

God Gave the Ten Commandments

The following hymn is a very loose paraphrase of Hymn 331 (LW) which can be sung to a variety of hymn tunes. It may be used as follows:

1. As 12 separate stanzas sung to *Christus, der ist mein Leben* (LW 287)
2. The hymn may be shortened into 6 stanzas by combining stanzas 1 & 2, 3 & 4, 5 & 6, etc. and singing them to any 76 76 D hymn tune such as *Aurelia* (LW 289), *Missionary Hymn* (LW 320), or *Munich* (LW 366)
3. It may also be used on consecutive Sundays by combining stanzas 1 and 2 and stanzas 11 and 12 and singing them in manner described in 2 above. Then on each consecutive Sunday replace stanza 2 with the remaining stanzas, always using stanza 1 at the beginning and stanzas 11 and 12 at the close of the hymn.

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| 1. God gave the Ten Commandments
On Sinai long ago
Unto His servant Moses
So man His ways would know. | 7. Be faithful in your marriage,
No straying thought allow,
Let purity and honour
Guide every wedding vow. |
| 2. No other gods before Me
Shall occupy your mind
Fear, love and trust Me solely
All idols leave behind. | 8. You must not take possession
By theft or false deceit.
The blessings I have given
As stewards true receive. |
| 3. My holy name now honour
Do not My Word debase
Your lips speak truth and ever
Be filled with thanks and praise. | 9. You shall not give false witness
Nor slander or defame
Another's reputation,
But help him guard his name. |
| 4. The Sabbath Day remember
That peace may fill your home,
Armed with My Word and blessing
You'll see My kingdom come. | 10. Embrace no wrong desire
Your neighbour's goods to get
Content as I have blessed you
On this your heart be set. |
| 5. You must obey and honour
Your parents, masters too,
They rule with My permission
To do what's best for you. | 11. This law will show you clearly
How sinful you have been
In thoughts and words and actions—
God's love you cannot win. |
| 6. Curb anger, do not murder
Hate not, seek no revenge,
Be patient, kind and gentle
Your neighbour's life defend | 12. Lord Jesus, help us always
You are our go-between
Our works will always fail us
Your Work alone redeems! |