Artist statements for the 12 works of visual art
 - Ideas for how to use readings and prayers
- 104 essays on practical topics related to worship planning

Accompaniment edition

- Short reference notes and musical accompaniment for 345 songs in the pew edition—for keyboard, voice, guitar, percussion, brass, woodwinds, and strings 🎧
- 28 essays on topics such as leading songs with a band, centering relationships in intercultural worship, using short songs in worship, and more

Projection edition

- Files for songs with full notations and lyrics only
- Worship resources
- Easily compatible with church projection software

App version for iOS devices

- The pew edition, accompaniment edition, and worship leader edition are available as in-app purchases via the free Hymnals app
- Allows users to create and save their own service lists, zoom to enlarge, and quickly search by title or number

- Purchasing a separate Bluetooth foot pedal allows hands-free page turning
- Currently available for iOS phones and iPads as well as Android tablets, although the Android tablet app is being phased out

Audio recordings

- 70 songs from 6 different ensembles across Canada and the U.S.
- Four albums available individually or as a complete set
- Downloads available through iTunes as well as the MennoMedia webstore, or purchase the CDs
- Recordings can help teach songs and provide music before or after a service

Voices Together website

- 70 additional reference notes on individual songs 📖
- Teaching videos
- Blog posts about committee process
- Indexes
- Faith formation curricula
- Infographics

Prayer of Dedication

Invite participants to rest a hand on a copy of Voices Together while joining in this prayer of dedication.

Leader: As we dedicate *Voices Together*,

All: *we join our voices*

Leader: with the voices of those who taught us to sing and pray:
friends, family, church communities,
those who stand beside us, and those we have never met.

All: *We join our voices*

Leader: with the voices of those who go before us in faith:
16th-century Anabaptists and medieval mystics,
20th-century activists and early communities of Jesus-followers.

All: *We join our voices*

Leader: with the voices of those we know from Scripture:
Paul and Silas in prison, Mary overcome with joy,
Miriam and Moses, psalmists, and prophets.

All: *We join our voices*

Leader: with the voices of those who speak, and sing, and sign in many languages,
in communities large and small, urban and rural, emerging and established,
in many expressions of worship and music.

Leader: And when we struggle to join our voices, we pray:

All: *for patience as we learn new ways of worship and song,
for understanding when we encounter the unexpected,
for forgiveness when we rush to judgment,
for wisdom in choosing what and how much to attempt,
for courage to take risks and to fail,
for faith that we are held in God's grace,
for hope that we can grow together as the body of Christ,
for love of God and neighbor strengthened and expressed
through worship and song.*

Leader: With gratitude:

All: *We give thanks to God*

Leader: for poets, composers, and visual artists
who help us sing and pray in ways that are both familiar and new
about changing realities and eternal truths.

All: *We give thanks to God*

Leader: for committees, denominations, and publishers,
volunteers, supporters, and donors,
for the hundreds of people
and the tens of thousands of decisions
that create a hymnal and worship book.

All: *We give thanks to God*

Leader: for the communities of worship and song that surround us,
filling our hearts, stretching our minds,
moving our bodies, and stirring our spirits.

All: *We give thanks to God for Voices Together*

Leader: and dedicate these books and the worship they support
to the glory of God, in Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: *Amen.*

5 TIPS FOR RECEIVING VOICES TOGETHER



www.VoicesTogetherHymnal.org
To order *Voices Together*, call 1-800-245-7894

01 Form an implementation team

Organize dedication activities, plan hymn sings, prioritize songs to introduce, and make sure worship leaders and musicians have access to all the *Voices Together* products. Include a pastor, musicians, worship planners, Sunday school teachers and youth leaders, and people to work on web and print communications.

02 Reflect on your community

Acknowledge the range of responses to a new hymnal: excitement and curiosity about new material, grief over letting go of some familiar songs, and the challenge of the unfamiliar. Consider how to invite different groups into the process, across age, language, musical ability, and worship preferences.

03 Set realistic goals

Prioritize which worship resources to use, and introduce only a handful of new songs each month. Continue to sing the songs your congregation knows and loves, and introduce a new song instrumentally or as other special music to help people become familiar. See the worship leader edition for more helpful ideas.

04 Explore additional resources

The accompaniment edition and worship leader edition have supplemental resources for musicians and leaders. The app edition, projection edition, and audio recordings help congregations worship both at home and together. VoicesTogetherHymnal.org hosts teaching videos, history, event information, and more. Also visit AnabaptistWorship.net and TogetherInWorship.net for ideas and support.

05 Get everyone involved

Create opportunities for everyone to become familiar with *Voices Together*. Look at the book. Listen to recordings. Have people of all ages read, lead, or respond to the songs, prayers, Scripture readings, and artwork. Create opportunities for discussion and exploration within and outside of worship.