

HYMN 51

Formerly Hymn 41

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Ein Feste Burg

Martin Luther, 1529

1. A might-y for-ress is our God,
a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing;
our Help-er He, a-mid the flood
of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.
For still our an-cient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cru-el hate.
On earth is not his e-qual.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'A Mighty Fortress is Our God'. It consists of ten staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The music is written in a simple, clear style with a single melodic line. The lyrics are: '1. A might-y for-ress is our God, a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing; our Help-er He, a-mid the flood of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing. For still our an-cient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great, and armed with cru-el hate. On earth is not his e-qual.' The score ends with a double bar line.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth His name,
from age to age the same,
and He must win the battle.

3. And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed
His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers –
no thanks to them – abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill,
God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.