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Thaxted (tune)

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"Thaxted" is a hymn tune by the English composer Gustav Holst, based on the stately theme from the mid section of the *Jupiter* movement of his orchestral suite *The Planets* and named after Thaxted, the English where he lived much of his life. He adapted the theme in 1921 to fit the patriotic poem "I Vow to Thee, My (by Cecil Spring Rice but that was as a unison song with orchestra. [1] It did not appear as a hymn-tune calle "Thaxted" until his friend Ralph Vaughan Williams included it in *Songs of Praise* in 1926. [2]

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Hymns written to the tune [edit]

Many Christian hymns have been written to the tune. Notable ones include:

- "I Vow to Thee, My Country" Cecil Spring Rice, 1921. This setting was sung at the wedding of Prince Charles and Diana, Princess of Wales in 1981 and again at the latter's funeral in 1997, and the funeral of Margaret Thatcher in 2013.^[3]
- "O God Beyond All Praising" Michael Perry, 1982.[4]
- "We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God" a paraphrase of the Te Deum Laudamus by Stephen P. Starke in the 2006 Lutheran Service Book^[5]
- "The Answer" song with lyrics by Corrinne May, which appears on her fourth album, *The Gift*.
- "The Iron Rod" a hymn using lyrics from a hymn of the same name in the hymn book of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS Church). [6]
- "For the Splendor of Creation" a hymn sung at Harvard University commencement ceremonies. [7]
- "Building the Kingdom" a recessional hymn sung at St Aloysius College.

