

Faithful Cross

Words: Venantius Fortunatus, translated by J. M. Neale

Music: Picardy (French Traditional)

With solemn majesty

Verse 1

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass, in a key of one flat (B-flat) and a 3/2 time signature. The tempo/style marking is 'With solemn majesty'. The score is divided into sections for Verse 1 and Verses 2,3. Verse 1 consists of 12 measures, with the first six measures marked with a '7' and the last six with a '13'. Verses 2 and 3 consist of 12 measures, with the first six marked with a '20' and the last six with a '27'. The final six measures of the entire piece are marked with a '33'. The music features a mix of single notes, chords, and rests, with a final double bar line and repeat sign at the end.

Verses 2,3

1

Faithful Cross, above all other,
One and only noble Tree,
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit thy peer may be;
Sweet the wood, and sweet the iron,
And thy load, most sweet is he.

2

Bend, O lofty Tree, thy branches,
Thy too rigid sinews bend;
And awhile the stubborn hardness,
Which thy birth bestowed, suspend;
And the limbs of heaven's high Monarch
Gently on thine arms extend.

3

Thou alone wast counted worthy
This world's Ransom to sustain,
That a shipwrecked race for ever
Might a port of refuge gain,
With the sacred Blood anointed
Of the Lamb for sinners slain.