

O GOD OF EARTH AND ALTAR

KING'S LYNN 76. 76. D. arr. R. Vaughan Williams, 1906

Gilbert Keith Chesterton, 1906

Unison



1 O God of earth and al - tar, bow down and hear our cry,
2 From all that ter - ror teach - es from lies of tongue and pen,
3 Tie in a liv - ing te - ther the prince and priest and thrall,



our earth - ly ru - lers fal - ter, our peo - ple drift and die;
from all the eas - y speech - es that com - fort cru - el men,
bind all our lives to - ge - ther, smite us and save us all;



the walls of gold en - tomb us, the swords of scorn di - vide,
from sale and pro - fa - na - tion of hon - or, and the sword,
in ire and ex - ul - ta - tion a - flame with faith, and free,



take not thy thun - der from us, but take a - way our pride.
from sleep and from dam - na - tion, de - li - ver us, good Lord!
lift up a liv - ing na - tion, a sin - gle sword to thee.

