



*Commemorating the 300th Anniversary of the Family's Arrival in America*

**EIGHTIETH ANNUAL REUNION**

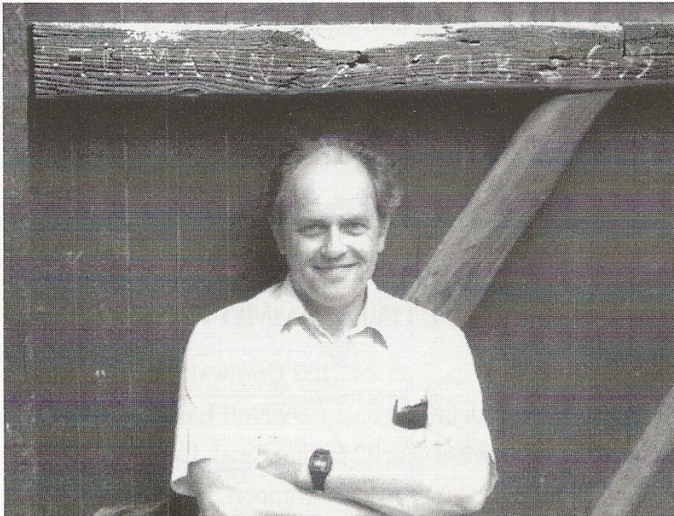
***Kolb-Kulp-Culp Family Assoc., Inc.***

**SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2007**

**LOWER SKIPPACK MENNONITE CHURCH**

**Evansburg and Meeting House Roads**

**Skippack, PA 19474**



**Our Speaker: JOHN L. RUTH**

John Landis Ruth, our speaker, will present an overview of our family story beginning from the first glimpses of the Thielman Kolb Family at Wolfsheim. He plans to discuss the 1685-1707 migration of Thielman's sons, first to Germantown and then to Skippack; the coming of Henry and Barbara Kolb to Skippack in 1707, and that of another Kolb brother in 1717. He will also discuss several subsequent Kolb religious leaders at Skippack and Salford, as well as the master fractur artist, Andreas Kolb.

John's book "Maintaining the Right Fellowship" includes the Kolb migrations and the southeast Pennsylvania Mennonites including these early Kolb families and their neighbors which he has researched for decades.

# PROGRAM

## Lower Skippack Mennonite Church

- 12:30 Family Time
- 1:00 p.m. . . . . Lunch ("Groaning Board")
- 2:00 p.m. Program Introduction . . . . . Ned K. Kulp
- Report of History & Genealogy Committee . . . . . Glenn H. Landis
- Report of Treasurer . . . . . Mark Moyer
- Report of Nominating Committee & Election of Officers . . . . . Stuart Kern
- Awarding of Prizes . . . . . Harold R. Kulp
- Offering
- Remembrance of our Religious Heritage
- Devotions in Pennsylvania German . . . . . Isaac Clarence Kulp
- Tribute to Deceased Members . . . . . Isaac Clarence Kulp
- "Overview of the Kolb Family" . . . . . John L. Ruth
- 3:30 p.m. America (one stanza) . . . . . Ned Kulp
- Benediction . . . . . Isaac Clarence Kulp
- 3:30 p.m. Adjournment



### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Ned K. Kulp, President . . . . . 102 Cornwall Dr., Chalfont, PA 18914
- Brian F. Moyer, Vice-President . . . . . 99 Noll Lane, Fleetwood, PA 19522
- Harold R. Kulp, Vice-President . . . . . 32 Spring Creek Lane, Pottstown, PA 19465
- Stuart Kern, Vice-President . . . . . 110 Ruppert School Rd., Oley, PA 19547
- Dr. Grace Freed Muscarella, Vice President/Asst. Secretary . . . . .  
7024 Chew Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19119
- Ruth K. Oberholtzer, Secretary . . . . . 209 S. 5th St., North Wales, PA 19454
- Mark Moyer., Treasurer . . . . . P.O. Box 44, Creamery, PA 19430
- Rodney N. Kulp . . . . . 45 Rambling Dr., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
- Glenn H. Landis, Genealogy . . . . . 711 Laurel Ave., Lititz, PA 17543

Isaac Clarence Kulp  
John E. Oberholtzer

Harold J. Kulp, Esq.

Dear Kolb-Kulp-Culp Family & Friends:

We extend an invitation to you to attend our 80th Annual Reunion, and the 300th Anniversary of the arrival of the Kolb (Kulp, Culp) family to the Germantown and Skippack communities.

This year our "Groaning Board" luncheon will be provided for you, but you are welcome to bring Pennsylvania Dutch or other side-dishes, condiments, or desserts for your family and to share with the common table. We would like you to tell us by May 31st if you are planning to attend the luncheon so we can make provisions for you.

The Executive Committee has decided not to reprint the Daniel K. Cassel-Kulp Family Book. Reprints of the book and possibly CDs can be obtained from: The Higginson Book Co., 148 Washington St., Salem, MA 01970, Phone 978-745-7170, CONTACT US e-mail.

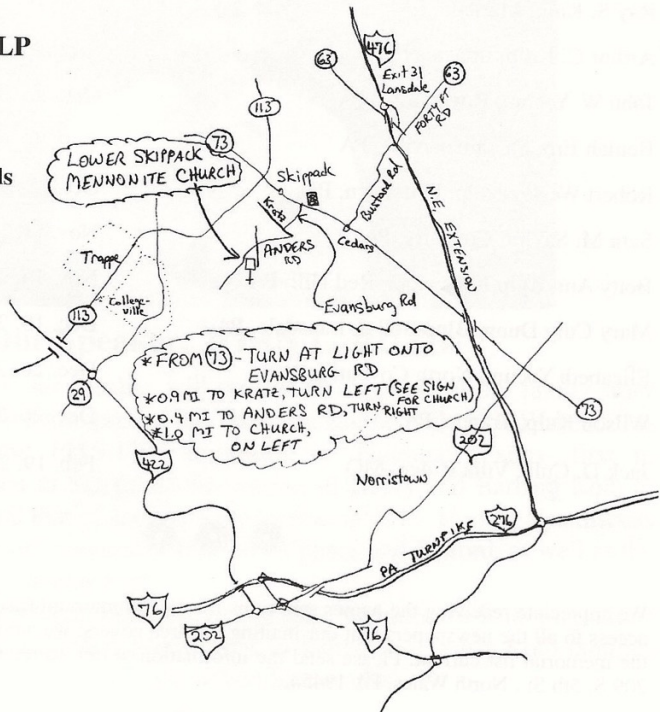
Glenn H. Landis will be available to assist you with your geological questions.

We thank you sincerely for your past generosity. This year we have incurred some extra costs for the celebration, and we are asking for your continued financial support.

Please plan to join us on Sunday, June 10th at 12:30 for the celebration.

Cordially,  
Ruth K. Oberholtzer, Sec.  
Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Assoc. Inc.

**The 80th  
KOLB-KULP-CULP  
REUNION  
LOCATION  
Evansburg and  
Meeting House Roads  
Skippack, PA**



Signs will be placed in the Harleysville area to assist you to find the Church.

## *In Memoriam 2007*

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Died</i>	<i>Age</i>
Harry Boyer Hildebidle, Naples, FL	Feb. 1994	
Gerald E. Robirds, Riverbank, CA	Mar. 2004	
Deborah Kulp Laubengeyer, Perkasie, PA	Jan. 4, 2005	
Sophie Harpel, Topton, PA	Apr., 2005	
Eileen Gebhart, Orange Springs, MS	Sept. 15, 2005	
Elsie W. Godshalk, Chalfont, PA	Oct. 8, 2005	
Claudia Sloan, Ontario, CA	Jan. 26, 2006	58
Letitia Walker Hildebidle, Naples, FL	May 1, 2006	
Harold Kolb Weaver, Spring City & Towamencin Twp.	July 6, 2006	88
Kevin L. Culp, Sullivan, MO	Aug. 3, 2006	50
Sallie K. Gehman, Souderton, PA	Aug. 10, 2006	87
Larlee N. Kulp, HoneyBrook, PA	July 17, 2006	82
Charlotte E. High, Pottstown, PA	Aug. 17, 2006	77
Carl Kulp Keyser, Worcester, PA	Aug. 21, 2006	82
Alma D. Kulp Derstine, Harleysville, PA	Aug. 21, 2006	
Ray S. Kulp, Marietta, PA	Sept. 19, 2006	72
Arthur C. Kulp, Ithaca, NY	Sept. 23, 2006	85
John W. Yocum, Royersford, PA	Oct. 20, 2006	94
Beulah Erb, Sassamansville, PA	Oct. 20, 2006	86
Robert Wesley Kulp, Pottstown, PA	Oct. 25, 2006	83
Sara M. Saylor, Coventry, PA	Nov. 11, 2006	86
Betty Ann Kulp Lazowicki, Red Hill, PA	Nov. 15, 2006	64
Mary Culp Dunn, Blue Bell & Lansdale, PA	Dec. 10, 2006	84
Elizabeth Yocum, North Coventry, PA	Dec. 26, 2006	94
Wilson Kulp, Trappe, PA	Dec. 26, 2006	73
Jack D. Culp, Villa Ridge, MO	Feb. 19, 2007	80



We appreciate receiving the names sent to us for the "Memoriam List". Since we do not have access to all the newspapers that our mailing list area covers, we would like you to help keep the memorial list current. Please send the information to our secretary, Ruth K. Oberholtzer, 209 S. 5th St., North Wales, PA 19454.

NEWSLETTER OF THE KOLB, KULP, CULP FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.

300<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY: SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2007  
Lower Skippack Mennonite Church, 12:30 P.M.

*Three hundred years ago*, three brothers of the Kolb family left Germany from the town of Wolfsheim in the Palatinate, to make new homes in America. They came to take up the challenge Penn's colony offered freedom to worship as they chose and to pursue economic opportunity. They landed at Philadelphia where they arranged to purchase farm-land mainly to the North and West of the city. Over the years they were successful in agriculture, in the trades; built meeting houses for worship around which their communities centered. Their spiritual guidance enabled them to make a worthy contribution to American culture.

*For more than two hundred years* they spoke and wrote mainly in German influenced by the English spoken in Penn's colony; their language became known as "Pennsylvania Dutch". Our German name, Kolb, was often anglicized as Kulp or Culp. To honor these brave pioneers, their traditions, & their contributions to American culture, the 80<sup>th</sup> Reunion of your Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Association will commemorate the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the arrival of the first members of our family in Philadelphia.

*We invite you to join our celebration* of this anniversary at the Lower Skippack Mennonite Church, where our immigrant ancestors built their meeting house, and where they & members of following generations, were buried. The history of the Lower Skippack congregation is intertwined with that of the early Kolb family. We plan an old-fashioned reunion with food and music in the Deutsch style and with the well-known historian of our local, south-eastern Pennsylvania heritage and culture, John L. Ruth, as our speaker. He has researched and written extensively about the history of south-eastern Pennsylvania German families including the Kolbs; his knowledge of this material is unequalled.

*John L. Ruth will present an overview of our family story* beginning from first glimpses of the Thielmann Kolb Family at Wolfsheim. He plans to discuss the 1685-1707 migration of Thielman's sons, first to Germantown and then to Skippack; the coming of Henry and Barbara Kolb to Skippack in 1709, and that of another Kolb brother in 1717; he will also discuss several subsequent Kolb religious leaders at Skippack & Salford, as well as the master fraktur artist, Andreas Kolb.

*Mark the date, Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007.* Come to Kulp Country, meet your family, dine & sing, explore your history, and pay your respects to those folks who helped make the United States the home of the brave and the land of the free. Please let us know by May 31<sup>st</sup> if you plan to join us for lunch. Also let us know if you have questions or if we can be of assistance. For more information: e-mail Mrs. Grace Muscarella, [gracefreed@aol.com](mailto:gracefreed@aol.com), or contact Mrs. Ruth Oberholtzer, 209 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St. North Wales, PA 19454, phone 215-699-3940. To order Kulp items by mail, send the tear off below. ---*Your President, Ned Kulp*

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Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me a T-Shirt with Family Crest. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Price \$12.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Sizes M L XL (circle desired size).

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me a Family Crest Tile. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Price \$20.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping.

Please note my contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with check to the Kolb, Kulp, Culp Association, Inc. to Ruth Oberholtzer, 209 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St., North Wales, PA 19454

## The First Kolb Brothers to America

In early 1707, three Kolb brothers of Wolfsheim, Hess, Germany, set out on an adventure that most of us can barely imagine. They were the sons of Mennonite parents, Dielman Kolb and Agnes Schumacher, and they were seeking a home where they would be free to worship and to make a living as they best saw fit. They had been preceded by their grandfather, Peter Schumacher in 1685, but he died in 1707, the year of their arrival. Peter Schumacher had been a Mennonite, but he had converted to the Quaker faith.

Martin (1680 – 1761) was the oldest of the three and probably brought a wife. Johannes, the next in line, born in 1683, was single and would seem to have been the most adventurous of the brothers. Jacob (1685-1739) would marry three years later in the new country.

Two older brothers stayed behind in Germany. Heinrich would follow two years later with his wife and three children, and Peter, a bishop in the Mennonite Church, died in Mannheim, Germany in 1727. A fifth and younger brother Dielman Jr. would follow in 1717.

Johannes, Jacob and Martin arrived in Germantown in 1707 but did not join the other Mennonites at the Germantown Church until 1708. A 1708 listing of members shows Johannes and Jacob as single men and Martin as married. By 1710 the three brothers would own adjoining farms in Skippack and be part of the new Skippack Mennonite Church there.

Johannes was the only one of the five brothers who did not stay in Montgomery County. He sold most of his land in Skippack in 1712 and moved to Coventry Township, Chester County. He paid taxes there until 1735 and then moved to South Carolina by 1737 and sold the last of his land in Skippack by 1739. He joined the Welsh Neck Baptists on the Pee Dee River in South Carolina. There are many Kolbs in the South who are descendants of Johannes.

Jacob was married on May 2, 1710, to Sarah Van Sintern in the Germantown Mennonite Church by Dirck Keyser. Sarah was the daughter of Isaac and Neeltje (Classen) Van Sintern, who had been married in Amsterdam. Isaac Van Sintern was a deacon of the church and had brought his four daughters to Germantown from Hamburg, Germany, in 1700. Jacob and Sarah Kolb moved to Skippack in 1710 and Jacob was chosen as a deacon of the new church at Skippack. Nine children are known, among them "Strong Isaac Kolb," a bishop of the Mennonite Church and ancestor of many of the local Kolbs. Jacob was killed in an accident with a cider press beam, on October 4, 1739 and is buried at the Skippack Mennonite Church.

Martin was ordained a minister of the Germantown Mennonite Church in 1708, but was soon to become part of the new Skippack branch of the church. He married his second wife, Magdalena Van Sintern, on May 19, 1709, in the home of her father, Isaac Van Sintern. She was a sister of Jacob's wife, Sarah, and would eventually become the family historian for the Van Sintern descendants. Martin and Magdalena had seven children, and many of their descendants are buried at the Skippack Church.

The Kolb brothers, including older brother Peter, who was a Mennonite Bishop at Manheim in Germany, were very influential in the early Mennonite Church, and their descendants can be found in all the Mennonite Churches of the Franconia Conference in Pennsylvania, though many have moved on to other areas and denominations.

Glenn. H. Landis, Lititz, PA

Origin of the  
**KOLB-KULP-CULP FAMILY REUNION**  
Held Annually at East Greenville, Penna.

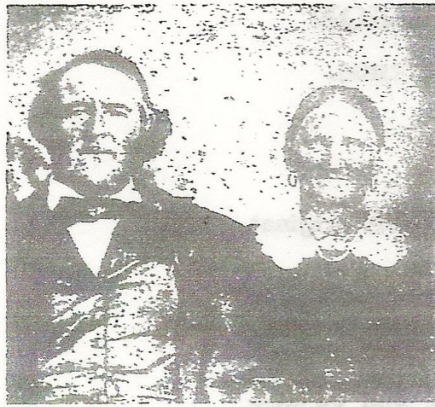
By Miss Sibyl Harpel

THE KOLB-KULP-CULP FAMILY REUNION originated with the grand-children of Joseph Kolb.

Squire Joseph Kolb, 1813-1892, and his wife Catherine, living on a small farm near Sassamansville, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, were the parents of eight daughters and one son. All were raised on this farm, all eventually married; the six younger ones settling in East Greenville, Pa. and vicinity, the three older ones in Wilkes-Barre, Lebanon and Philadelphia. Yearly visits to the farm by the three older daughters with their growing families endeared the grand-parents and the farm to all their grand-children.

In her 80th year, the second daughter of Squire Kolb, Wilhelmina Kolb-Harpel, the mother of eleven children, was fond of being motored into the East Greenville section for a day or week-end, calling on her two remaining sisters, or some of her numerous nieces and nephews living in the vicinity. Her birthday, August 29th, was frequently spent in this way and became quite popular with her relatives. In 1919 one of her daughters living at Forest Lodge on the Bethlehem Pike near Sellersville, Pa. invited these sisters, their families and a few friends and cousins in the vicinity to a surprise birthday party for her mother. This was held outdoors and a very enjoyable day spent and it was decided to hold a picnic there the following year on Labor Day in honor of all three sisters: Wilhelmina Kolb-Harpel, Amanda Kolb-Thomas and Harriet Kolb-Bauman, the youngest sister whose birthday occurred August 7th. This gathering was considerably larger and pronounced a great success. The weather was ideal and the three old ladies were happy in being thus honored.

Since larger quarters were needed for the rapidly growing gatherings several of the Bauman cousins secured the East Greenville Grove, adjacent to the New Goshenhoppen Grove, for their gathering. The Bauman, Zern, Kolb, Thomas, Ehl, Saylor and Harpel cousins, (grand-children of Squire Kolb), their families and friends became enthusiastic with the "get-together" spirit as well as the desire to honor the three old ladies revered by all as "Mother" or "Aunt." There were some thirty-four (34) grand-children at this time interested in the gatherings. Games were provided for the increasing number of great grand-children. The school girls and boys entertained with recitations, music and songs.



SQUIRE JOSEPH KOLB (1813-1892)  
AND HIS WIFE CATHERINE

At the close of the 1922 gathering, Mr. Frank Zern, son of Mary Kolb-Zern, seventh daughter of Squire Kolb, suggested an Annual Kolb Family Reunion and made a motion to that effect. This was received with great acclaim and he was nominated President, but declined that honor insisting that the president of the Reunion should be a Kolb in name as well as descent. He then named Mr. Reller Kolb of Pennsburg, Pa. for the first president and Mr. Zern became the very efficient secretary.

The meeting adjourned with the suggestion that at the 1923 meeting all descendants of Joseph Kolb be registered and come prepared to complete an official organization and program for the 1924 Reunion.

In the spring of 1923 both Mrs. Wilhelmina Kolb-Harpel and Mrs. Harriet Kolb-Bauman died—April 29th and June 13th respectively. After the funeral of the latter the question of completing the organization of the Reunion arose. It was decided to go on with the work, consequently at the 1923 gathering in September an invitation was extended to all Kolb-Kulp-Culp descendants to register. A large number responded thus forming a mailing list which grew by leaps and bounds due to the zeal and energy of the secretary.

Mr. Warren Bauman was elected Treasurer and served ten years. According to his bank book there was always a comfortable deposit in the bank to be drawn upon for the expenses of the ensuing year.

The program for 1924 was arranged, the following committees appointed.

#### HISTORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Henry Bauman  
Miss Beta Saylor  
Miss Ida Harpel  
Mr. Frank Harpel

#### MUSIC COMMITTEE

Miss Dorothy Kulp  
Miss Glenna Imbody  
Mr. Scott Kulp  
Miss Flora Harpel

Mr. Forest Bauman

Mr. Reller Kolb, President, resigned before the 1924 meeting and Mr. Frank Zern became Acting President for the First Reunion.

Thus the origin and phenomenal growth of the Reunion seems due to the veneration in which parents and grand-parents were held by their children, the zeal and enthusiasm of its officials and to large families: there being over one hundred living great grand children of Joseph Kolb at that time.



## 2. BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.

We share each other's woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows,  
The sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part,  
It gives us inward pain,  
But we shall still be joined in heart,  
And hope to meet again  
(J. Fawcett)

## 3. REUNION DAY SONG

Happy Reunion Day,  
Glad Day! Glad Day!  
God's own redeeming love  
Sheds radiant light from above  
In welcome to all today.

Friendly Reunion Day,  
Glad Day! Glad Day!  
As we together meet;  
Friendship & fellowship sweet  
Are mingled with love today.

Glorious Reunion Day  
Glad Day! Glad Day!  
May we the past review  
Ancestors loyal & true,  
Their Mem'ries live on today.  
(W.K. Schloterer, 1938)

## REUNION PROGRAM IN CELEBRATION OF THE

### 300<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST  
MEMBERS OF THE

**KOLB, KULP, CULP FAMILY**  
IN  
**AMERICA**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2002**

**LOWER SKIPPACK MENNONITE  
CHURCH.**  
**SKIPPACK, PA**

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*The Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Association wishes to thank Joel Alderfer, Rose Moyer, and the staff of the Mennonite Heritage Center, and the MHEP for their unstinting support & encouragement, their generosity in sharing knowledge & advice, and especially for their assistance in preparing & developing this*

*300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program.*

\*

*The Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Association, Inc.  
Ned Kulp, President*

## THANKS FROM THE REUNION COMMITTEE

Joel Alderfer and Friends present a reenactment of early Mennonite choral song, a style of singing that we suppose would have been familiar to the early Kolb immigrants to Pennsylvania, & may have used in worship. Many thanks to Joel and his Friends for bringing this music to us.

The Reunion Committee also thanks all the many persons who made this Celebration possible. We appreciate your gifts of home prepared foods to our "groaning board" as well as the skill & efficiency of our Caterers, Kathy and Allen Kratz. And, of course, thanks to all who have come - in some cases, long distances - to share our Reunion.

We appreciate the devoted care of the Congregation of the Lower Skippack Mennonite Church that has preserved this important Kolb site and cemetery for three centuries. We also appreciate their hospitality in making their facilities available to us today & for our annual Reunions through Lee Trought and Charles Kulp.

This Reunion Committee very much appreciates the work of the many Committees of the past that kept our Kolb Reunions lively for 80 years. Today we welcome especially the families from the Pottstown area & invite everyone to stay in touch, in communication & to participate with us in future planning.

The ice cream for our enjoyment after the Program is the generous gift of Jim Kulp and his Family, from their "Flossie Mae" Ice Cream Company. Jim tells us that it is named after Flossie Swavely who attended the Coventry Brethren Church her entire life and started making ice cream on the farm back around 1925. The original name was "Meadow Brook Ice Cream" -- a wonderful story of Kulp ingenuity, hard work, successful entrepreneurship and generosity!

Last, but not least, thanks for the vision and direction given to the Reunion Committee by our President, Ned Kulp, and for all his many untiring efforts to make today's Program a success.

## PROGRAM IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY

### Assembly in the Sanctuary

Choral Reenactment: Joel Alderfer and Friends

### Introduction of the Speaker

John L. Ruth: History of the Kolb Family

Group Song: Now Thank We All Our God

Conclusion in Song: Wilbur Kolb and Group

Ice cream served on the lawn, gift of the  
Flossie Mae Ice Cream Co.

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### 1. NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now thank we all our god with hearts & hands & voices,  
who wondrous things hath done in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms, hath blest us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is our today.

Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.

All praise & thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

(Music, Johann Cruger 1598-1662; German text, Martin Rinkhart 1586-1649)