**Name of Class**

**Now Thank We All Our God– CW 610:1**

**PREPARATION**

**Objective**

The student will:

1. Identify the many blessings God gives us, both physically and spiritually.
2. Recognize ways to thank God for these blessings.
3. Sing, perform, and associate the tune with the text.

 **Materials Needed**

1. *Christian Worship* or a copy of the text of the hymn
2. *Christian Worship Handbook* (optional)
3. Bibles
4. NPH Hymnsoft (optional)
5. Pictures of Martin Rinkart
6. A map of Germany (optional)

**Words to Know**

wondrous

countless

**Biblical Connections**

2 Corinthians 9:15

John 3:16

I John 1:9

Psalm 23:6

**Key Question**

**What reasons do we have to thank our God?**

*God gives us so many blessings. For example, in our homes he gives us \_\_\_\_\_ (answers will vary). Most importantly, the greatest gift he’s given us is his Son Jesus and the promise of heaven.*

**LESSON**

**Introduction**

What are some of your favorite toys? Favorite foods? Favorite places to go? Who gives you these things? Today, we’re going to call these neat things “blessings.” Our hymn tells us that we should all thank God. We will find out all the reasons we have to thank our God.

**Background Information**

* Martin Rinkart was a pastor
* Lived during a time when there was a horrible sickness and many people died (8,000)
* He also lived through a very sad war and many homes were destroyed
* He wrote this hymn at the end of the war. You may think, “How could he thank Jesus after all the bad things that had happened?”

**Stanza 1**

1. **Find a word that means wonderful.**

*Wondrous*

1. **Name some wonderful things God has given you in your home? School?**

*Answers will vary*

1. **Name some wonderful people God has given you? Why are they so great?**

*Answers will vary*

1. **How many blessings have we received from God? (Refer to 2 Cor. 9:15)**

*Countless*

1. **What words from the hymn say when we received these blessings from God?**

 *“Who from our mother’s arms;” really, God began giving us blessings already in our mom’s tummy*

1. **Read the following passages. What are even greater blessings that God gives us?**

**John 3:16** – *Jesus!*

**I John 1:9** – *forgiveness of sins*

**Psalm 23:6** – *heaven*

1. **Wow! So many blessings. How can we show thanks to him?**

*Use our hearts, hands, and voices*

**Key Question**

**What reasons do we have to thank our God?**

**Key Summary**

God gives us so many \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (blessings). For example, in our homes he gives us \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (answers will vary). Most importantly, the greatest gift he’s given us is his Son Jesus and the promise of heaven.

**Sing the Hymn!**

Accompaniment and vocals can be found on the *CD*.

**Prayer**

Dear Father, we thank you for all the wonderful and countless blessings you have given us. We thank you especially for your Son Jesus who died in our place so that we may live with you forever in heaven. Amen.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Memory**

Memorize stanza 1

**Writing Activity**

Summary: Write some sentences that tell what this hymn stanza is about.  Use some words from the stanza in your sentences.

**Visual Activity**

*Thankful Bible character:* Think of a Bible story about someone who remembered to give thanks for a blessing.  Draw a picture and tell about it.

*Card of Blessings:* Fold a piece of paper into a four page card.  Use the front as a cover for “My Life of Blessings”. Use the remaining three pages to draw and write about three different times in your life that God blessed you in a special way.

**Speaking/Listening/Performing**

*Hand Motions:* Make up some hand motions to use as you sing the stanza.

**Hymnal Connections**

*Thankful Hymns:* With a partner, find another hymn that expresses thanks to God for his great blessings.

*Thankful Psalms:* Look at the Psalms in the front of the hymnal and find one that gives thanks for God’s blessings.

**Performance Option - tentative**