

Sing, my Tongue - Faithful Cross

Good Friday



1. Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle, sing the end - ing
2. God in pit - y saw man fal - len, shamed and sunk in
3. Thus the scheme of our sal - va - tion, was of old in
4. There - fore when th'ap - point - ed ful - ness of the ho - ly
5. Lo! he lies, an In - fant weep - ing, where the nar - row
6. Thir - ty years a - mong us dwell - ing, his ap - point - ed
7. He en - dured the nails, the spitt - ing, vin - e - gar, and
8. Bend thy boughs, O Tree of glo - ry! Thy re - lax - ing
9. Thou a - lone wast count - ed wor - thy this world's ran - som
10. To the Trin - i - ty be glo - ry ev - er - last - ing



- (1.) of the fray, now a - bove the Cross the tro - phy, sound the
- (2.) mis - er - y, when he fell on death by tast - ing fruit of
- (3.) or - der laid: that the man - i - fold de - cievements art by
- (4.) time was come, he was sent who mak - eth all things forth from
- (5.) mang - er stands, while the Moth - er - Maid his mem - bers wraps in
- (6.) time ful - filled, born for this, he meets his Pas - sion, for that
- (7.) spear, and reed; from that ho - ly Bod - y bro - ken Blood and
- (8.) sin - ews bend; for a - while the an - cient rig - our that thy
- (9.) to up - hold; for a ship - wreck'd race pre - par - ing har - bour,
- (10.) as is meet; e - qual to the Fa - ther, e - qual to the



- (1.) loud tri - um - phant lay: tell how Christ, the world's
- (2.) the for - bid - den tree: then an - oth - er Tree
- (3.) art might be out - weighed: and the lure the foe
- (4.) God's e - ter - nal home; thus he came to earth,
- (5.) mean and free - ly willed, and the swad - dling clothes
- (6.) this he free - ly willed, on the Cross the Lamb
- (7.) wat - er forth pro - ceed: earth, and stars, and sky,
- (8.) birth be - stowed, sus - pend; and the King of heaven -
- (9.) like the ark of old: with the sa - cred Blood
- (10.) Son and Par - a - clete; Tri - nal U - ni - ty,



- (1.) Re - deem - er, as a vic - tim won the day. *(Faithful...)*
- (2.) was chos - en which the world from death should free. *(Sweetest...)*
- (3.) put for - ward in - to means of heal - ing made. *(Faithful...)*
- (4.) in - car - nate, off - spring of a Vir - gin's womb. *(Sweetest...)*
- (5.) is wind - ing round God's help - less feet and hands. *(Faithful...)*
- (6.) is lift - ed where his life - blood shall be spilled. *(Sweetest...)*
- (7.) and o - cean by that flood from stain are freed. *(Faithful...)*
- (8.) ly beau - ty on thy bos - om gent - ly tend! *(Sweetest...)*
- (9.) a - noint - ed from the smit - ten Lamb that rolled. *(Faithful...)*
- (10.) whose prais - es all cre - a - ted things re - peat. *(Amen. Sweetest...)*

Antiphons to be sung after each stanza of the hymn



Faith - ful Cross, a - bove all oth - er, one and



on - ly no - ble tree: none in fo - liage, none in



blos - som, none in fruit thy peer may be.



Sweet - est wood and sweet - est i - ron,



sweet - est weight is hung on thee.

The Amen is sung after the final verse, before the antiphon



A - men.



1. The Roy - al Ban - ners for - ward go;
 2. Where deep for us the spear was dyed,
 3. Ful - fill'd is all that Da - vid told
 4. O Tree of beau - ty, Tree of light!
 5. On whose dear arms, so wide - ly flung,
 6. O Cross, our one re - li - ance, hail!
 7. To Thee, E - ter - nal Three in One,



the Cross shines forth in mys - tic glow:
 Life's tor - rent rush - ing from His side,
 in true proph - et - ic song of old;
 A - dorned with roy - al pur - ple bright!
 the weight of this world's ran - som hung;
 On this tri - um - phant feast, a - vail
 let hom - age meet by all be done:



where He in flesh, our flesh who made,
 to wash us in that prec - ious flood
 a - midst the na - tions, God, saith he,
 E - lect on whose tri - um - phal breast
 the price of hu - man - kind to pay,
 to give fresh grace now to the saint,
 whom by the Cross thou dost re - store



our sen - tence bore, our ran - som paid.
 where min - gled Wat - er flow'd, and Blood.
 hath reign'd and tri - umph'd from the Tree.
 those ho - ly limbs should find their rest.
 and spoil the spoil - er of his prey.
 and par - don to the pen - i - tent.
 pre - serve and gov - ern ev - er - more.



A - men.

Text: Vexilla Regis, Evening Office Hymn for Passiontide and feasts of the Holy Cross and for the Good Friday Liturgy

Venantius Fortunatus (circa 540-600)

tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

Tune: Vexilla Regis, Sarum plainsong, Mode I

LM