

Vexilla Regis prodeunt
The Royal Banners Forward Go
Neale / ERHALT UNS, HERR

1. The roy - al ban - ners for - ward go, the cross shines forth in mys - tic glow,
2. There while he hung, his sa - cred side by sol - dier's spear was o - pened wide,
3. Ful - filled is now what Da - vid told in true pro - phet - ic song of old,
4. O tree of glo - ry, tree most fair, or - dained those ho - ly limbs to bear,
5. Up - on its arms, like ba - lance true, he weighed the price for sin - ners due,
6. To you, e - ter - nal Three - in - One, let hom - age due by all be done:

1. where he in flesh, our flesh who made, our sen - tence bore, our ran - som paid.
2. to cleanse us in the pre - cious flood of wa - ter min - gled with his blood.
3. how God the na - tions' king should be; for God is reign - ing from the tree.
4. how bright in pur - ple robe it stood: the pur - ple of a Sav - iour's blood!
5. the price which none but he could pay, and spoiled the spoil - er of his prey.
6. as by the cross your reign re - store, so rule and guide us ev - er - more.

Inspiration: "Vexilla Regis prodeunt"; Venantius H.C. Fortunatus, ca. 540 - ca. 600/609.
Lyrics: 88.88; John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, in "Mediaeval Hymns and Sequences", 1851.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR; J. Klug's "Geistliche Lieder"; Wittenberg, 1543; adapt. by Johann S. Bach, 1685-1750.