

♪♪♪ Hymn ♪♪♪

DESCANTS

For the Anglican

and

United Churches

of Canada

† † †

Composed by

J. Robert Rix Mus.Bac., B.Ed.

About Descants

A descant is a counter melody written above the original melody. Its main purpose is to enhance the original melody without overpowering it. It heightens the effectiveness of the worship experience by adding a sense of climax and joy to the hymn.

Above all remember that a descant is an aid to the worship experience and is never to be used as a "holier-than-thou" stunt.

It is most effective when used with the last stanza where it provides a suitable climax; typically not used on the first stanza.

In a choir the sopranos typically sing the descant. However, it may be more effective if sung using the syllable "Ah" as this can create a sustained, soaring effect. The descant can also be sung by a solo voice against the chorus or played via instrumentation (flute or trumpet or organ, for example).

Always remember that the descant tune should be subservient to the original tune.

**Descants are written for hymns from
the following books as noted:**

RED BOOK:

The Hymn Book of the
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
and the
UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA (1971)

BLUE BOOK:

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAISE
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA (1938)



J. Robert Rix 1933-2010

J. ROBERT "BOB" RIX was born and raised in the Brampton area where he attended elementary and high school. He held degrees in music from the University of Toronto. His career was as a high school teacher, and he was a church organist since the age of twelve.

He resided in Wiarton, Ontario, conducted the Saugeen Bach Chamber Choir and was organist at St. Thomas Anglican Church, Owen Sound.

Robert "Bob" Rix died September 19, 2010

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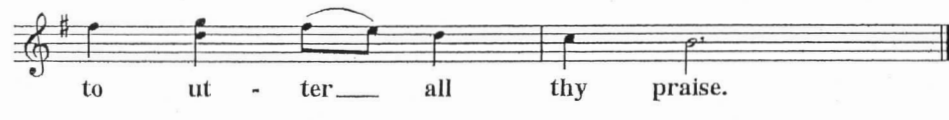
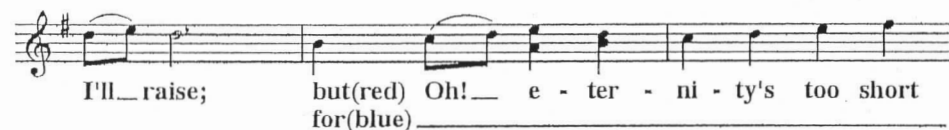
- 9 *Let There Be Light*
Let Us with a Gladsome Mind
- 10 *O, Come, All Ye Faithful*
Once in Royal David's City
- 11 *On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry*
O Worship the King
- 12 *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*
Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty
- 13 *When All thy Mercies*
Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven



When All they Mercies

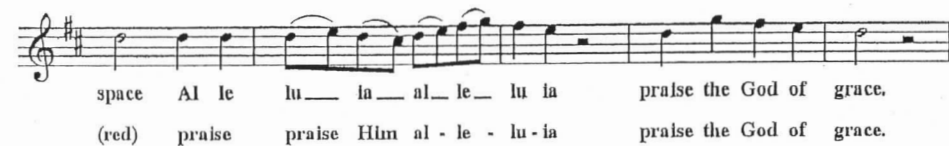
DESCANT: ST. STEPHEN

#207 RED BOOK, VERSE 4;
 #381 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 5.



Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

#30 RED BOOK, VERSE 5
 #353 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 4



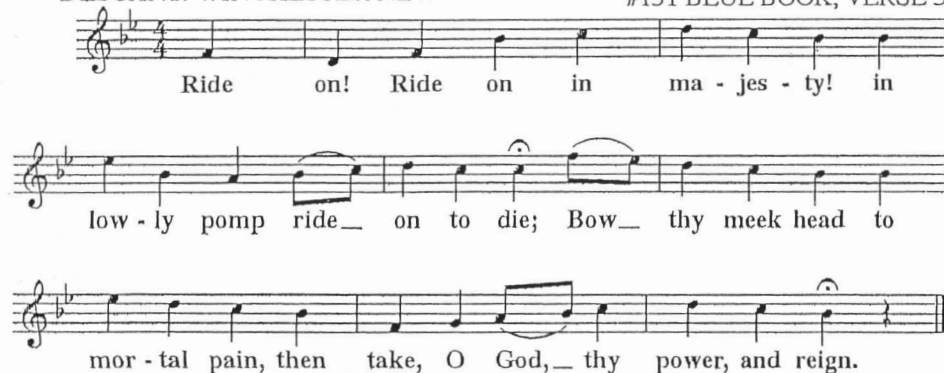
Rejoice, the Lord Is King
DESCANT: DARWALL #44 RED BOOK, VERSE 5



5. Re - joice in glor - ious hope; Je -
sus the judge shall come and take his ser - vants
up to their e - ter - nal home: we
soon shall hear th'arch an - gel's voice the
trump of God shall sound, Re - joice.

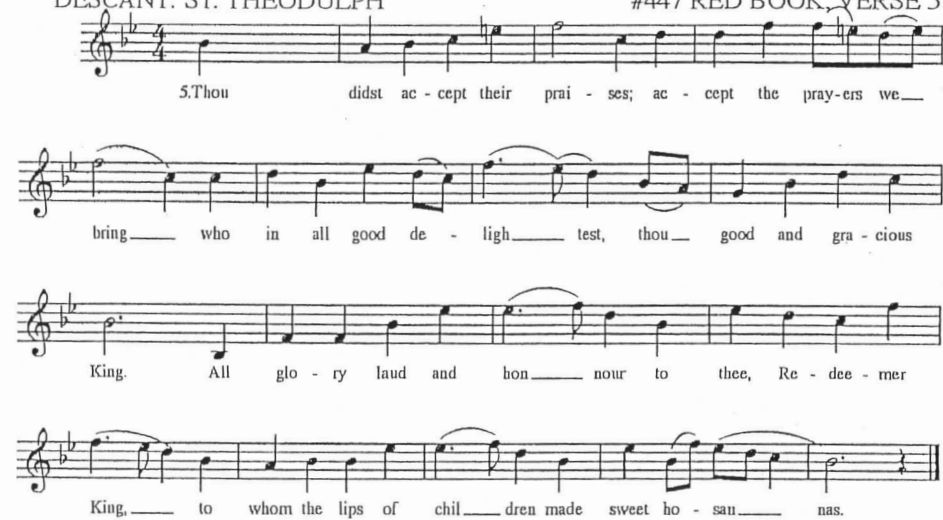
Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty

DESCANT: WINCHESTER NEW #449 RED BOOK, VERSE 5
#131 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 5



Ride on! Ride on in ma - jes - ty! in
low - ly pomp ride on to die; Bow thy meek head to
mor - tal pain, then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

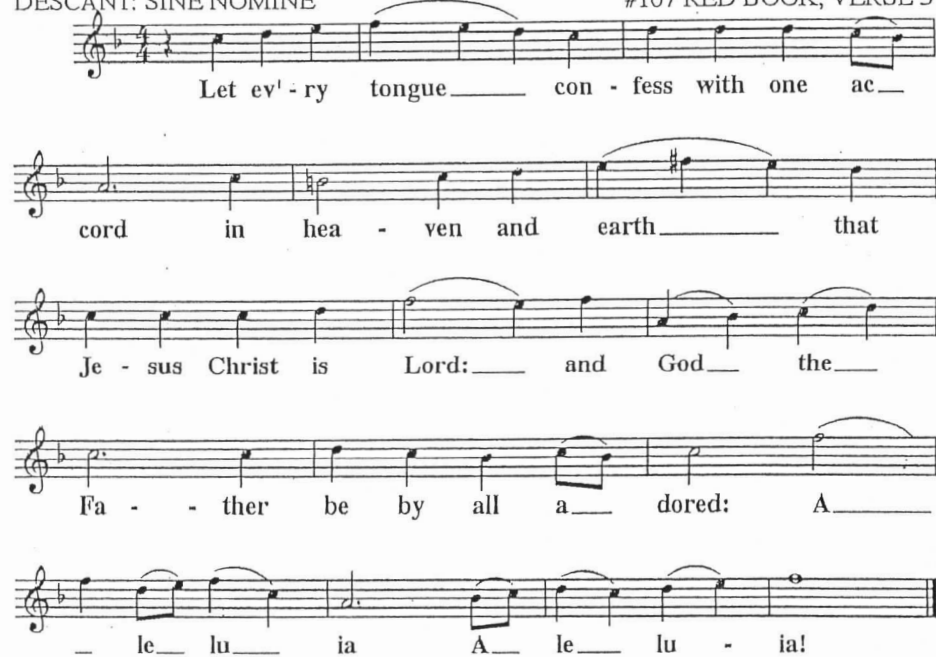
All Glory, Laud and Honour
DESCANT: ST. THEODULPH #447 RED BOOK, VERSE 5



5. Thou didst ac - cept their prai - ses; ac - cept the pray - ers we
bring who in all good de - ligh test, thou good and gra - cious
King. All glo - ry laud and hon - our to thee, Re - dee - mer
King, to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas.

All Praise to Thee

DESCANT: SINE NOMINE #107 RED BOOK, VERSE 5



Let ev' - ry tongue con - fess with one ac -
cord in hea - ven and earth that
Je - sus Christ is Lord: and God the
Fa - - ther be by all a - dored: A
- le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia!

Away in a Manger

DESCANT: CRADLE SONG

#419 RED BOOK, VERSE 3

Hum or words

Be near me Lord Je sus I
ask you to stay close by me for
e - ver and love me I pray. Bless
all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der
care, and fit us for hea - ven to
live with you there.

Bright the Vision That Delighted

DESCANT: REDHEAD

#43 RED BOOK; #369 BLUE BOOK: VERSE 6

Lord, thy glo - ry fills the hea - ven Earth is with its
ful - ness stored: Un - to Thee be glo - ry gi - ven.
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord. A - - - men.

On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry

DESCANT: WINCHESTER NEW

#391 RED BOOK, VERSE 5

#67 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 5

All Praise E - ter - nal Son to thee whose
Ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free, whom with the Fa - ther
we a - dore and Ho - ly Ghost for e - ver more.

O Worship the King

DESCANT: HANOVER

#27 RED BOOK; #360 BLUE BOOK: VERSES 4 & 6

4. Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re -
6. O meas - ure - less might, in - eff - a - ble
cite? It breathes in the air, It shines in the
Love, while an - gels de - light to hymn thee a -
light; It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the
bove, the hum - bler cre - a - tion though fee - ble their
plain, and sweet - ly dis - tils in the dew and the rain.
lays, with true a - dor - a - tion shall sing to thy praise.

O, Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

#415 RED BOOK, VERSES 3 & 5



3. Sing choirs of an— gels sing in ex-ul— ta— tion.
 5. Yea, Lord we greet— thee, born this hap-py— mor— ning;
 Sing all ye ci— ti— zens of Hea— ven a— bo— ve.
 Je— sus to thee— be glo— ry— gi— ven;
 Glo— ry to Go— d in— the— high— est O
 word of the Fa— ther now— in flesh ap— pear— ing; O
 come let us a— dore him, O come let us a— dore Him, O
 come let us a— dore him, O come let us a— dore him, O
 come let us a— dore— him,— Chri— st the Lord.
 come let us a— dore— him,— Chri— st the Lord.

Once in Royal David's City

DESCANT: IRBY

#112 RED BOOK, VERSE 4; #733 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 6

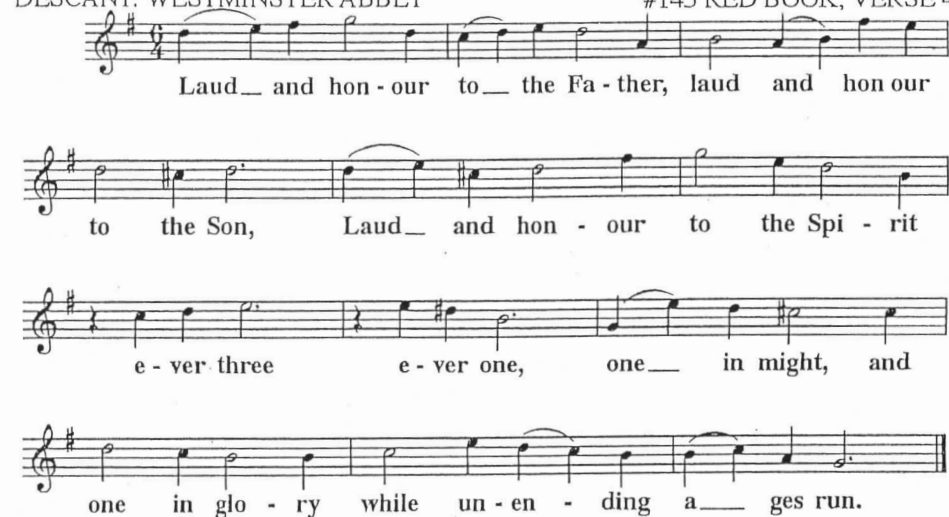


Not in— that poor low— ly— sta ble, with the—
 ox— en stan ding by. We shall see him; but in
 hea— ven, set at— God's right hand on high; when like
 stars— his chil— dren crowned. All in white— shall wait a— round

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

DESCANT: WESTMINSTER ABBEY

#145 RED BOOK, VERSE 4



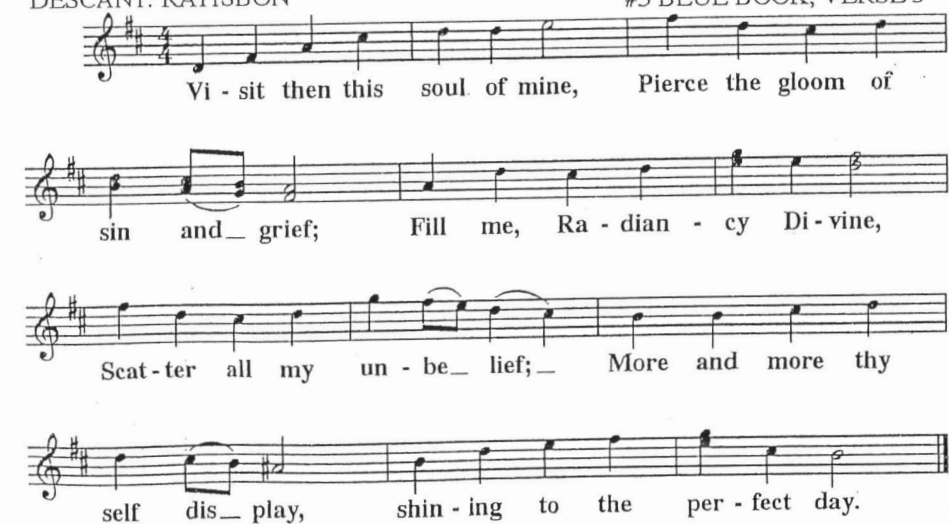
Laud— and hon— our to— the Fa— ther, laud and hon our
 to the Son, Laud— and hon— our to the Spi— rit
 e— ver three e— ver one, one— in might, and
 one in glo— ry while un— en— ding a— ges run.

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

DESCANT: RATISBON

#362 RED BOOK, VERSE 3

#5 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 3



Vi— sit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of
 sin and— grief; Fill me, Ra— dian— cy Di— vine,
 Scat— ter all my un— be— lief;— More and more thy
 self dis— play, shin— ing to the per— fect day.

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#389 RED BOOK, VERSE 4
#548 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 4

DESCANT: STUTTGART

By thine own e - ter - nal spi - rit
rule our hearts a - lone.
By thine all suf - fi - cient me - rit
raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Come Ye Thankful People Come (Harvest Home)

DESCANT: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR

#384 RED BOOK, VERSE 4

4. E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal
har - vest home. Ga - ther Thou Thy peo - ple in,
free from sor - row, free from sin; there for - e - ver
pu - ri - fied, in thy pre - sence to a - bide;
come with all Thine angels, come raise the glo - rious har - vest home.

Let There Be Light

RED BOOK, VERSES 4 & 6

DESCANT: CONCORD

4. Hal - low our love,
6. Let there be light,
Hal - low the deaths of mar - tyrs.
O low pen our hearts to won - der
Hal - low their ho - ly of free - dom,
Per - ish the way of terr - or,
Hal - low - ed be thy name.
Hal - low the world God made,

Let Us With a Gladsome Mind

#28 RED BOOK, VERSE 6
#102 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 5

DESCANT: MONKLAND

Let us with a glad - some mind Praise the
Lord is kind for his mer - cies aye en - dure
ev - er faith - ful ev - er sure.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

DESCANT: LLANFAIR Alleluias only

#466 RED BOOK

A le lu ia!

A le lu ia!

A le - lu - - ia!

A le lu ia!



Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DESCANT: DUKE STREET

#164 RED BOOK, VERSE 4;
#388 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 4

Let ev - ry creat - ture rise and bring

Hon - ours to our King;

An - gels - de - scend with songs a gain

and earth re - peat the loud A - men.

Earth Has Many a Noble City

DESCANT: STUTTGART

#431 RED BOOK, VERSE 5;
#94 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 5

Je - su(s) whom the Gen - tiles wor - shipped

at thy glad E - pi - pha ny,

Un - to thee with God the Fa - ther

and the spi - rit glo - ry be.



For All the Saints

DESCANT: NOMINE

#501 REDBOOK, VERSES 3 & 7

3.O may thy sol - diers faith - ful true and

7.But lo there breaks a yet more glor - ious

bold fight as the saints who no - bly fought of

day the sai - nts tri - um - - phant rise in bright ar -

old and win with them the vic - tor's crown of

ray the King of glo - ry pass - es on his

gold way. A le lu ia, a le lu ia.

A le lu ia, a le lu ia.

Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding

DESCANT: STUTTGART

#63 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 5

5. Hon - nour glo - ry might and bless - ing

To the Fa - ther and the son,

with the e - ver - last - ing spi - rit

while e - ter - nal a - ges run.

Holy, Holy Holy

DESCANT: NICAEA

#50 RED BOOK, VERSE 4

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God al -

migh - ty! All thy works shall praise thy name in

earth and sky and sea. Ho - ly, Ho - ly,

Ho - ly Mer - ci - ful and Migh - ty

Go - d in three per - sons Bles - sed Tri - ni - ty!

In Christ There Is No East or West

DESCANT: MCKEE

#149 RED BOOK, VERSE 4

4. In Christ now meet both east and west, in

him meet south and north; all Christ - like souls are

one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

DESCANT: ST. BERNARD #565 BLUE BOOK, VERSE 4

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

DESCANT: EASTER HYMN

#465 REDBOOK, VERSE 4

4. Sing we to our Go - d a - bove, A - le -

lu - ia! Praise e - ter - nal as his lo - ve;

A - le lu - ia! Praise him all ye

heav'n - ly ho - st A - le - lu - ia!

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, A - le lu - ia!