First Hymn

My God, how wonderful thou art, thy majesty how bright, how beautiful thy mercy-seat, in depths of burning light!

How dread are thine eternal years, O everlasting Lord, by prostrate spirits day and night incessantly adored!

How wonderful, how beautiful, the sight of thee must be, thine endless wisdom, boundless power, and aweful purity!

O how I fear thee, living God, with deepest, tenderest fears, and worship thee with trembling hope, and penitential tears! Yet I may love thee too, O Lord, almighty as thou art, for thou has stooped to ask of me the love of my poor heart.

No earthly father loves like thee, no mother, e'er so mild, bears and forbears as thou hast don with me thy sinful child.

Father of Jesus, love's reward, what rapture will it be, prostrate before thy throne to lie, and gaze and gaze on thee! FW Faber 1814-63 Tune: Westminster

The Choir sings from Psalm 17 in five sections. This response is used: Incline your ear to me, O Lord, and listen to my words

Offertory Hymn

The God of Abraham praise who reigns enthroned above, ancient of everlasting days, and God of love: to him uplift your voice, at whose supreme command from earth we rise and seek the joys at his right hand. There dwalls the Lord our King

There dwells the Lord our King, the Lord our righteousness,

triumphant o'er the world of sin, the Prince of peace: on Sion's sacred height his kingdom he maintains, and glorious with his saints in light for ever reigns. Before the great three-one they all exulting stand, and tell the wonders he hath done through all their land: the listening spheres attend, and swell the growing fame, and sing in songs which never end the wondrous name.

The God who reigns on high the great archangels sing, and 'Holy, holy, holy,' cry, 'almighty King! who was, and is the same, and evermore shall be: Eternal, Father, great I AM, we worship thee.'

The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high; 'hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,' they ever cry; hail! Abraham's God, and mine! (I join the heavenly lays) all might and majesty are thine, and endless praise. Thomas Olivers 1725-99 from the Hebrew Tune: Leoni

Communion Hymn

Love's redeeming work is done;

fought the fight, the battle won: lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er, lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell; death in vain forbids his rise; Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King; where, O death, is now thy sting? Dying once, he all doth save; where thy victory, O grave? Soar we now where Christ has led, foll'wing our exalted Head; made like him, like him we rise; ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! praise to thee by both be given; thee we greet triumphant now; hail the Resurrection thou! *C.Wesley (1707-88) Tune: Savannah*

Final Hymn

Now is eternal life, if risen with Christ we stand, in him to life reborn, and, held within his hand; no more we fear death's ancient dread, in Christ arisen from the dead!

The human mind so long brooded o'er life's brief span; was it, O God, for naught, for naught our life began? Thou art our hope, our vital breath; shall hope undying end in death?

For God, the living God, stooped down to share our state; by death destroying death, Christ opened wide life's gate. He lives, who died; he reigns on high; who lives in him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine, reign thou within my heart; from thee nor depth nor height, nor life nor death can part; our life is hid in God with thee, now and through all eternity. *G.W. Briggs (1875-1959) ed. Tune: Christchurch*

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