

“Before the Lord We Bow”

by Francis S. Key, 1779-1843

From:

The Lutheran Hymnal

(St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1941)

1. Before the Lord we bow,
The God who reigns above
And rules the world below
In boundless pow’r and love.
Our thanks we bring,
In joy and praise
Our hearts we raise
To heav’n’s high King.

2. The nation Thou hast blest
May well Thy love declare,
From foes and fears at rest,
Protected by Thy care.
For this fair land,
For this bright day,
Our thanks we pay--
Gifts of Thy hand.

3. May ev’ry mountain height,
Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Thy Word’s pure light
And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev’ry tongue
Be tuned to praise
And join to raise
A grateful song!

4. Earth, hear thy Maker’s voice,
Thy great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice,
And worship Him alone.
Cast down thy pride,
Thy sin deplore,
And bow before
The Crucified.

5. And when in power He comes,
Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs
Send forth a glorious band,

A countless throng,
For aye to sing
To heaven's high King
Salvation's song!

Notes:

Hymn #575 from *The Lutheran Hymnal*

Text: Psalm 145:1

Author: Francis S. Key, 1832, alt.

Composer: John Darwall, 1770

Tune: "Darwall's 148th"

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