

Notes:

Sermon Text

Subject

Spiritual “To Do List”
(things God has shown me today)

Service Music

Pre-Service - NOW LET US ALL PRAISE GOD AND SING - G. Young

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Martin Luther (l. 1483-1546) was a German theologian, priest, monk, and professor at the University at Wittenberg, who began to question the policies of the Roman Catholic Church at a time when the Church's authority was absolute. He was not the first to do so as there had been earlier movements and figures such as John Wycliffe... and Jan Hus... advocating for church reform. The Church was able to silence these proto-reformers but could not do so with Luther owing to his brilliant use of the printing press, which enabled widespread dissemination of his views, and his personal power as a speaker and writer.

Luther never initially intended to break with the Church, only to amend what he saw as abuse and corruption, but when the Church attempted to silence him, as it had with Hus, he stood his ground and, supported by peasants and some powerful nobles, inspired and informed the movement that became the Protestant Reformation. His speech at Worms (April 18, 1521) is central to the beginning of that movement.

— Joshua J. Mark, Decmeber 9, 2021 World History Encyclopedia www.worldhistory.org

Concluding sentences of Luther’s speech:

Since your most serene majesty and your highnesses require of me a simple, clear, and direct answer, I will give one, and it is this: I cannot submit my faith either to the pope or to the council, because it is clear that they have fallen into error and even into inconsistency with themselves. If, then, I am not convinced by proof from Holy Scripture, or by cogent reasons, if I am not satisfied by the very text I have cited, and if my judgment is not in this way brought into subjection to God's word, I neither can nor will retract anything; for it cannot be either safe or honest for a Christian to speak against his conscience. **Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen.**

from *The History of the Reformation in the Sixteenth Century* by Jean-Henri Merle d'Aubigne (l. 1794-1872), translated by David Dundas Scott



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PHOTO: RDO 10-19-2010



Stand on the
WORD
of
GOD

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN FESTE BURG

Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Tr. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1805-1890

Martin Luther, 1483-1546

1. A might - y For - tress is our God, A Bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be los - ing;
 3. And though this world, with devils filled, Should threaten to un - do us,
 4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a - bid - eth;

Our Help - er He, a - mid the flood Of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
 Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choos - ing.
 We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us.
 The Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through Him who with us sid - eth.

For still our an - cient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He; Lord Sa - ba - oth, His
 The prince of dark - ness grim - We trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en -
 Let goods and kin - dred go, This mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may

great, And, armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.
 name, From age to age the same, And He must win the bat - tle.
 dure, For, lo, his doom is sure; One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 kill; God's truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

"K" in Rippon's "A Selection of Hymns," 1787

Early American Melody

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2. Fear not; I am with thee. Oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3. When thro' the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4. When thro' fie - ry tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5. E'en down to old age all My peo - ple shall prove
 6. The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose

Is laid for your faith - in His ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am thy God, I will still give thee aid.
 The riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply.
 My sov' - reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to his foes;

What more can He say than to you He hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 For I will be with thee thy tri - als to bless,
 The flames shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 And when hoar - y hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,
 That soul, tho' all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

To you' who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 Up - held by My gra - cious, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 And sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 Thy dross to con - sume and thy gold to re - fine.
 Like lambs they shall still in My bos - om be borne.
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake.

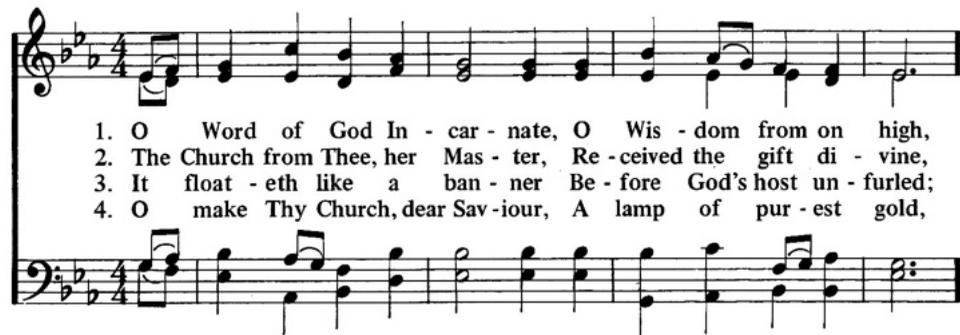
O Word of God Incarnate

MUNICH

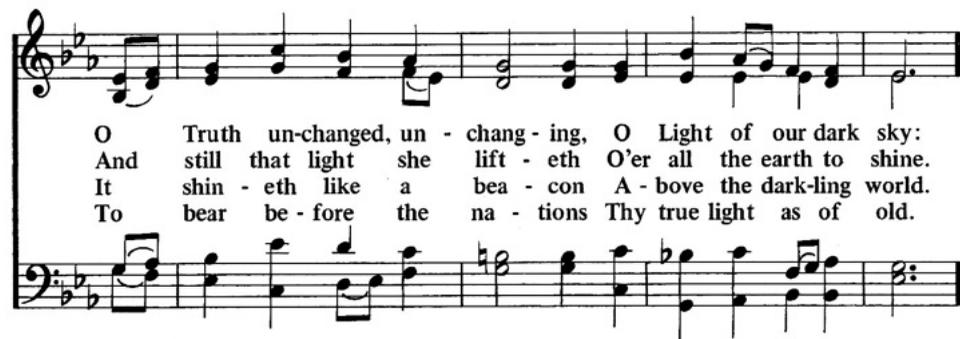
Meiningisches Gesangbuch, 1693

Harm. by Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

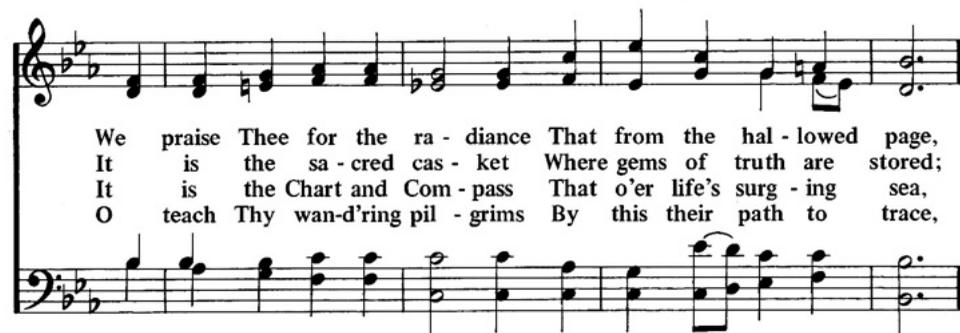
William W. How, 1823-1897



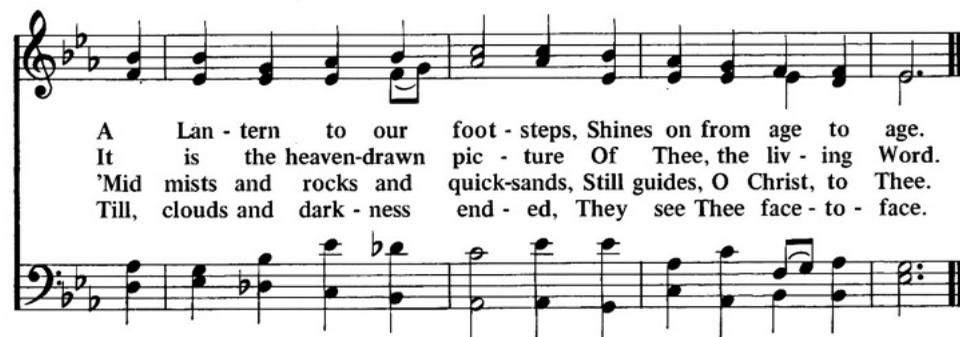
1. O Word of God In - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
2. The Church from Thee, her Mas - ter, Re - ceived the gift di - vine,
3. It float - eth like a ban - ner Be - fore God's host un - furled;
4. O make Thy Church, dear Sav - iour, A lamp of pur - est gold,



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
And still that light she lift - eth O'er all the earth to shine.
It shin - eth like a bea - con A - bove the dark - ling world.
To bear be - fore the na - tions Thy true light as of old.



We praise Thee for the ra - diancè That from the hal - lowed page,
It is the sa - cred cas - ket Where gems of truth are stored;
It is the Chart and Com - pass That o'er life's surg - ing sea,
O teach Thy wan - d'ring pil - grims By this their path to trace,



A Lan - tern to our foot - steps, Shines on from age to age.
It is the heaven - drawn pic - ture Of Thee, the liv - ing Word.
'Mid mists and rocks and quick - sands, Still guides, O Christ, to Thee.
Till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, They see Thee face - to - face.