

## **A Host Has Gone Before Us**

*Tune: Webb*

One of Fr. Runge's many confirmation hymns

A host has gone before us;  
The blessed saints of old,  
The prophets and Apostles,  
The many Martyrs bold;  
In Christ they found their Savior  
Their Sov'reign and their God.  
They beckon us from Heaven  
To follow where they trod.

The angels go before us  
With their protecting care,  
Assuring us no creature  
Nor height, nor depth will dare  
To separate us ever  
From God's redeeming love.  
They point us to the beauty  
Of paradise above.

Our God goes on before us,  
Strong in the strength that He,  
The Father, Son and Spirit,  
Enjoys eternally.  
His Word reveals the pathway  
That leads to final rest;  
This pathway we would follow  
Through ev'ry tearful test.

The Cross goes on before us,  
Whereon was sacrificed  
The Son for our transgressions:  
Our dear Lord Jesus Christ.  
We march within its shadow  
And face that glorious day  
When ev'ry cross and shadow  
Fore'er have pass'd away.

There is a goal before us,  
Up there beyond the stars;  
That goal to gain we're striving,  
Unmindful of the scars,  
The scalding tears, the heartaches,  
That meet us here below;

Whate'er betide, we'll bear it,  
As toward our goal we go.

There is a life before us.  
Today we vow that we  
Will live it to the glory  
Of the Great One in Three.  
And thus we journey onward,  
Come happiness or pain;  
"To live is Christ" our promise;  
Our trust: "To die is gain."