

Orin Johnson





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#### Composer Notes

I composed this hymn tune during a moment of inspiration some time ago, but was never especially happy with the public domain text I had initially paired with it. So, when I heard of the hymn competition sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit in support of the National Eucharistic Revival, I decided to return to the tune and create for it an original hymn text. A favorite liturgical moment of mine has always been the transfer of the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repose at the end of Holy Thursday Mass, so I turned my attention to the ancient hymn "Pange Lingua Gloriosi" and wrote a short hymn text borrowing some of the imagery and themes from St. Thomas Aquinas' text.

I crafted this text to allow it to extol the glory of God revealed through the gift of the Eucharist, which is the "ransom paid for sinners, redemption, sacrifice." The lyrics which first landed in my head are found at the end of verse two: "This sacrifice, this banquet, His presence in the world." Some of us, when we ponder the Mass, tend to focus too strongly at times on one of these facets or the other—the Mass as banquet or the Mass as sacrifice. It's so important to me, and to all of us, the Church, that it is both banquet and sacrifice at the same time.

—Orin Johnson



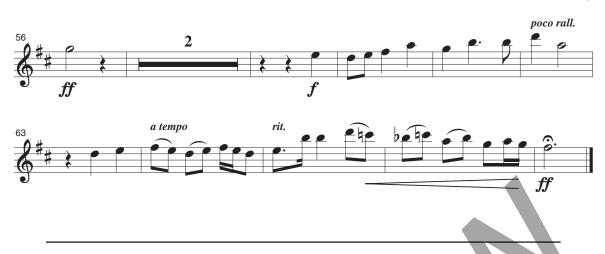
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Final

(Hymn Version)

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(Hymn Version)

Based on Pange lingua gloriosi

MERIDETH, 76 76D Orin Johnson

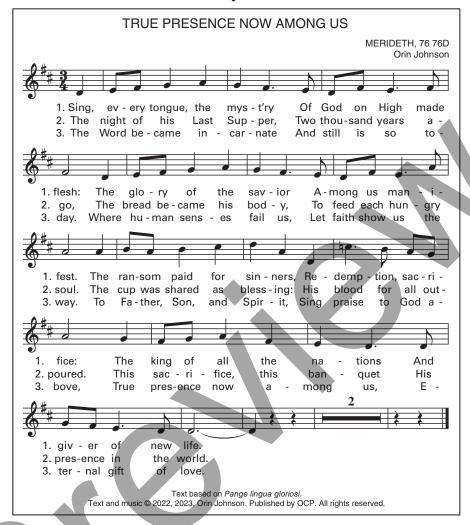


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