

Round the sacred city gather

1. Round the Sacred City gather

Egypt, Edom, Babylon;

All the warring hosts of error,

Sworn against her, move as one:

Vain the leaguer! her foundations

Are upon the holy hills,

And the love of the Eternal

All her stately temple fills.

2. Get thee, watchman, to the rampart!

Gird thee, warrior, with thy sword!

Be ye strong as ye remember

That amidst you is the Lord:

Like the night mists from the valley,

These shall vanish one by one,

Egypt's malice, Edom's envy,

And the hate of Babylon.

3. But be true, ye sons and daughters,

Lest the peril be within:

Watch to prayer, lest, while ye slumber,

Stealthy foemen enter in:

Safe the mother and the children,

In their will and love be strong,

While their loyal hearts go singing

Prayer and praise for battle song.

4. Church of God! if we forget thee

Let His blessings fail our hand,

When our love shall not prefer thee

Let His love forget our land—

Nay! to thee shall we be steadfast,

Though the world's foundations shake,

Love of thee is love for ever,

Love of thee for Jesus' sake.

5. Church of Christ! upon thy banner,

Lo, His passion's awful sign;

By that seal of His redemption

Thou art His, and He is thine:

From the depth of His atonement

Flows thy sacramental tide:

From the height of His ascension

Flows the grace which is thy guide.

6. God the Spirit dwells within thee,

His society divine,

His the living Word thou keepest,

His thy apostolic line.

Ancient prayer and song liturgic,

Creeds that change not to the end,

As His gift we have received them,

As His charge we will defend.

7. Alleluia, alleluia,

To the Father, Spirit, Son,

In Whose will the Church at warfare

With the Church at rest is one;
So to Thee we sing in union,
God in earth and Heav'n adored,
Alleluia, alleluia,
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

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