

Gloria Patri (1746)¹

[Baker list, #126]

Editorial Introduction:

In October 1746 Charles Wesley issued another pamphlet collection of hymns, titled *Gloria Patri; or Hymns to the Trinity*. Recalling that he had just issued a series of such pamphlets for celebrating Christmas, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost, it is possible that he intended this collection for the celebration of Trinity Sunday (the first Sunday after Pentecost). However, he does not make this connection explicit, nor did he publish the collection immediately prior to the festival as in the other cases.

It is more likely that Wesley intended this collection to resource Methodist worship throughout the year. He had already included a set of short hymns of praise to the Trinity in *HSP* (1740), 100–104; and a second set, under the subheading “Gloria Patri,” in *Hymns on God’s Everlasting Love* (1742), 54–60. Citations in Wesley’s *MS Journal* make clear that these short hymns were sung frequently both in public services and at home. Such everyday use would fit with the second printing of this new collection being combined with a collection of hymns for meals that was published the same year—*Graces* (1746).

Charles appears to have guided this collection to publication and is the author of most, if not all, of the verse included. Of the twenty-four short hymns, eight were drawn from the earlier sets mentioned above (and are indicated in [blue font](#) in the Table of Contents below). One of these eight (#5) is an adaptation of a verse from a hymn by Samuel Wesley Sr., Charles’s father.

The collection went through nine British printings during Charles Wesley’s life, with very minimal revisions. It appears to have fallen into disuse in later years as the selected collections of hymns edited by John Wesley became the standards of Methodist worship. Over 1,000 copies of the last printing of *Gloria Patri* remained in the inventory at John Wesley’s house, London, in 1791.

Editions:

[Charles Wesley.] *Gloria Patri; or Hymns to the Trinity*. London: Strahan, 1746.

Dublin: Powell, 1747. [as pp. 15–23 of *Graces* (1746)]

2nd Bristol: Farley, 1749.

3rd London: Cock, 1753.

4th London, 1757.

5th London, 1757.

4th Bristol: Pine, 1764.

5th Bristol: Pine, 1771.

6th London: Hawes, 1775.

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**GLORIA PATRI, &c.
OR
HYMNS
TO THE
TRINITY.**

I.²

Fountain of deity,
Father, all hail to thee!
Ever equally ador'd,
Hail the Spirit and the Son,
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
One in Three, and Three in One.

II.³

Sing we to our God above
Praise eternal as his love:
Praise him, all ye heavenly host,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

²Appeared first in *HSP* (1740), 100.

³Appeared first in *HSP* (1740), 101.

III.⁴

- [1] Father live, by all things fear'd;
Live the Son, alike rever'd;
Equally be thou ador'd,
Holy Ghost eternal Lord.
- [2] Three in Person, One in power,
Thee we worship evermore:
Praise by all to thee be given,
Endless theme of earth and heaven.

IV.⁵

- 1 Praise be to the Father given!
Christ he gave
Us to save,
Now the heirs of heaven.
- 2 Pay we equal adoration
To the Son:
He alone
Wrought out our salvation.
- 3 Glory to the eternal Spirit!
Us he seals,
Christ reveals,
And applies his merit.
- 4 Worship, honour, thanks and blessing,
One in Three,
Give we thee,
Never, never ceasing.

V.⁶

To God, who reigns enthron'd on high,
To his dear Son who deign'd to die
Our guilt and misery to remove,
To that blest Spirit who life imparts,
Who rules in all believing hearts,
Be endless glory, praise and love.

⁴Appeared first in *HSP* (1740), 101.

⁵Appeared first in *HSP* (1740), 101–2.

⁶Appeared in *HSP* (1740), 102. This is a slightly revised version of verse 2 of Samuel Wesley Sr.'s adaptation of Psalm CXVII, in *The Pious Communicant Rightly Prepared* (London: Charles Harper, 1700), 259–60.

VI.⁷

- 1 Let heaven, and earth agree,
The Father's praise to sing,
Who draws us to the Son, that he
May us to glory bring.
- 2 Honour and endless love,
Let God the Son receive,
Who saves us here, and prays above,
That we with him may live.
- 3 Be everlasting praise
To God the Spirit given,
Who now attests us sons of grace,
And seals us heirs of heaven.
- 4 Drawn, and redeem'd and seal'd,
We'll sing the One and Three,
With Father, Son, and Spirit fill'd,
To all eternity.

VII.⁸

- 1 Father of mankind be ever ador'd:
Thy mercy we find, in sending our Lord,
To ransom and bless us; thy goodness we praise,
For sending in Jesus salvation by grace.
- 2 O Son of his love, who deignest to die,
Our curse to remove, our pardon to buy;
Accept our thanksgiving, Almighty to save,
Who openest heaven, to all that believe.
- 3 O Spirit of love, of health, and of power,
Thy working we prove; thy grace we adore,
Whose inward revealing applies our Lord's blood,
Attesting and sealing us children of God.

⁷Appeared first in *HSP* (1740), 102–3.

⁸Appeared first in *HSP* (1740), 103–4.

VIII.

Hail Father, friend of human race,
Hail Jesus full of truth and grace,
 Hail Holy Spirit of love;
Thy triune majesty we shew,
With all thy suffering saints below,
 Thy glorious saints above.

IX.

Glory to God on high!
 The God of love and power
Who made both earth and sky,
 Let all his works adore:
Praise to the great Three-One be given
By all in earth and all in heaven.

X.

- 1 All glory and praise,
 To the God of all grace!
 The Father of him,
Who died on a cross, the whole world to redeem.
 All honour and love
 To the Saviour above,
 The glorified Son,
Who remembers and sends us the Comforter down.
- 2 The Spirit adore,
 Till time is no more,
 And then the One-Three,
Our matter of endless rejoicing shall be,
 We then in the sky
 Hallelujah shall cry,
 And the praise of our King,
Thro' the days of an happy eternity sing.

XI.

- [1] To Father, Son, and Spirit
 Ascribe we equal glory!
 One deity
 In Persons Three,
 Let all thy works adore thee.

- [2] As was from the beginning,
Glory to God be given,
By all who know
Thy name below;
And all thy hosts in heaven!

XII.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
One God in Persons Three,
Give praise, ye saints and heavenly host,
Thro' all eternity.

XIII.

- 1 Hail holy, holy, holy Lord,
Thrice blessed Trinity,
By all thy heavenly hosts ador'd,
Ere⁹ man began to be;
Worship'd by all thy saints below,
The God of truth and grace,
Thro' faith, the great Three-One they know,
And triumph in thy praise.
- 2 The upper and the lower quire
Shall soon be join'd in one,
And both triumphantly conspire
To worship round thy throne:
Angels and saints, when time shall end,
Shall all thy love display,
And in thy glorious praises spend
An everlasting day.

XIV.

Paternal source of deity,
Accept the thanks thy creatures bring;
Jesus thy filial Godhead we
With angels and archangels sing:
Honour divine and equal praise
To thee, O Holy Ghost, be given
In glorious everlasting lays,
When earth is swallow'd up in heaven.

⁹Ori., "E'er"; but clearly means "before."

XV.

Glory to God the Father give,
Glory ascribe to God the Son,
Glory let God the Spirit receive
Inexplicably Three and One,
Angels and men his tribute raise,
A whole eternity of praise.

XVI.

Father, Lord of earth and heaven,
Take the praise
Of thy grace
By thy creatures given.
Son of God, let all confess thee
One with him,
God supreme,
Saints and angels bless thee.
Holy Ghost, let all before thee
Prostrate fall,
Lord of all,
Very God adore thee.
Let us soon in heavenly places,
One and Three,
Render thee
Everlasting praises.

XVII.

- 1 Live our great God on high
Eternally ador'd,
Who gave his Son to die,
Our dear redeeming Lord
He from his throne and bosom gave,
A world, a sinful world to save.
- 2 Worship and praise and power
Ascribe we to the Lamb,
His bleeding wounds adore,
And kiss his precious name,
Jesus the name to sinners given,
The name that lifts us up to heaven.

- 3 That blessed Spirit praise
Who shews th' atoning blood,
Applies the Saviour's grace,
And seals the sons of God;
Spirit of grace and glory too
He claims eternal praise his due.
- 4 We with our friends above,
When time and death shall end,
In extacies of love
An heavenly life shall spend,
Spend in the great Jehovah's praise
An age of everlasting days.

XVIII.

- [1] Father of all above, below,
Thy praise let every creature shew,
In thee who live and move and are;
The Father's fellow and his Son
Eternal sharer of his throne
Let all in heaven and earth declare.
- 2 Hail, Holy Ghost, alike ador'd,
One with the Father and the Word,
The Lord of life, the great I AM,
Coequal coeternal Three,
Thy¹⁰ glorious triune deity
Let all eternally proclaim.

XIX.

- 1 Thee Father of men
And angels we praise,
Whose wonders are seen
In nature and grace
Throughout thy creation,
Whose goodness we prove,
And boundless compassion
And infinite love.
- 2 Thee, Jesus, the Son
Of God we confess,
Whose passion alone
Hath purchas'd our peace;

¹⁰“Thy” changed to “The” in 4th edn. (1764) and following.

With cherubs before thee
And seraphs we fall,
And prostrate adore thee
The Saviour of all.

3 O Spirit of might,
Of joy, and of love,
Who guidest us right
To mansions above,
Whose hallowing graces
For heaven prepare;
We pay thee our praises
'Till glorified there.

4 There, there we shall see
The substance divine,
And fashion'd like thee
Transcendantly shine,
Thy personal essence
Be bold to explain,
And wrapt in thy presence
Eternally reign.

XX.

All glory to God
In his highest abode
Who sits on the throne!
All glory to Jesus his crucified Son!
All glory and praise
To the Spirit of grace!
The eternal I AM
Let his saints and his angels for ever proclaim!

XXI.

Shout to the great Jehovah's praise,
Ye sons of glory and of grace,
One God in Persons Three adore,
The same in majesty and power;
Ye suffering, and triumphant host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

XXII.¹¹

Praise God, from whom pure blessings flow,
Whose bowels yearn on all below,
Who would not have one sinner lost,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

XXIII.

- 1 All worship and praise
 To the antient of days,
The Father, the Word, and the Spirit of grace!
 With our friends in the sky
 Let us glorify
The mystical Three that bear record on high!

- 2 The Three that are One
 In a *manner unknown*
The substance divine in a mystery own;
 Till in him we remove
 To his presence above,
And eternally plunge in the depths of his love.

XXIV.

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 Thy Godhead we adore,
Join with the celestial host
 Who praise thee evermore;
Live, by earth and heaven ador'd,
 Three in One, and One in Three,
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 All glory be to thee!

¹¹Appeared first in *Hymns on God's Everlasting Love* (1742), 56.