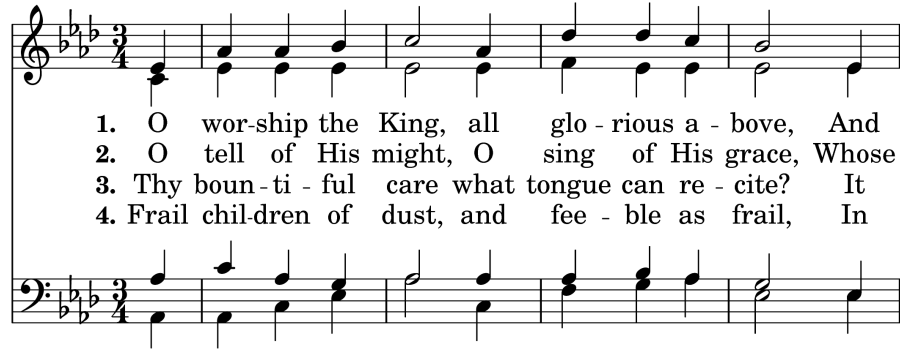


O Worship the King

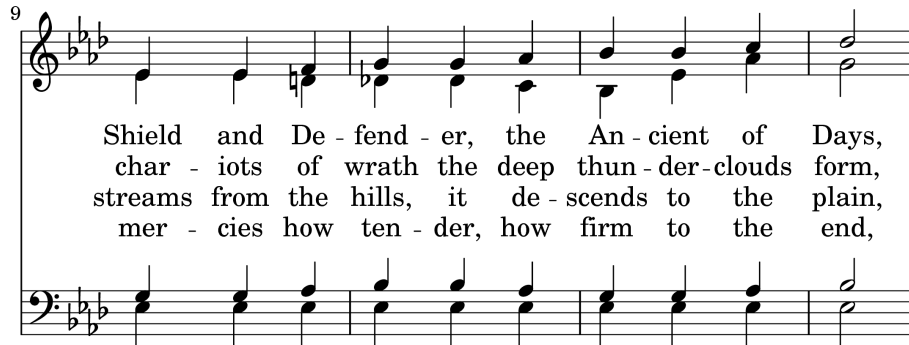
THE FIELDS CHURCH — HYMN OF THE MONTH
MAY 2024



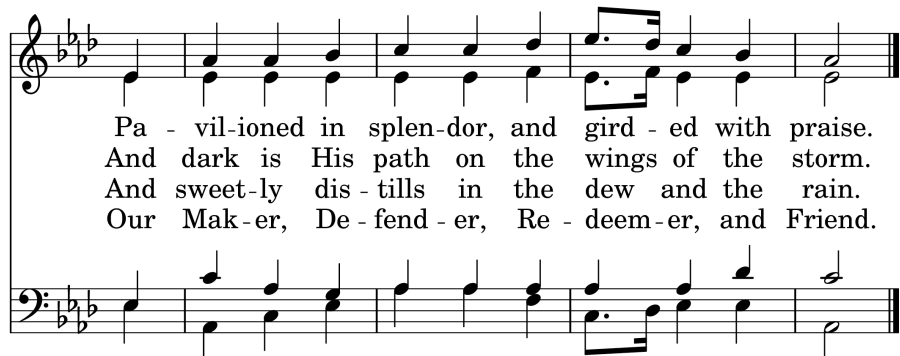
1. O wor-ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove, And
2. O tell of His might, O sing of His grace, Whose
3. Thy boun-ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It
4. Frail chil-dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail, In



5 grate - ful - ly sing His won - der - ful love; Our
robe is the light, whose can - o - py space! His
breathes in the air, it shines in the light, It
Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail: Thy



9 Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,



Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
Our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

O Worship the King is a classic hymn based off of Psalm 104, a song of praise to God for his many attributes through the lens of creation. The lyrics draw from other passages in Scripture to rightly call Him “Ancient of Days,” “Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.”

Notice the wide breadth God’s character shown, from his “chariots of wrath” like “deep thunderclouds” to his “bountiful care” like “the dew.” Not only are these images effective metaphors in describing God; they also serve as a constant reminder of his glory as Creator. Appropriately, the writer places mankind rightly in response in humility.

This writer, Robert Grant, grew up in 19th-century English power and prestige, being the son of the East India Company’s director. After working as a lawyer for a decade, he served for many years in Parliament before becoming a governor in British India. Throughout his life, his faith and submission to God was evidenced not only by this hymn, but by his focus on Christian mission and social reform. Whatever brief power or prestige he experienced, he knew God was the only True King who alone gives life to “frail children of dust.”

After his death, his brother discovered a number of his hymns and poems from his years of walking with Christ and had them published. For much of its history, the accompanying tune (“LYONS”) has been associated with the famous composer Hadyn, but was actually first written by Joseph Martin Kraus. Either way, the tune is well adapted to the kingly theme of the lyrics.

In both melody and word, “O Worship the King” invites us to praise God for his majesty and grace, righteous wrath and bountiful care, great power and love.

Scripture to consider:

Genesis 2-3	Psalm 104	Daniel 7:9-14
Psalm 8	Psalm 145	Colossians 2:8-15
Psalm 18	Ecclesiastes 3	Revelation 4-5

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