

Today, O Lord, a Holier Work
Charles Coffin, 1736.
Christopher Tye, 1533.

Today, O Lord, a holier work
Thy secret counsels frame,
A king to rule Thy new made world,
To praise Thy glorious name.

Thou formest man: Thy Spirit breathes
Life into dust of earth:
Man, in Thine own true image made,
From Thee receives his birth.

And henceforth he dominion holds
O'er all in earth and sea;
Yet mindful whence his being came
Must humbly walk with Thee.

Alas! his willful heart rebels
Against Thy gentle sway;
Proud dust of earth would fain be like
The God whom all obey.

O griefs and sorrows numberless,
Which hence the world o'erspread;
Jesu, Thy mercy succored us,
Or hope itself had fled.

O praise the Father, and the Son
Who saved us by His death,
And Holy Ghost who quickens us
With His life giving breath.