

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

1. The church's one Foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
2. Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
3. Tho' with a scornful wonder, men see her sore oppressed,
4. The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord, to defend,
5. 'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
6. Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,

she is His new creation, by water and the Word;
her character of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
to guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.

from heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
one holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
tho' there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,
till with the vision glorious her long-ing eyes are blest,
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,

with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endowed.
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.
against the foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.

WORDS: Samuel J. Stone, 1866

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