

## Sing with Understanding: Stories of Our Great Hymns, Part One

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**Recommended hymn historians:** Paul Westermeyer, Erik Routley, David W. Music, Robin Leaver, Robert E. Webber

### **Canticle to Brother Sun (1225)**

St. Francis of Assisi (trans. Matthew Arnold)

Oh, Most High, Almighty, Good Lord God, to Thee belong praise, glory, honour and all blessing.

Praised be my Lord God, with all His creatures, and especially our brother the Sun, who brings us the day and who brings us the light: fair is he, and he shines with a very great splendour.

Oh Lord, he signifies us to Thee!

Praised be my Lord for our sister the Moon, and for the stars, the which He has set clear and lovely in the heaven.

Praised be my Lord for our brother the Wind, and for air and clouds, calms and all weather, by which Thou upholdest life and all creatures.

Praised be my Lord for our sister Water, who is very serviceable to us, and humble and precious and clean.

Praised be my Lord for our brother Fire, through whom Thou givest us light in the darkness; and he is bright and pleasant and very mighty and strong.

Praised be my Lord for our mother the Earth, the which doth sustain us and keep us, and bringeth forth divers fruits and flowers of many colours, and grass.

Praised be my Lord for all those who pardon one another for love's sake, and who endure weakness and tribulation: blessed are they who peacefully shall endure, for Thou, Oh Most High, will give them a crown.

Praised be my Lord for our sister, the death of the body, from which no man escapeth. Woe to him who dieth in mortal sin. Blessed are those who die in Thy most holy will, for the second death shall have no power to do them harm.

Praise ye and bless the Lord, and give thanks to Him and serve Him with great humility.

### **All Creatures of Our God and King (1919)**

William H. Draper, paraphraser

1 All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice with us and sing: Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:

Refrain:

O, praise him! O, praise him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in Heav'n along: O, praise him! Alleluia!  
Thou rising moon, in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening, find a voice. [Refrain]

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
Make music for thy Lord to hear. O, praise him! Alleluia!  
Thou fire so masterful and bright,  
That givest man both warmth and light, [Refrain]

4 Dear mother earth, who day by day  
Unfoldest blessings on our way, O, praise him! Alleluia!  
The fruits and flow'rs that in thee grow,  
Let them his glory also show. [Refrain]

5 And all ye men of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part, O, sing ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on him cast your care. [Refrain]

7 Let all things their Creator bless  
And worship God in humbleness. O, praise him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One, [Refrain]

## All Creatures of Our God and King

All you have made will praise you, O LORD: your saints will extol you. Ps. 145:10

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1. All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and  
 2. Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in  
 3. Thou flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for thy  
 4. And all ye men of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers,  
 5. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in

*7*

with us sing al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing  
 heav'n a - long, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing  
 • Lord to hear, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so  
 take your part, O sing ye, al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long  
 hum - ble - ness, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the

sun with gold - en beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam,  
 morn in praise re - joice, ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice,  
 • mas - ter - ful and bright, that giv - est man both warmth and light,  
 pain and sor - row bear, praise God and on him cast your care,  
 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spir - it, three in one,

O praise him, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia,

**Lyra Fidelium: Twelve Hymns on the Twelve Articles of the Apostles' Creed (1866)**

Samuel John Stone

Contents:

1. I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: *None Else But Thee*
2. And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord: *God the Father's Only Son*
3. Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary: *The Son Forsook the Father's Home*
4. Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried: *My Saviour, I Behold Thy Life*
5. He descended into hell: The third day he rose again from the dead: *All The Sacrifice Is Ended*
6. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty: *On Olivet a Little Band*
7. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead: *Mistful Are Our Waiting Eyes*
8. I believe in the Holy Ghost: *God the Spirit We Adore Thee*
9. I believe in the holy catholic church: the communion of saints: *The Church's One Foundation*
10. The forgiveness of sins: *Weary of Earth and Laden With My Sins*
11. The resurrection of the body: *Winter in His Heart of Gloom*
12. And the life everlasting. *The World is Sad With Hopes that Die*

"The testimony of Holy Scripture has also been adduced to authorise the doctrine and sentiment of almost every line, and to shew the oneness of the truth of the Bible and the belief of the Church." (Preface)

<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>	Stone's Scripture proofs
<p>The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord, She is His new creation By water and the Word: From Heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride, With His own blood He bought her And for her life He died.</p>	<p>Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. Even as Christ also loved the Church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it. The Church of God which He purchased with His Own Blood.</p>
<p>She is from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth; Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth; One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.</p>	<p>Out of every kindred and tongue and people and nation. We being many are one Bread and one Body. One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism. There is none other Name under Heaven...whereby we must be saved." We all are partakers of that one Bread. Called in one hope of our calling. ...grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.</p>
<p>The Church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend, To guide, sustain, and cherish, Is with her to the end: Though there be those who hate her, And false sons in her pale, Against both foe and traitor She ever shall prevail.</p>	<p>Upon this Rock will I build My Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. Lo, I am with you alway even unto the end of the world. Marvel not if the world hate you. False brethren. Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy! when I fall I shall arise.</p>
<p>Though with a scornful wonder Men see her sore oppressed, By schisms rent asunder,</p>	<p>By reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. I hear that there be divisions among you. There must be heresies among you.</p>

By heresies distressed:  
Yet saints their watch are keeping,  
Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song!

'Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore;  
Till, with the vision glorious,  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest!

Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won,  
With all her sons and daughters  
Who, by the Master's hand  
Led through the deathly waters,  
Repose in Eden land.

O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly,  
On high may dwell with Thee:  
There, past the border mountains,  
Where in sweet vales the Bride  
With Thee by living fountains  
Forever shall abide!

Watch unto prayer.  
Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.  
Even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting...  
the redeemed of the Lord...shall come with singing unto Zion.

We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities,  
against powers," etc.  
In all these things we are more than conquerors.  
The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.  
We know that when He shall appear we shall be like Him, for we  
shall see Him as He is.  
There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

Our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ--  
...the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you.  
Ye are come unto the heavenly Jerusalem and to an innumerable  
company of angels, and to the general assembly and Church of the  
first born...and to the spirits of just men made perfect.  
When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee.  
...with Me in Paradise.

Faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.  
Humble yourselves...that He may exalt you in due time.  
He carried me...to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that  
great city, the Holy Jerusalem.  
The Lamb...shall lead them unto living fountains of waters.  
The tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them.

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## The Church's One Foundation

*Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. Eph. 2:20*

1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,  
 4. The church shall nev - er per - ish! Her dear Lord to de - fend,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word:  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end;

from heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"  
 though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale.

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 a - gainst or foe or trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.

**Hymns by John Mason Neale in *Trinity Hymnal* (rev. 1990)**

162, <i>Of the Father's Love Begotten</i>	trans.	1 <sup>st</sup> -century Latin text
194, <i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	trans.	12 <sup>th</sup> -century Latin text
207, <i>Good Christian Men, Rejoice</i>	trans.	Medieval Latin text
235, <i>All Glory, Laud, and Honor</i>	trans.	1 <sup>st</sup> -century Latin text
266, <i>Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain</i>	trans.	8 <sup>th</sup> -century Greek text
267, <i>The Day of Resurrection</i>	trans.	8 <sup>th</sup> -century Greek text
272, <i>O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!</i>	trans.	15 <sup>th</sup> -century Latin text
282, <i>Lift Up, Lift Up Your Voices Now</i>	auth.	
343, <i>Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation</i>	trans.	7 <sup>th</sup> -century Latin text
357, <i>Let Our Choir New Anthems Raise</i>	trans.	1 <sup>st</sup> -century Greek text
477, <i>Are You Weary, Are You Languid</i>	auth.	
539, <i>Jerusalem the Golden</i>	trans.	12 <sup>th</sup> -century Latin text
574, <i>Christian, Dost Thou See Them</i>	trans.	1 <sup>st</sup> -century Greek text

**Of the Father's Love Begotten (Prudentius)**

John Mason Neale's translation

Of the Father sole begotten,  
 Ere the worlds began to be,  
 He the Alpha and Emga,  
 He the source, the ending He,  
 Of the things that are, that have been,  
 And that future years shall see,  
 Evermore and evermore!

O that ever-blessed birthday,  
 When the Virgin, full of grace  
 Of the Holy Ghost incarnate;  
 Bare the Saviour of our race,  
 And that Child, the world's Redeemer,  
 first displayed His Sacred Face,  
 Evermore and evermore!

Praise Him, O ye Heav'ns of Heavens!  
 Praise Him, Angels in the height!  
 Every Power and every Virtue  
 sing the praise of God aright:  
 Let no tongue of man be silent,  
 Let each heart and voice unite,  
 Evermore and evermore!

He is here, Whom seers in old time  
 Chanted of, while ages ran;  
 Whom the writings of the Prophets  
 Promised since the world began:  
 Then foretold, now manifested,  
 To receive the praise of man,  
 Evermore and evermore!

Thee let age, and Thee let manhood,

Henry Baker's adaptation of Neale's translation

Of the Father's love begotten,  
 Ere the worlds began to be,  
 He is Alpha and Omega,  
 He the source, the ending He,  
 Of the things that are, that have been,  
 And that future years shall see,  
 Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed,  
 When the virgin, full of grace,  
 By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
 Bore the Saviour of our race;  
 And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
 First revealed His sacred face,  
 evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven adore Him;  
 Angel hosts, His praises sing;  
 Powers, dominions, bow before Him,  
 and extol our God and King!  
 Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
 Every voice in concert sing,  
 Evermore and evermore!

This is He Whom seers in old time  
 Chanted of with one accord;  
 Whom the voices of the prophets  
 Promised in their faithful word;  
 Now He shines, the long expected,  
 Let creation praise its Lord,  
 Evermore and evermore!

Thee let old men, Thee let young men,

Thee let choirs of infants sing;  
Thee the matrons and the virgins,  
And the children answering:  
Let their modest song re-echo,  
And their heart its praises bring,  
Evermore and evermore!

Laud and honour to the Father!  
Laud and honour to the Son!  
Laud and honor to the Spirit!  
Ever Three and ever One:  
Consubstantial, Co-eternal,  
While unending ages run,  
Evermore and evermore.

Thee let boys in chorus sing;  
Matrons, virgins, little maidens,  
With glad voices answering:  
Let their guileless songs re-echo,  
And the heart its music bring,  
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee with God the Father,  
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving,  
And unwearied praises be:  
Honour, glory, and dominion,  
And eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore!

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## Of the Father's Love Begotten

*In the beginning was the Word... The Word was made flesh ... and we beheld his glory,  
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father. John 1:1, 14 KJV*

Unison

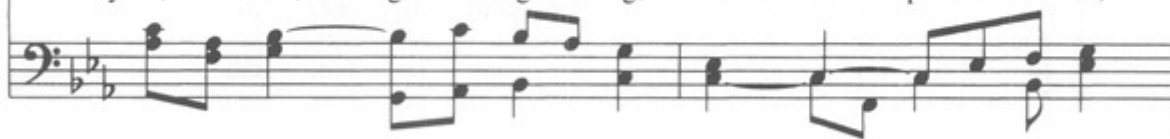
1. Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be - gan to be,  
2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin, full of grace,  
3. This is he whom heav'n-taught sing - ers sang of old with one ac - cord,  
4. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his prais - es sing;  
5. Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,

The musical score consists of two staves, a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a unison style. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff, with the words aligned with the notes. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests.

HIS DEITY



he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the Source, the End - ing he,  
 by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of our race;  
 • whom the Scrip - tures of the proph - ets prom - ised in their faith - ful word;  
 all do - min - ions, bow be - fore him and ex - tol our God and King;  
 hymn, and chant, and high thanks - giv - ing, and un - wea - ried prais - es be,



of the things that are, that have been, and that fu - ture  
 and the babe, the world's Re - deem - - er, first re - vealed his  
 • now he shines, the long - ex - spect - - ed; let cre - a - tion  
 let no tongue on earth be si - - lent, ev - 'ry voice in  
 hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 • praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!



Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413  
 Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1854;  
 Henry W. Baker, 1859

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.  
 Plainsong, 12th cent.  
 Arr. by Charles Winfred Douglas, 1916



### Hark How All the Welkin Rings

Charles Wesley (1739)

HARK how all the Welkin rings  
"Glory to the Kings of Kings,  
"Peace on Earth, and Mercy mild,  
"GOD and Sinners reconcil'd!  
Joyful all ye Nations rise,  
Join the Triumph of the Skies,  
Universal Nature say  
"CHRIST the LORD is born to Day!

CHRIST, by highest Heav'n ador'd,  
CHRIST, the Everlasting Lord,  
Late in Time behold him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's Womb.  
Veil'd in Flesh, the Godhead see,  
Hail th' Incarnate Deity!  
Pleas'd as Man with Men t' appear  
JESUS, our Immanuel here!

Hail the Heav'nly Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and Life to All he brings,  
Ris'n with Healing in his Wings.  
Mild he lays his Glory by,  
Born—that Man no more may die,  
Born—to raise the Sons of Earth,  
Born—to give them Second Birth.

Come, Desire of Nations, come,  
Fix in Us thy humble Home,  
Rise, the Woman's Conqu'ring Seed,  
Bruise in Us the Serpent's Head.  
Now display thy saving Pow'r,  
Ruin'd Nature now restore,  
Now in Mystic Union join  
Thine to Ours, and Ours to Thine.

Adam's Likeness, LORD, efface,  
Stamp thy Image in its Place,  
Second Adam from above,  
Reinstate us in thy Love.  
Let us Thee, tho' lost, regain,  
Thee, the Life, the Inner Man:  
O! to All Thyself impart,  
Form'd in each Believing Heart.

George Whitefield's adaptation (1758)

HARK! the Herald Angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King!  
Peace on Earth, and Mercy mild,  
God and Sinners reconcil'd.  
Joyful all ye Nations rise,  
Join the Triumphs of the Skies;  
Nature rise and worship him,  
Who is born at Bethlehem.

Christ by highest Heav'n ador'd,  
Christ the everlasting Lord;  
Late in Time behold-him come,  
Offspring of the Virgin's Womb.  
Veil'd in Flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail th' incarnate Deity!  
Pleas'd as Man with Men t'appear,  
Jesus our Emmanuel here.

Hail the Heav'n-born Prince of Peace  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and Life around he brings,  
Ris'n with Healing in his Wings.  
Mild he lays his Glory by,  
Born that Men no more may die;  
Born to raise the Sons of Earth,  
Born to give them second Birth.

Come, Desire of Nations, come,  
Fix in us thy heav'nly Home;  
Rise the Woman's conqu'ring Seed,  
Bruise in us the Serpent's Head.  
Adam's Likeness now efface,  
Stamp thy Image in its Place;  
Second Adam from above,  
Work it in us by thy Love.

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## Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*A great company of the heavenly host [was] praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:13, 14*

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!  
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ - teous - ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,

with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

# O Mighty God

Carl Boberg, tr. E. Gustav Johnson

Swedish Folk Melody

  
♩ = 87

1. O might - y God, when I be - hold the won - der Of na - ture's  
2. When I be - hold the hea - vens in their vast - ness, Where gold - en  
3. When I be - hold His Son to earth de - scend - ing, To help and  
4. When, crushed by guilt of sin, be - fore Him kneel - ing I plead for  
5. When fin - al - ly the mists of time have van - ished, And I in

beau - ty, wrought by words of Thine, And how Thou  
ships in a - zure is - sue forth, Where sun and  
heal and teach dis - tressed man - kind; When e - vil  
mer - cy and for grace and peace, I feel His  
truth my faith con - firmed shall see, Up - on the

lead - est all from realms up yon - der, Sus - tain - ing  
moon keep watch up - on the fast - ness Of chang - ing  
flees and Death in fear is bend - ing Be - fore the  
balm and, all my bruises heal - ing, He saves my  
shores where earth - ly ills are ban - ished, I en - ter,

*Refrain*

earth - ly life in love be - nign, With rap - ture filled, my soul Thy Name would  
sea - sons and of time on earth, glo - ry of the Lord di - vine,  
soul and sets my heart at ease. Lord, to dwell in peace with Thee. With rap - ture filled, my soul Thy Name would



laud, O might - y God! O might - y God! With rap - ture  
 laud, Thanks be to Thee, O might - y God! With rap - ture

filled, my soul Thy Name would laud, O might-y God! O might-y God!  
 filled, my soul Thy Name would laud, Thanks be to Thee, O might-y God!