Let Thanksgiving Rise

Folk · Gospel · Country · Reggae

CHORD CHART · LYRICS BY BILL PERKINS · MUSIC RENDERED WITH AI

PLAYING EACH VERSION

All four versions use the same chords. What changes is how they're played:

Gospel — same chords with richer color: Gmaj7, Cadd9, D/F# walking down to Em, and an organ swell under the chorus. Piano leads.

Country — plain open chords, played as written. Strum with a bass note on 1 and 3 (boom-chick). Steel guitar fills.

Folk — plain open chords. Try Cadd9 for C and Dsus4 → D at line ends. Steady down-up strum with foot stomps.

Reggae — the same chords, played short and choppy on the off-beats ("and" of each beat). Keep it simple; let the bass carry the groove.

Pick the key that fits your singers. If it feels high, play guitar without a capo (key of G). Piano can play in G too.

GUITAR

GUITAR (Key of G — Capo 2 to play in A)
Final chorus moves up to A (Capo 2 = sounds in B).

Intro
G   D   Em   C
Em   C   D   G

Chorus
     G   D   Em   C
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
G   D   C
Incense rising through the night
    Em
Let thanksgiving rise
    C
Let thanksgiving rise
    D
Let thanksgiving rise
  C   D   G
Before the dawn

Verse 1
G   C
A boy held five loaves in his hand
G   D
Five thousand hungry on the hill
Em   C
You gave thanks before the baskets filled
D   G
I'll thank You now with empty hands

Verse 2
G   C

They rolled the stone where Lazarus lay
G D
You lifted Your eyes, tears on Your face
Em C
You gave thanks before the dead man stirred
D G
Lazarus walked out at Your word

Chorus
G D Em C
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
G D C
Incense rising through the night
Em
Let thanksgiving rise
C
Let thanksgiving rise
D
Let thanksgiving rise
C D G
Before the dawn

Verse 3
G C
Ten lepers walked in faith that day
G D
Their scales like snow fell to the ground
Em C
One turned back with a shout of praise
D G
Fell at His feet where grace is found

Chorus
G D Em C
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
G D C
Incense rising through the night
Em
Let thanksgiving rise
C
Let thanksgiving rise
D
Let thanksgiving rise
C D G
Before the dawn

Bridge
Em C
Judas sat close enough to touch
G D
The cross cast shadows on the wall
Em C G
Yet You took the bread and gave thanks through it all
C D
When the road is hard, I'll thank You still

Verse 4
G C

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You held the bread and knew the cost
G                      D
Your body broken, Your blood poured out
Em                  C
Turning sorrow to a song of thanks
D                      G
For the joy set before the cross

Final Chorus  (key change: up one step)
     A                      E               F#m         D
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
A              E           D
Incense rising through the night
    F#m
Let thanksgiving rise
    D
Let thanksgiving rise
    E
Let thanksgiving rise
  D        E    A
Before the dawn

Outro
    Em           C
Let thanksgiving rise
  D        G
Before the dawn
    Em           C      D  G
Let thanksgiving rise
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PIANO

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PIANO  (Key of A)
Final chorus moves up to B.

Intro
A   E   F#m   D
F#m   D   E   A

Chorus
     A                      E               F#m         D
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
A              E           D
Incense rising through the night
    F#m
Let thanksgiving rise
    D
Let thanksgiving rise
    E
Let thanksgiving rise
  D        E    A
Before the dawn

Verse 1
A                      D
A boy held five loaves in his hand
A                          E
Five thousand hungry on the hill
F#m                    D
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You gave thanks before the baskets filled
E A
I'll thank You now with empty hands

Verse 2
A D
They rolled the stone where Lazarus lay
A E
You lifted Your eyes, tears on Your face
F#m D
You gave thanks before the dead man stirred
E A
Lazarus walked out at Your word

Chorus
A E F#m D
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
A E D
Incense rising through the night
F#m
Let thanksgiving rise
D
Let thanksgiving rise
E
Let thanksgiving rise
D E A
Before the dawn

Verse 3
A D
Ten lepers walked in faith that day
A E
Their scales like snow fell to the ground
F#m D
One turned back with a shout of praise
E A
Fell at His feet where grace is found

Chorus
A E F#m D
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
A E D
Incense rising through the night
F#m
Let thanksgiving rise
D
Let thanksgiving rise
E
Let thanksgiving rise
D E A
Before the dawn

Bridge
F#m D
Judas sat close enough to touch
A E
The cross cast shadows on the wall
F#m D A

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Yet You took the bread and gave thanks through it all
         D                  E
When the road is hard, I'll thank You still

Verse 4
A                      D
You held the bread and knew the cost
A                      E
Your body broken, Your blood poured out
F#m                 D
Turning sorrow to a song of thanks
E                      A
For the joy set before the cross

Final Chorus  (key change: up one step)
     B                      F#              Abm         E
I'll always give thanks for who You are and what You've done
B              F#          E
Incense rising through the night
    Abm
Let thanksgiving rise
    E
Let thanksgiving rise
    F#
Let thanksgiving rise
  E        F#   B
Before the dawn

Outro
    F#m          D
Let thanksgiving rise
  E        A
Before the dawn
    F#m          D      E  A
Let thanksgiving rise
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NASHVILLE NUMBER CHART

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NASHVILLE NUMBER CHART  (any key — 1 = G on guitar, A on piano)

Intro:        1  5  6m  4  |  6m  4  5  1
Chorus:       1  5  6m  4  |  1  5  4  |  6m  |  4  |  5  |  4  5  1
Verse:        1  4  |  1  5  |  6m  4  |  5  1
Bridge:       6m  4  |  1  5  |  6m  4  1  |  4  5 (hold)
Final Chorus: up one whole step, same numbers
Outro:        6m  4  |  5  1  |  6m  4  5  1
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