Commissioned by St. Bartholomew’s Catholic Community in honor of its 100th anniversary, Fr. Michael Van Sloun, pastor; Richard Clarke, director of liturgy and music

God Creating, God Sustaining

INTRO With strength (\( \text{d} = \text{ca. 120} \))

Organ

VERSE 1: All

1. God creating, God sustaining, God who loves us from our birth,

1. God who calls us into being, God of sea and sky and earth,

1. Hear our voices, hear our voices: “Sanctus Deus Sabaoth!”

Alternate: “Holy is the Lord of hosts!”

Text © 2017, The Jan Michael Joncas Trust and GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Administered by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213 and GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 2017, The Jan Michael Joncas Trust. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.
1. *San - ctus De-us*  
   *Sá - ba - oth!*
   *Ho - ly is the Lord*  
   *of hosts!*

VERSE 1

Soprano/Alto

2. *God for-giv-ing, God re-deem-ing, God who fa-ces*  
   *all we dread,*

Baritone

VERSE 2

2. *God in Je-sus, bless-ing, heal-ing, God a - ris-ing from*  
   *the dead,*
2. Hear our voices, hear our voices: “Ky-ri-e, ele-i-son!”
   Alt. “Lord, have mer-cy upon us!”

VERSE 3

3. God, God, God who guides all his to-
   B (Melody)

   3. God in-dwell-ing, God em-pow’ring, God who guides all his to-

God Creating, God Sustaining
3. ry,
God, _______ God, _______ God, e-ter-nal

3. ry,
God who thun-ders, God who whis-pers, God, e-ter-nal

3. mys-ter-y,
Hear our voic-es; hear our voic-es:

3. mys-ter-y,
Hear our voic-es, hear our voic-es:

3. Ve-ni, San-cte Spí-rí-tus!
Alt. “Come, O Ho-ly Spir-it, come!”

Ve-ni, San-cte
Come, O Ho-ly
3. Spiritus! Spirit, come!

VERSE 4

4. Blessing, honor, power and praises to the Father and the

God Creating, God Sustaining

Edition #30141579
4. es, blessing, honor, power and

4. praises, blessing, honor, power and

4. Son with the Spirit, co-eternal, as unending

Hear our voices, hear our voices: "Glory to the
4. es, hear our voices: “Glory, O Three-in-One!”

4. es, hear our voices: “Glory to the Three-in-One!”

4. Three-in-One! Glory to the Three-in-One!”

...amen.

...amen.
Composer Notes

Background: Richard Clarke, the music and liturgy director at St. Bartholomew’s parish in Wayzata, MN, has been a long-time champion of my compositions, so much so that he organized and conducted (with another long-time friend, Rob Glover) a hymn festival of my “hymns of the day” project sponsored by Oregon Catholic Press. In honor of the centenary of the parish’s founding, Richard, in conjunction with Fr. Mike van Sloun, gave me a rather complex commission. They asked me to write two new hymn texts that would work with pre-existing tunes that could be used during a Eucharist at the closing of the parish’s 100th anniversary year in September 2017. One was to be “a hymn that gathers the assembly, or perhaps a hymn of the day,” while the other would be a hymn “that sends forth with a strong sense of mission, or perhaps a hymn of thanksgiving (sung at the end of communion).” Once this initial textual work was done, they then asked if I would write completely new hymn tunes that would also work with these new texts. “God Creating, God Sustaining,” here set to an original tune of mine entitled WAYZATA, is one of the texts created for this commission.

Textual Notes: Fr. van Sloun put forward the idea that rather than basing the text directly on scripture, I explore using a liturgical text from the Roman Missal. What I came up with is a Trinitarian processional hymn whose initial three stanzas are addressed to each of the Divine Persons and whose closing stanza is a Trinitarian doxology. What ties this text to the Roman Missal is the use of Latin and Greek refrains that would be very familiar to those celebrating Eucharist in the Roman Rite prior to the Second Vatican Council’s reforms (or in the Extraordinary Form today). While I prefer singing these refrains in the original languages, here are alternatives to the final phrase in case the worshiping community would prefer to sing only in English:

- Stanza 1: “Holy is the Lord of hosts!” substituted for “Sanctus Deus Sabaoth!”
- Stanza 2: “Lord, have mercy upon us!” substituted for “Kyrie eleison!”
- Stanza 3: “Come, O Holy Spirit, come!” substituted for “Veni, Sancte Spiritus!”

Since the final phrase is repeated, it would also be possible to sing the final phrase in both the original language and with the English substitution provided above.

Musical Notes: Any musical performance of this WAYZATA setting of “God Creating, God Sustaining” should aim at what the commission called for: “the new melody should be sturdy, memorable, stately, grand, having a sense of beauty and a classic style – something that is enduring.” While it is possible to sing this setting simply with organ accompaniment as a straightforward hymn, the concertato arrangement helps to accent the festivity of the setting. Keeping a strict processional tempo will help the congregation negotiate the changes in meter.

Uses: Since “God Creating, God Sustaining” is a Trinitarian processional hymn, it may be used in any liturgical setting where “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” would be appropriate, e.g., as an opening or closing processional at Eucharist or as a hymn of praise and thanksgiving after Communion. It would be especially appropriate for the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, or other celebrations where the Triune God is acclaimed, e.g., the Baptism of the Lord or the Feast of the Transfiguration.

—Michael Joncas
God Creating, God Sustaining
(Hymn Version)

Wayzata, 87 87 87 7
Michael Joncas

Commissioned by St. Bartholomew’s Catholic Community in honor of its 100th anniversary, Fr. Michael Van Sloun, pastor; Richard Clarke, director of liturgy and music
Note: the composer has suggested that the following English translations of the original languages may be used:

Verse 1: “Holy is the Lord of hosts!” may substitute for “Sanctus Deus Sabaoth!”
Verse 2: “Lord, have mercy upon us!” may substitute for “Kyrie, eleison!”
Verse 3: “Come, O Holy Spirit, come!” may substitute for “Veni, Sancte Spiritus!”

God Creating, God Sustaining
GOD CREATING, GOD SUSTAINING

Michael Joncas

Verses

1. God creating, God sustaining, God who loves us
2. God forgiving, God redeeming, God who faces
3. God in dwelling, God empowering, God who guides all
4. Blessing, honor, power, praises to the Father

1. from our birth, God who calls us into being,
2. all we dread, God in Jesus, blessing, healing,
3. his totality, God who thunders, God who whispers,
4. and the Son with the Spirit, co-eternal,

1. God of sea and sky and earth, Hear our voices,
2. God arising from the dead, Hear our voices,
3. God, eternal mystery, Hear our voices,
4. as unending ages run, Hear our voices,

1. hear our voices: Sanctus Deus Sabaoth!
2. hear our voices: Kyrie eleison!
3. hear our voices: Veni Sancte Spiritus!
4. hear our voices: Glory to the Three in One!

3 Final

1. Sanctus Deus Sabaoth!
2. Kyrie eleison!
3. Veni Sancte Spiritus!
4. Glory to the Three in One!

Music: WAYZATA, © 2017, The Jan Michael Joncas Trust. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Note: the composer has suggested that the following English translations of the original languages may be used:

Verse 1: “Holy is the Lord of hosts!” may substitute for “Sanctus Deus Sabaoth!”
Verse 2: “Lord, have mercy upon us!” may substitute for “Kyrie, eleison!”
Verse 3: “Come, O Holy Spirit, come!” may substitute for “Veni, Sancte Spiritus!”