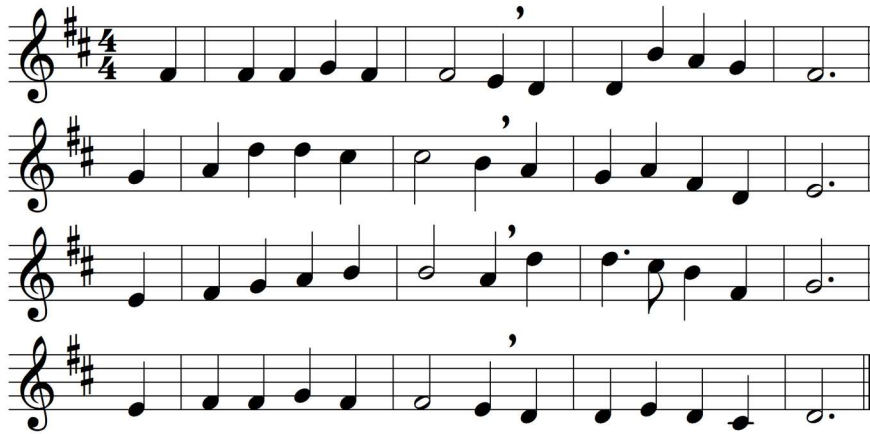


The Church's one foundation

AMNS 170

Melody: Aurelia

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The Church's one foundation

is Jesus Christ her Lord;

she is his new creation

by water and the word:

from heaven he came and sought her

to be his holy Bride;

with his own blood he bought her,

and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,

yet one o'er all the earth,

her charter of salvation

one Lord, one faith, one birth;

one holy name she blesses,

partakes one holy food,

and to one hope she presses,

with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder

men see her sore opprest,

by schisms rent asunder,

by heresies distrest,

yet saints their watch are keeping,

their cry goes up, 'How long?'

and soon the night of weeping

shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation,

and tumult of her war,

she waits the consummation

of peace for evermore;

till with the vision glorious

her longing eyes are blest,

and the great Church victorious

shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)

Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)