

*Hymns for the Nation (1781)*<sup>1</sup>

[Baker list, #422 &amp; #423]

**Editorial Introduction:**

In 1775 the Continental Congress established an army and began the military struggle for independence from Britain. The outcome of this struggle was uncertain for a few years. But on October 19, 1781, the American and French forces successfully forced the surrender of General Cornwallis at Yorktown, in the Battle of the Chesapeake. While formal peace was still over a year away, this decisive victory marked the end of a major British land force in North America. As news of the defeat reached England, George III lost control of Parliament to the peace party and the staunch royalists were deeply disheartened.

Charles Wesley was among the disheartened supporters of the king and the war. He expressed his anguish in a set of twenty-six *Hymns for the Nation* that was released in late 1781. The hymns reflect clearly the British sense of being humbled by the defeat, though occasional glimmers of hope shine through that God might yet reverse the tables. Charles shows concern for those still loyal to the king in America, given the defeat, and betrays his presumption that the colonists will not succeed in building their own nation (see hymn 8). While there is a faint echo of the apocalyptic tone of “Hymns for 1745” in hymn 9, Charles’s resignation to a more traditional amillennial eschatology is evident in hymn 16, stanza 5.

The publication history of this collection is complex. Charles issued an initial pamphlet with nine hymns (Part I in Table of Contents below), which he followed very shortly with another pamphlet containing eight more hymns (Part II in Table of Contents below). The pagination in the second pamphlet started over, but the numbering of the hymns did not—it began with hymn 10. Within a month Charles released another printing that combined the two parts, in which the numbering of both the hymns and the pages was consecutive. Since there were minimal textual changes, and they all appeared in the same year, the text of this combined edition (shown in **red font** in the list of editions) is given below. This combined edition was reprinted once, apparently in 1782. Then an edition was printed that added the fifteen hymns of *Hymns for the National Fast* (1782) to the collection. This was followed by one last edition that removed some of the hymns from this three-part set that were most focused on the Americans.

**Editions:**

[Charles Wesley.] *Hymns for the Nation in 1782*. [np, 1781.] (hymns 1–9)

[Charles Wesley.] *Hymns for the Nation in 1782*, Part II. [np, 1781.] (hymns 10–17)

**[Charles Wesley.] *Hymns for the Nation in 1782*. London: Paramore, 1781. (hymns 1–17)**

[Charles Wesley.] *Hymns for the Nation in 1782*. London: Paramore, [1782.] (17 hymns)

[Charles Wesley.] *Hymns for the Nation in 1782, in Two Parts*. London: Paramore, [1782?].

— adding *Hymns for the National Fast* (1782), now 32 hymns

[Charles Wesley.] *Hymns for the Nation in 1782*. London: Paramore, [1782?].

— edition with 25 hymns (omitting hymns 2, 3, 8, 12, 16, 21 & 22)<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>This document was produced by the Duke Center for Studies in the Wesleyan Tradition under editorial direction of Randy L. Maddox, with the diligent assistance of Aileen F. Maddox. Last updated: June 16, 2008.

<sup>2</sup>The omission of these six hymns was requested by JW in a letter to John Atlay, Apr. 4, 1782.

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**HYMNS FOR THE NATION,  
IN 1782.**

**[Part 1.]**

**Hymn 1.  
After the Defeat at the Chesapeak.**

- 1 The Lord, th' Almighty Lord of hosts  
His own dread purpose hath fulfilled;  
Rebuked a sinful nation's boasts,  
That all may see his arm revealed;  
And Britain humbled in the dust,  
Confess his sharpest judgments just.
- 2 Righteous, O Lord, thy judgments are!  
We bow to thy severe decree,  
Who, casting out our formal prayer,  
Hast giv'n our foes the victory:  
As pleased rebellion's cause to bless,  
And crown the wicked with success.
- 3 The wicked are thy sword and rod,  
Our crimes commissioned to chastise;  
Who long have fought against our God,  
Provoked the vengeance of the skies:  
Thy threat'nings mocked, thy favors spurned,  
Thy blessings into curses turned.

- 4     Therefore the dire decree takes place,  
          Abandoned as to Satan's power,  
A desperate, death-devoted race:  
          We see the slaught'ring sword devour:  
Our legions pass beneath the yoke,  
Our nation is of God forsook.
- 5     Yet if thou hast not fixed our doom,  
          And sworn, in wrath, no more to spare,  
If still there is for mercy room,  
          For hope, and penitence, and prayer,  
Us in our blood once more relieve,  
And bid *thy* sentenced rebels live.
- 6     Howe'er the righteous thou conceal,  
          Or under, or above the skies,  
The wicked *must* thy justice feel;  
          And never shall Britannia rise,  
Unless we to our smiter turn,  
And leave the sins for which we mourn.

**Hymn 2.**  
**For the Loyal Americans.**

- 1     Father of everlasting love,  
          The only refuge of despair,  
Thy bowels toward th' afflicted move;  
          And now thou hear'st the mournful prayer  
We for our helpless brethren breathe,  
Who pant within the jaws of death.
- 2     The men who dared their king revere,  
          And faithful to their oaths abide,  
Midst perjured hypocrites sincere,  
          Harassed, oppressed on every side;  
Galled by the tyrant's iron yoke,  
By Britain's faithless sons forsook.

- 3 Our patriot chiefs betrayed their trust,  
    To serve their own infernal ends,  
The slaves of avarice and lust,  
    Sparing their foes, they spoiled their friends;  
Basely repaid their loyal zeal,  
And left them—to the murderer's<sup>3</sup> will.
- 4 As sheep appointed to be slain,  
    The victims of fidelity  
To man they look for help in vain;  
    But shall they look in vain to thee,  
God over all, who canst subdue  
The hearts which mercy never knew.
- 5 Ev'n now thou canst disarm their rage,  
    (If so thy gracious will intends)  
The wrath implacable assuage  
    The malice of remorseless fiends:  
Mercy at last compelled to show,  
And let the hopeless captives go.
- 6 Yet if our brethren's doom be sealed;  
    And for superior joys designed,  
They have their glorious course fulfilled;  
    To souls beneath the altar joined,  
Their guiltless blood hath found a tongue,  
And every drop exclaims—"How long?"
- 7 O earth, conceal not thou their blood  
    Which loud as Zechariah's cries!  
O God, thou just, avenging God,  
    Behold them with thy flaming eyes,  
And blast, and utterly consume  
Those murderers of *fanatic* Rome.
- 8 Till then, thou bidd'st thy servants rest,  
    Who suffered death for conscience sake,  
And wait to rise completely blest,  
    The general triumph to partake,  
To see the righteous judge come down,  
And boldly claim the martyr's crown.

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<sup>3</sup>Ori., "murder's"; in first release of "Part 1," corrected in combined edition later that year.

**Hymn 3.**  
**“By whom shall Jacob arise! For he is small.”**  
**Amos 7:2.<sup>4</sup>**

- 1 By whom, O God, shall Britain rise,  
So small in all the nations' eyes,  
So lessened in her own?  
Out of the deep, we cry to thee,  
And with profound humility  
Besiege thy gracious throne.
- 2 By whom, O God, shall Britain rise?  
Not by th' ignoble slaves of vice  
Who have their country sold,  
Betrayed us in their prosp'rous hour,  
To raise a restless faction's power,  
And glut their lust of gold.
- 3 Not by the basest tools of war,  
Who all thy plagues and judgments dare,  
In oaths and blasphemies,  
Ravage their friends with sword and fire,  
Through covetous or foul desire,  
And hate the thoughts of peace.
- 4 By whom—but we enquire in vain,  
Till thou thy own design explain,  
For only Lord to thee  
Thy works, before the world begun,  
Thy chosen instrument were known  
From all eternity.
- 5 Thy searching eye beholds him now:  
While suppliant at thy feet we bow  
To us the man be showed,  
Th' intrepid man of virtuous zeal,  
Resolved and incorruptible,  
Who seeks our nation's good:

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<sup>4</sup>Ori., “8:2”.

- 6 Our nation's good, and not his own;  
While list'ning to the plaintive moan,  
Of loyalty oppressed,  
He serves his king's and God's designs,  
America and Britain joins,  
And blends them in his breast.
- 7 O that he in the gap may stand,  
Raised up to save a sinking land,  
Our blessings to restore,  
Concord, and peace, and loyal fear,  
And truth, and piety sincere,  
Till time shall be no more.
- 8 Then shall we, Lord, surround thy throne,  
Through Christ inseparably one,  
United in thy praise,  
And sing, with all those hosts above,  
The triumphs of all-conquering love  
In everlasting lays.

#### Hymn 4.

- 1 Great God, we know not what to do,  
But fix our wishful eyes on thee,  
Who or by many or by few  
Sav'st in the last extremity!  
Whose arm, when all resources fail,  
Its own immortal strength puts on,  
When the infernal hosts prevail,  
And Satan shouts—"The work is done."
- 2 Whom hostile multitudes surround,  
And nations ready to devour,  
No help for us in man is found,  
No refuge in our darkest hour,  
Unless thy greatness interpose,  
To blast th' infallible design,  
Confound our proud, triumphant foes,  
And claim this ransomed land for thine.

- 3    Oft hath thine arm, in ancient days,  
      Stretched out in our defence appeared,  
And ransomed a devoted race,  
      And snatched us from the death we feared:  
Armies and fleets invincible  
      Were baffled in their surest aim,  
Treasons and plots thou didst dispel  
      Deep as the pit from which they came.
- 4    Thy providence reversed our doom,  
      When parricides the land o'erflowed,  
(Rebellious sects in league with Rome)  
      And turned it to a field of blood.  
For years we groaned beneath their sway,  
      But mercy by a powerful word,  
Crushed all our tyrants in a day,  
      Our blessings all at once *restored*.
- 5    Have we not lately heard and seen  
      More wonderful escapes than these,  
From furious, persecuting men,  
      From hosts of human savages?  
Appalled, we heard Apollyon roar,  
      Aghast we saw the flames aspire,  
Till rescued by almighty power,  
      And plucked as brands out of the fire.
- 6    Why then, great God, should we despair,  
      As thou wert not almighty still,  
But deaf to thy own people's prayer  
      Who tremble at th' impending ill;  
Who will not let the scourge o'erflow,  
      The desolating judgment come,  
But still suspend the final blow,  
      And screen the land from Sodom's doom.
- 7    Wrestling with Abraham's faithful seed  
      Lo! In the gap we humbly stand,  
The righteous for the wicked plead  
      Protectors of a guilty land,



Thou infinite in gracious power,  
With theirs our suppliant suit receive,  
Stay the rough wind, the fiery shower,  
And for the remnant's sake forgive.

- 8 If now in us thy Spirit cry,  
In ours thy own request attend,  
The Lord of hosts, the Lord most high  
Deliverance to thine Israel send;  
Because thou art the faithful God,  
Our God in every age the same,  
Because we trust in Jesu's blood,  
And ask the grace in Jesu's name.

**Hymn 5.**  
**For His Majesty King George.**

- 1 Jesus, from whom dominion springs,  
The faithful counsellor of kings,  
The sovereign Lord thou art;  
Thy Spirit on our king bestow,  
Who only dost the mazes know  
Of man's deceitful heart.
- 2 By factious demagogues gainsaid,  
By fawning sycophants betrayed  
Who boast their loyalty,  
How can he judge, or choose aright,  
Unless assisted by thy light,  
And taught himself by thee?
- 3 Do thou the true discernment give,  
Whom to reject, and whom receive  
His royal toils to share;  
O point him out where'er concealed  
The upright man, with wisdom filled,  
An empire's weight to bear.

- 4 The man with heavenly courage bold,  
Above the lust of fame, or gold,  
Detached and unconfined,  
A foe to every selfish end,  
Religion's, and his country's friend,  
A friend to all mankind.
- 5 Not for himself but others made,  
His country and his king to aid  
With talents large endowed;  
Out of the throng thy servant choose,  
A vessel fitted for thy use,  
And for Britannia's good.
- 6 Him as a guardian angel send,  
Our feuds, and woes, and wars to end,  
Our sinking state to raise;  
Brethren in lasting bonds to join,  
And then confess—the work is thine,  
And give thee all the praise.
- 7 So shall our happy monarch see  
His kingdoms in prosperity,  
Through thy uniting power,  
The source of all our blessings own,  
And prostrate at thy gracious throne,  
The King of kings adore.

### Hymn 6.

- 1 At this most alarming crisis,  
Shall we not from sin awake,  
While the great Jehovah rises,  
Terribly the earth to shake?  
While he doth a moment spare,  
Shall we not attend the rod,  
Hear his thunder's voice, "Prepare,  
O prepare, to meet your God!"

- 2    Compassed round with hostile nations,  
      All to our destruction sworn,  
      God of unexhausted patience,  
      Still we may to thee return:  
      Though thy peremptory sentence  
      Absolute perdition sound,  
      Place there is for true repentance,  
      Mercy sought may yet be found.
- 3    Still thou hear'st the mourners sighing  
      For our wickedness abhorred,  
      Thousands in our Israel crying  
      Stop, O stop the slaughtering sword,  
      Drop thy dreadful controversy,  
      While we at thy footstool groan;  
      Lord, in wrath remember mercy,  
      Give us to thy pleading Son.
- 4    By his bloody cross and Passion,  
      By his precious death, we pray,  
      Turn aside thine indignation,  
      Take thy heaviest plague away,  
      Sin, the cause of our distresses,  
      Sin, the bitter root remove,  
      Then appeased, thine anger ceases,  
      Then redeemed, we praise and love.

**Hymn 7.  
For Concord.**

- 1    Divided 'gainst itself so long  
      How could a kingdom stand,  
      Had we not a Redeemer, strong  
      To prop our tottering land?  
      Had he not left himself a seed  
      Who deprecate the woe,  
      Who day and night for mercy plead,  
      And still suspend the blow.

- 2 Still let thy praying seed prevail  
Our evils to remove,  
Till mercy turns the hovering scale,  
And justice yields to love;  
His king till every Briton owns  
With warmest loyalty,  
And faction's and rebellion's sons  
Stretch out their hands to thee.
- 3 Now, Lord, a gracious token show,  
The stoutest hearts incline  
Their own true happiness to know,  
Their common foes' design;  
Against ourselves who turn our swords,  
That they the spoils may gain,  
And rise at last despotic lords,  
And by our ruin reign.
- 4 Why should the specious fiend deceive  
The many by the few?  
Saviour, the multitude forgive;  
They know not what they do;  
They fancy those their country's friends,  
Who hasten on its doom,  
And blindly serve the treacherous ends  
Of tyranny and Rome.
- 5 Open their eyes almighty grace,  
The latent snare to see,  
That brethren may again embrace  
In closest amity;  
Britons no more with Britons fight,  
No more our God oppose,  
Let Europe then their powers unite,  
And all the world be foes.

**Hymn 8.**  
**A Prayer for the Congress.**

- 1 True is the oracle divine,  
    The sentence which thy lips hath passed,  
Though hand in hand the wicked join,  
    They shall not, Lord, escape at last;  
Who for a while triumphant seem,  
    Curst with their own false heart's desire,  
Their empire is a fleeting dream,  
    Their hopes shall all in smoke expire.
  
- 2 Surely thou wilt full vengeance take  
    On rebels 'gainst their king and God,  
And strictest inquisition make  
    For rivers spilt of guiltless blood,  
By men who take thy name in vain,  
    By fiends in sanctity's disguise,  
As thou wert served with nations slain,  
    Or pleased with human sacrifice.
  
- 3 Thou know'st thine own appointed time  
    Th' ungodly homicides to quell,  
Chastise their complicated crime,  
    And break their covenant with hell:  
Thy plagues shall then o'erwhelm them all,  
    From proud ambition's summit driven;  
And faith foresees th' usurpers fall,  
    As Lucifer cast down from heaven.
  
- 4 Yet if they have not sinned the sin  
    Which never can obtain thy grace,  
When Tophet yawns to take them in,  
    And claims them as their proper place,  
The authors of our woes forgive,  
    And snatch their souls from endless woes,  
Who wouldst that all mankind should live,  
    Who diedst thyself to save thy foes.

**Hymn 9.**  
**“Thy kingdom come!”**

- 1 Jesus, supreme in majesty,  
Thy kingdom and thy glory claim,  
For every soul, and every knee  
Must bow to thy tremendous name,  
JEHOVAH on Jehovah’s throne,  
Fulness of power to thee is given;  
Thou settest up, and castest down,  
And orderest all in earth and heaven.
  
- 2 We trace thy footsteps in the deep,  
Who dost in previous judgments come,  
And with destruction’s besom sweep  
The earth, to make thy kingdom room:  
The havoc which on earth we see,  
The dire effects of human will  
Accomplish thy unknown decree,  
Thy own mysterious mind fulfil.
  
- 3 Thou sufferest now the evil done,  
Where the rebellious multitude  
In the New World rush madly on,  
O’er hills of slain, through seas of blood:  
Their rage for power, their fury blind  
Hastens the coming of our Lord,  
The good supreme for man designed,  
With paradise on earth restored.
  
- 4 Whate’er the plagues that intervene,  
The judgments, and vindictive days,  
Saviour, we know the final scene,  
The earth renewed in righteousness,  
Descending on thine azure throne  
Thee in the clouds we soon shall see,  
To reign before thy saints alone,  
And then through all eternity.

[Part 2.]

Hymn 10.

- 1 Turn us again, our Saviour-God,  
And let thy righteous anger cease;  
Be satisfied with seas of blood,  
Spilt for our nation's wickedness:  
But seas of blood cannot atone  
For sins which cost thee all thine own.
- 2 Thine own, thine own, for respite cries,  
When smote a sinner turns to thee;  
And dares not lift his guilty eyes,  
But sighs—"Be merciful to me!"  
O that with hearts, not garments, rent,  
We all might, as one man, repent!
- 3 In vain alas, thy patience spares,  
Unless thy grace our hearts convince,  
In vain are all our fasts and prayers,  
Unless we cast away our sins,  
(Of all our woes the bitter root,)  
And bear the penitential fruit.
- 4 O that at last the faithful seed,  
Who day and night besiege thy throne,  
The just who for our Sodom plead,  
Might pray the contrite Spirit down,  
On those, who hardened from thy fear,  
Defy eternal judgments near.
- 5 Behold them with that pitying eye,  
Which wept the bloody city's doom;  
Who wouldst not let thy murderers die:  
Who wouldst not let the flames consume,  
When urged by fiends implacable,  
We hung as o'er the mouth of hell.
- 6 Hence, by a glimmering ray of hope,  
Cheered, we presume to sue for grace;  
That sin which fills the measure up,  
That sin which saints and prophets slays,

That only sin, through grace alone  
Restrained, thou know'st, we have not done.

- 7 Then let thy people's suit succeed,  
For those that have thy people spared,  
And save them at their greatest need,  
By general penitence prepared,  
The humbled prodigals receive,  
And for thy own dear sake forgive.
- 8 Cut short thy work in righteousness,  
That all thy gracious work may see;  
Born in a day our nation bless,  
With pure, primeval piety:  
Born in a day, from heaven above,  
The day of thine almighty love.

### Hymn 11.

- 1 Saviour, whom our hearts adore,  
To bless our earth again,  
Now assume thy royal power,  
And o'er the nations reign:  
Christ, the world's desire and hope,  
Pow'r complete to thee is given,  
Set the last great empire up,  
Eternal God of heaven.
- 2 When thy foes are swept away,  
And meet their righteous doom,  
Then thy deity display,  
And let thy kingdom come:  
Then in the New World appear,  
In lands where thou wast never known,  
There th' imperial standard rear,  
And fix thy fav'rite throne.
- 3 Where they all thy laws have spurned,  
Thy holiest name profaned,  
Where the ruined earth hath mourned,  
With blood of millions slain:



Open there th' ethereal scene,  
Claim the savage race for thine,  
There thy endless reign begin  
With majesty divine.

4 Universal Saviour, thou  
Wilt all thy creatures bless,  
Every knee to thee shall bow,  
And every tongue confess:  
None shall in thy mount destroy;  
War shall then be learnt no more,  
Saints shall their great King enjoy,  
And all mankind adore.

5 Then, according to thy word,  
Salvation is revealed;  
With thy glorious knowledge, Lord,  
The new-made earth is filled:  
Then we sound the mystery,  
The depths and heights of Godhead prove,  
Swallowed up in mercy's sea,  
Forever lost in love.

### Hymn 12.

#### For the Conversion of the French.

1 Supreme, immortal potentate,  
Whose will omnipotent is fate,  
Who on thy lofty throne  
Dost with unrivalled glory sit,  
Till earth, and heaven, and hell submit,  
And bow to thee alone:

2 Hear us, in this our evil day,  
Against the treacherous nation pray,  
Which by pernicious wiles  
Conspires our country to o'erthrow,  
And with the wisdom from below  
The Christian world embroils.

- 3 A nation whom no oaths can bind,  
The false corrupters of mankind,  
The slaves of every lust,  
Despiteful, insolent, and proud,  
Haters of the redeeming God,  
And murderers of the just.
- 4 Fraught with the policy of Rome,  
By the old felon led, they come  
To scatter, steal, and slay;  
Brethren and countrymen divide,  
While with gigantic steps they stride  
To universal sway.
- 5 Arise, O Lord of hosts, arise,  
Open the drowsy nation's eyes,  
To see the threatened blow;  
Europe's unconscious states alarm,  
In strict confederacy to arm  
Against the common foe.
- 6 O let thy jealousy awake,  
Into thy hand the matter take,  
That all thy hand may see;  
Which casts the proud and mighty down,  
Which doth the weak, and humble crown  
With more than victory.
- [7] Compel triumphant Gallia's pride  
To own that God is on our side,  
Who nothing fear but God:  
Nor can their plots, or arms succeed,  
While in our Saviour's steps we tread,  
And glory in his blood.
- 8 The wretches, Lord, who thee blaspheme,  
O let thy blood be heard for them,  
Into the furnace cast;  
So shall the infidels return,  
Look upon thee they pierced, and mourn,  
And 'scape the fire at last.

**Hymn 13.**  
**For Her Majesty.**

- 1 Jesus, with complaisance see,  
Her our faith presents to thee;  
Her, the choicest gift of heaven,  
To our favored monarch given.
- 2 Giv'n, his joys and griefs to share,  
Ev'ry toil, and ev'ry care;  
Born to soften his distress,  
Born t' insure his happiness.
- 3 Her thou hast on all bestowed,  
Lovely minister of good;  
Her, in our flagitious days,  
Beautified with every grace.
- 4 Virtuous, wise, without pretence,  
Meek as lamb-like innocence;  
Rival of the saints above,  
Object of a nation's love.
- 5 Malice ventures not to blame,  
Envy sickens at her name;  
Gen'ral praise is Charlotte's right,  
Parties all in this unite.
- 6 Neither man, nor God they spare,  
Yet they all are friends to her;  
Strangest sight that earth can show,  
Goodness *lives*—without a foe!
- 7 Happy that she long may live,  
Jesus, all thy blessings give;  
Partner of the British throne,  
Count her worthy of thy own.
- 8 Let her then triumphant stand,  
With the blest at thy right hand;  
She, and all her children given,  
All ordained to reign in heaven.

**Hymn 14.**  
**For the Royal Family.**

- 1       Father, to thee we bring  
          In faithful, fervent prayer,  
The offspring of our gracious king,  
          Thy own peculiar care:  
          Acknowledging for thine,  
          Into thy arms receive,  
And let them in thy service join,  
          And to thy glory live.
- 2       From every secret foe,  
          From every flattering friend,  
Who all thy creatures' hearts dost know,  
          Their innocence defend:  
          To make them truly great,  
          Thy grace to them be given,  
And with thy people's princes seat  
          Th' anointed heirs of heaven.
- 3       O may they still approve  
          Their gratitude to thee,  
And recompense their parents' love  
          With dutious piety;  
          Still bow to thy command,  
          Till the great King comes down,  
And each receives from Jesu's hand  
          An everlasting crown.

**Hymn 15.**  
**Thanksgiving for the Success**  
**of the Gospel in America.**

- 1       Glory to our redeeming Lord,  
          Whose kingdom over all presides,  
While in the chariot of the word,  
          And on the whirlwind's wings he rides.

- 2     Nothing his rapid course can stay,  
       Or stop his government's increase;  
Earthquakes, and plagues prepare his way,  
       Wars usher in the Prince of Peace.
- 3     Rebellions, massacres, and blood  
       On every side as water shed,  
Are suffered by a righteous God,  
       That happier days may then succeed.
- 4     Ev'n now his word doth swiftly run,  
       And saving knowledge multiplies,  
And still his gracious work goes on,  
       And still his temple's walls arise.
- 5     The church is built in troublous times,  
       (Jehovah the commission gave)  
And God from all their sins and crimes  
       Would all the sons of Adam save.
- 6     Loving to the whole ransomed race,  
       He fits the creatures for his use,  
In every age and every place  
       One uniform design pursues.
- 7     In love he doth his sons chastise,  
       His desolating judgments send!  
Judgments are mercies in disguise,  
       And all in man's salvation end.
- 8     Wherefore beneath thy hand we bow,  
       And bless each salutary blow;  
If what thou dost we know not now,  
       We shall, O Lord, hereafter know.
- 9     Shall see thy footsteps in th' abyss,  
       Unwind the providential maze,  
And own, amidst the general bliss,  
       Mercy, and truth are all thy ways.

- 10 With grateful joy we comprehend  
The meaning of th' eternal mind:  
Accept, thou universal friend,  
The ceaseless praise of all mankind!

**Hymn 16.**<sup>5</sup>

- 1 God, who wouldst a world forgive,  
Offer'st all sufficient grace:  
All *may* in thy Son believe,  
Numbers *do* thy Son embrace;  
Numbers saved, from ev'ry sect,  
Form the church of thy elect.
- 2 Scattered o'er the earth they lie,  
Sheep with wolves encompassed round,  
Guided by their shepherd's eye,  
Safe they in the fold are found;  
Angels all their steps attend,  
Serve, and keep them to the end.
- 3 When thy judgments are abroad,  
Them thou kindly dost conceal,  
Hidden in the ark of God,  
Sheltered, they in Zoar dwell,  
Find a sanctu'ry prepared,  
Find omnipotence their guard.
- 4 Poor and mean, whom all reject,  
Persecute, or else despise,  
They their enemies protect,  
Stay the vengeance of the skies:  
Till thou hast secured thine own,  
Stands the world for them alone.
- 5 States and empires rise, or fall,  
Stands the church till time shall end,  
Waiting for the Bridegroom's call,  
List'ning, longing to ascend,  
Fair, and spotless, and complete,  
Jesus in the clouds to meet.

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<sup>5</sup>Ori., "26".

- 6    When the number is fulfilled,  
        When the righteous are brought home,  
When the mystery is sealed,  
        Then the world shall meet its doom,  
Earth burnt up in smoke expire,  
Sinners in eternal fire.

**Hymn 17.**

- 1    Let earth be glad, the Lord is King,  
The multitude of isles may sing,  
Britain may still rejoice in him  
The Lord almighty to redeem,  
Who o'er the impatient heathen reigns,  
And holds our furious foes in chains.
- 2    Frowning on us, he seems awhile  
On perjured parricides to smile,  
Our foes with much long-suffering spares  
A bundle of devoted tares,  
But bids us patiently attend  
His time, and calmly mark the end!
- 3    Escaping for their wickedness,  
Triumphant in their sure success,  
Off from their necks the yoke they shake,  
And as *meek saints* the kingdom take,  
And 'stablish both by land and sea,  
The fifth the final monarchy.
- 4    Yet instruments of thy design  
The kingdom is not theirs, but thine,  
Who dost with wisdom deep employ  
Thy foes each other to destroy,  
And use, beyond their own intent,  
To shock, and purge the continent.
- 5    Extirpating th' ungodly race,  
With whom wilt thou supply their place?

With Israel's tribes so long concealed?  
Just Jews, and real Christians filled?  
With savages through Jesu's blood  
Redeemed, and sealed the sons of God?

- 6 America, we trust shall show  
Thy glorious kingdom fixed below,  
A kingdom of perennial peace,  
Pure joy, and perfect righteousness,  
Not of this world, but that above,  
Where all is harmony and love.
- 7 Then shall thy whole design be seen,  
How far beyond the thoughts of men!  
When all authority put down,  
All powers are swallowed up in one,  
And challenging thy right divine,  
Thou claim'st the universe for thine.
- 8 Then shall we hallelujah sing,  
Angels and saints, to Christ our King,  
Loud as the mighty waters' noise,  
Loud as the rattling thunder's voice,  
"Th' omnipotent his sway maintains,  
The Lord our God forever reigns!"