

## HYMN 52

Formerly Hymn 42

O God, Our Help in Ages Past  
*Psalms 90:1-6*

St. Anne

William Croft, 1708

1. O God, our help in a-ges past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shel-ter from the storm-y blast,  
and our e-ter-nal home.

2. Under the shadow of Thy throne  
the saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is Thy arm alone,  
and our defence is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood,  
or earth received her frame,  
from everlasting Thou art God,  
to endless years the same.
4. Thy Word commands our flesh to dust,  
"Return, ye sons of men";  
all nations rose from earth at first,  
and turn to earth again.
5. A thousand ages in Thy sight  
are like an evening gone;  
short as the watch that ends the night  
before the rising sun.

6. The busy tribes of flesh and blood  
with all their lives and cares  
are carried downwards by Thy flood  
and lost in following years.
7. Like flowery fields the nations stand  
pleased with the morning light;  
the flowers beneath the mower's hand  
lie withering ere 'tis night.
8. O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
be Thou our guard while troubles last,  
and our eternal home.