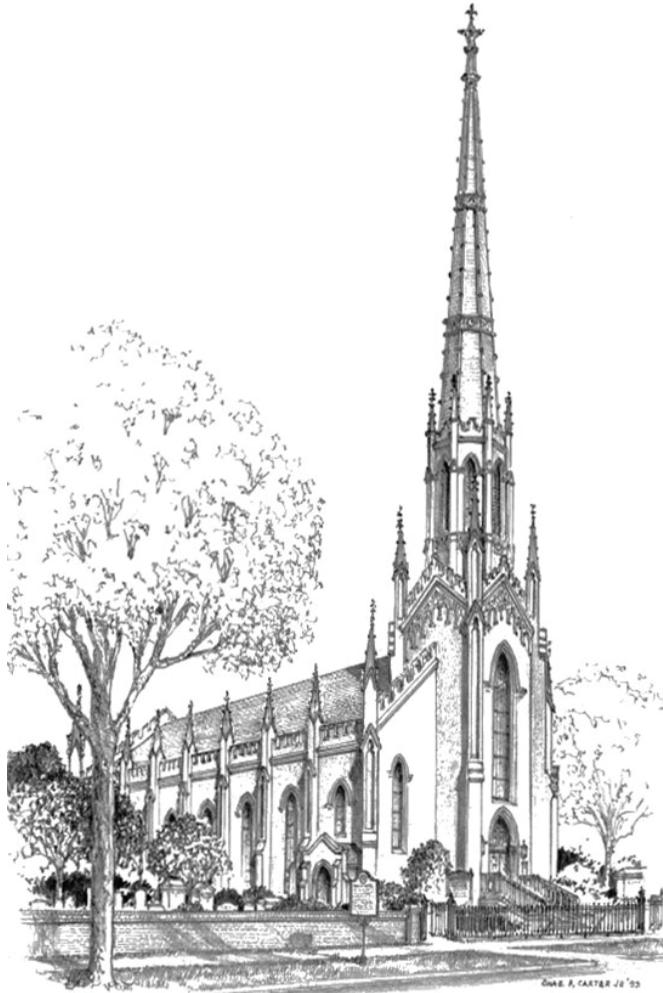


ESTABLISHED 1795

# First Presbyterian Church



*Lord's Day, March 1, 2026*

8:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.

1324 Marion Street, Columbia, SC

# DIVINE WORSHIP

8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

*See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.*

1 JOHN 3:1a, ESV

(+ Congregation, please stand if able.)

**PRELUDE** *Fugue in D minor from Sonata VI*

Felix Mendelssohn

Nick Eller, Organ Scholar

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Bryan Bult (8:30 A.M.)  
Dr. David Lauten (11:15 A.M.)

**INTROIT** *O How Amiable*

Eleanor Daley

O how amiable are Thy dwellings O Lord of hosts,  
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord.  
My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.  
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Blessed are they who dwell in Thy house O Lord,  
Ever singing Thy praise.  
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,  
And establish Thou the work of our hands upon us,  
From everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.

Psalms 84 & 90

The Youth Chorus  
Dr. Daniel Cole, director

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

LYONS

+ **HYMN 2** *O Worship the King (Stanzas 1-4 & 6)*

*Please find the music on page 5 of your bulletin.*

+ **INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, which art in heaven; Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## + **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

## + **GLORIA PATRI**

LADY STREET

Glory be to God the Father,  
Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to the Holy Spirit,  
Binding all the church as one!  
As it was in the beginning  
As is now and e'er shall be,  
World without end! Amen.

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON 8:30 A.M.**

**CHILDREN'S HYMN 521 8:30 A.M.** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*  
(Stanzas 1 & 3)

SOLID ROCK

*Please find the music on page 6 of your bulletin.*

## **INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS 11:15 A.M.**

**HYMN 11:15 A.M.** *Saints of Zion*

WYATT

*Please find the music on page 7 of your bulletin.*

## **CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Father of mercies, before we drew our first breath, before You created the heavens and the earth, You loved us and purposed to adopt us as Your own children in Jesus Christ. Yet we confess that we live more like orphans than sons and daughters. We strive to earn what You have freely given. We doubt our place at Your table and run to the creature for significance, approval, and affirmation. Doubting Your love, we make much of ourselves and little of Your grace. Forgive us, Father. By Your Spirit, quiet our restless hearts and calm our fretful spirits. Help us to know that we are accepted in the Beloved—that we are even now the children of God, though it has not yet appeared what we shall be. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

## SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God...

(Romans 8:15–16, ESV)

## MORNING PRAYER

+ **HYMN 307 8:30 A.M.** *Nothing but the Blood (Stanzas 1–4)*

PLAINFIELD

*Please find the music on page 8 of your bulletin.*

## RECEIVING OF THE LORD’S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY** *Keep Me Faithfully in Thy Paths*

G.F. Handel

Arranged by Richard Proulx

Keep me faithfully in Thy paths, O Lord,  
And cleanse me from my sin.  
In Thy goodness, Lord, be Thou merciful.

+ **DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(During the 11:15 a.m. service, K4 and K5 children may leave for Children’s Church.  
Parents should come for them in the Education Building, Room 107.)*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 1:5–6

(ESV Standard Bible page 976; Children’s Bible page 1266)

**SERMON** “Adoption Agency”

Dr. Neil C. Stewart

## PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

+ **HYMN 75** *O Father, You Are Sovereign*

ST. THEODULPH

*Please find the music on page 9 of your bulletin.*

+ **BENEDICTION**

+ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 355** *We Are God's People (Stanza 3)*

SYMPHONY

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
Called to obey him, now risen from the dead;  
He wills us be a family,  
Diverse yet truly one:  
O let us give our gifts to God,  
And so shall his work on earth be done.

**POSTLUDE** *Finale Jubilante*

Healey Willan

Mr. Thomas Russell, organist

## O Worship the King

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

1. O wor - ship the King all - glo - rious a - bove, O grate - ful - ly  
 2. O tell of his might, O sing of his grace, whose robe is the  
 3. The earth with its store of won - ders un - told, Al - might - y, your  
 4. Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the

sing his pow'r and his love; our shield and De - fend - er, the  
 light, whose can - o - py space. His char - iots of wrath the deep  
 pow'r has found - ed of old; has 'stab - lished it fast by a  
 air; it shines in the light; it streams from the hills; it de -

An - cient of Days, pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.  
 thun - der - clouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.  
 change - less de - cree, and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
 scends to the plain; and sweet - ly dis - tils in the dew and the rain.

5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;  
 your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
 our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!
6. O measureless Might! Ineffable Love!  
 While angels delight to hymn you above,  
 the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,  
 with true adoration shall lisp to your praise.

## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

*No one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

1 Cor. 3:11

Capo 3: F(D) C(A) F(D) B $\flat$ (G)

1. My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and  
 2. When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -  
 3. His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the  
 4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

C(A) F(D) C(A) F(D)

right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but  
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my  
 whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he  
 him be found; dressed in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -

B $\flat$ (G) C(A) F(D) REFRAIN B $\flat$ (G)

whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all  
 then is all my hope and stay. less to stand be - fore the throne.

F(D) C(A) F(D) B $\flat$ (G) F(D) C $^7$ (A $^7$ ) F(D) 7

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

# Saints of Zion

R. C. Sproul

Wyatt

Dwight Gustafson

From A - bel's fa - vored of - f'ring to Je - sus' ho - ly  
By faith our fa - thers la - bored; in faith they lived and  
This cov - e - nant of grace di - vine, By Christ's own blood was  
By mar - tyrs' death the ho - ly seed Was sown in grief and  
The church of God tri - um - phant Shall in that fi - nal

cross, The church of God's own choos - ing has tri - umphed  
died. From A - bra - ham to Da - vid, Faith stood when  
bought; The prom - i - ses of bless - ing Shall nev - er  
pain, That ho - ly seed will flour - ish Till Christ shall  
day Have all her sons and daugh - ters Home from the

o ver loss.  
it was tried.  
come to nought. Then Come, O saints of Zi - on in  
come a - gain.  
well - fought fray.

sweet com - mun - ion wed; The bride a - waits her glo - ry:

Lord Je - sus Christ, her head. A - men!

First Presbyterian Church ARP - Columbia, South Carolina  
1795-1995 Bicentennial Hymn  
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## Nothing but the Blood

*The blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 1 John 1:7*

1. What can wash a - way my sin? noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;  
 2. For my cleans - ing this I see— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;  
 3. Noth - ing can for sin a - tone— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;  
 4. This is all my hope and peace— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;  
 5. Now by this I'll o - ver - come— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;

what can make me whole a - gain? noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.  
 for my par - don this my plea— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.  
 • naught of good that I have done— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.  
 this is all my righ - teous - ness— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.  
 now by this I'll reach my home— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

REFRAIN

O pre - cious is the flow that makes me white as snow;

no oth - er fount I know, noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

## O Father, You Are Sovereign

*The LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back? Is. 14:27*

1. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign in all the worlds you made;  
 2. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign in all af - fairs of man;  
 3. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign, the Lord of hu - man pain,  
 4. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign! We see you dim - ly now,

your might - y word was spo - ken and light and life o - beyed.  
 no pow'rs of death or dark - ness can thwart your per - fect plan.  
 trans - mut - ing earth - ly sor - rows to gold of heav'n - ly gain.  
 but soon be - fore your tri - umph earth's ev - ery knee shall bow.

Your voice com - mands the sea - sons and bounds the o - cean's shore,  
 All chance and change tran - scend - ing, su - preme in time and space,  
 All e - vil o - ver - rul - ing, as none but Con - qu'ror could,  
 With this glad hope be - fore us our faith springs up a - new:

sets stars with - in their cours - es and stills the tem - pest's roar.  
 you hold your trust - ing chil - dren se - cure in your em - brace.  
 your love pur - sues its pur - pose—our souls' e - ter - nal good.  
 our sov - ereign Lord and Sav - ior, we trust and wor - ship you!

# SERMON NOTES

“Adoption Agency”

Ephesians 1:5–6 | Dr. Neil C. Stewart

**JOIN US AT 6:00 P.M. FOR EVENING WORSHIP**

**Listen Up**

“God Takes the Stand”

Micah 1:1–16 | Dr. Neil C. Stewart

## WORSHIP AT FIRST

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

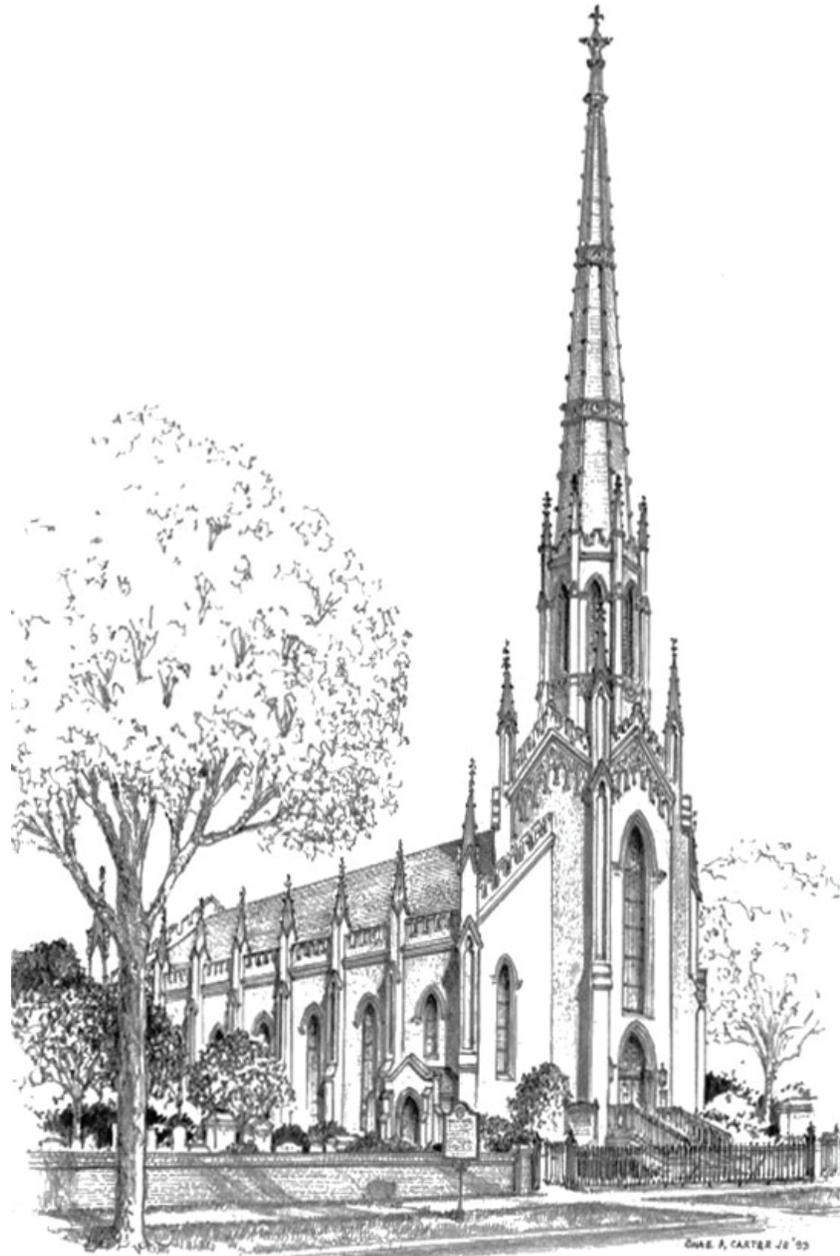
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**PRELUDE** *Fugue in D minor from Sonata VI* Felix Mendelssohn

Nick Eller, Organ Scholar

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Blessed are they who dwell in Thy house O Lord,  
Ever singing Thy praise.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,  
And establish Thou the work of our hands upon us,  
From everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.

Psalms 84 & 90

The Youth Chorus  
Dr. Daniel Cole, director

## CALL TO WORSHIP

+ **HYMN 2** *O Worship the King (Stanzas 1–4 & 6)*

LYONS

O worship the King all-glorious above,  
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;  
Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;  
Has 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree,  
And round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;  
And sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

O measureless Might! Ineffable Love!  
While angels delight to hymn you above,  
The humbler creation, though feeble their lays,  
With true adoration shall lisp to your praise.

+ **INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, which art in heaven; Hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is  
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive  
us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the  
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## + **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

## + **GLORIA PATRI**

LADY STREET

Glory be to God the Father,  
Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to the Holy Spirit,  
Binding all the church as one!  
As it was in the beginning  
As is now and e'er shall be,  
World without end! Amen.

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON 8:30 A.M.**

## **CHILDREN'S HYMN 521 8:30 A.M.**

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (Stanzas 1 & 3)*

SOLID ROCK

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.*

His oath, his covenant, his blood  
Support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.

# INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS 11:15 A.M.

**HYMN 11:15 A.M.** *Saints of Zion*

WYATT

From Abel's favored offering  
To Jesus' holy cross  
The church of God's own choosing  
Has triumphed over loss.

*Then come, O saints of Zion  
In sweet communion wed  
The bride awaits her glory  
Lord Jesus Christ, her Head.*

By faith our fathers labored  
In faith, they lived and died.  
From Abraham to David,  
Faith stood when it was tried.

This covenant of grace divine  
By Christ's own blood was bought  
The promises of blessing  
Shall never come to nought.

By martyrs' death the holy seed  
Was sown in grief and pain  
That holy seed will flourish  
Till Christ shall come again.

The church of God triumphant  
Shall in that final day  
Have all her sons and daughters.

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Father of mercies, before we drew our first breath, before You created the heavens and the earth, You loved us and purposed to adopt us as Your own children in Jesus Christ. Yet we confess that we live more like orphans than sons and daughters. We strive to earn what You have freely given. We doubt our place at Your table and run to the creature for significance, approval, and affirmation. Doubting Your love, we make much of ourselves and little of Your grace. Forgive us, Father. By Your Spirit, quiet our restless hearts and calm our fretful spirits. Help us to know that we are accepted in the Beloved—that we are even now the children of God, though it has not yet appeared what we shall be. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

## SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God...

(Romans 8:15–16, ESV)

## MORNING PRAYER

### + HYMN 307 8:30 A.M.

*Nothing but the Blood (Stanzas 1–4)*

PLAINFIELD

What can wash away my sin?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
What can make me whole again?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*O precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know,  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my cleansing this I see —  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
For my pardon this my plea —  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone —  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
Naught of good that I have done —  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace —  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
This is all my righteousness —  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

## **RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS**

### **OFFERTORY**

G.F. Handel  
Arr. Richard Proulx

*Keep Me Faithfully in Thy Path*

Keep me faithfully in Thy paths, O Lord,  
And cleanse me from my sin.  
In Thy goodness, Lord, be Thou merciful.

### **+ DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(During the 11:15 a.m. service, K4 and K5 children may leave for Children's Church.  
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## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 1:5–6

(ESV Standard Bible page 976; Children's Bible page 1266)

<sup>5</sup> He predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

## SERMON “Adoption Agency”

Dr. Neil C. Stewart

## PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD OF GOD

+ **HYMN 75** *O Father, You Are Sovereign*

ST. THEODULPH

O Father, you are sovereign  
In all the worlds you made;  
Your mighty word was spoken  
And light and life obeyed.  
Your voice commands the seasons  
And bounds the ocean's shore,  
Sets stars within their courses  
And stills the tempests' roar.

O Father, you are sovereign  
In all affairs of man;  
No pow'rs of death or darkness  
Can thwart Your perfect plan.  
All chance and change transcending,  
Supreme in time and space,  
You hold your trusting children  
Secure in your embrace.

O Father, you are sovereign  
The Lord of human pain,  
Transmuting earthly sorrows  
To gold of heav'nly gain.  
All evil over-ruling,  
As none but Conqu'ror could,  
Your love pursues its purpose —  
Our souls' eternal good.

O Father, you are sovereign!  
We see you dimly now,  
But soon before your triumph  
Earth's every knee shall bow.  
With this glad hope before us  
Our faith springs up anew:  
Our sovereign Lord and Savior,  
We trust and worship you!

+ **BENEDICTION**

+ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 355**

*We Are God's People (Stanza 3)*

SYMPHONY

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;  
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Diverse yet truly one:  
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**POSTLUDE** *Finale Jubilante*

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