

COMMEMORATION HYMN

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light

GREAT Lord of wisdom, life and light,
Before the hills were founded
Thy quickening breath dissolved the night
And stirred through deeps unsounded
Beneath Thy hand the formless earth
And-ocean-rolled asunder,
And in Thy likeness man had birth,
Thy crowning work and wonder.

Through that grey dawn Thou calledst him,
Untaught but not unheeding.
His feet were faint, his lamp was dim,
Yet Faith discerned Thy leading.
Age after age and line on line
Thy Book unfolded clearer,
Till, like a flush of morn divine,
Thy Son proclaimed Thee nearer.

His word from East to slumbering West
Went out through all creation;
Our far-off island woke and blest
Thy Name with adoration.
We kneel where our fore-fathers knelt,
They trode these courts before us,
Unseen, though near, our hearts love felt
Their blessings hover o'er us.

We Praise Thy Name for one and all
Who founded for Thy glory
Each ancient School, each Minster tall,
To teach their sons Thy story.
May we, like them, our Lamp display
Of love and wisdom burning,
Till twilight melt in golden day
At our dear Lord's returning. Amen.

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