

Saint Paul Lutheran High School
2011-2012 Hymn of the Year

BEFORE THE ONE TRUE GOD

88 88 88

Text © 2011 Walter P. Snyder

Introduction: *All for One*

Romans 12:1 *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*

1. Before the one true God whose name
We hold and hail with glad acclaim,
We offer this poor sacrifice:
Our bodies purchased by the price
Of Jesus' suffering, blood, and death,
Our hearts and minds, our lives and breath.

August: *One Body of All*

Romans 12:4–5 *For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.*

2. From lands afar and places near,
In one accord we gather here.
Though disparate members each may be,
One body in You, Christ, are we;
And to each other we belong
As varied notes in one great song.

September: *One Gift in All*

Romans 12:6–8 *Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.*

3. As You have given, so we give
To those around us, that they live
And learn and grow in one accord
Within Your grace and mercy, Lord.
Through teaching, leading, learning we
Use all Your gifts right cheerfully.

October: *One Confession with All*

Romans 12:9 *Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.*

4. Grant us a love that's genuine;
Lead us, dear Lord, away from sin,
To heartily confess Your name
And turn our backs on vice and shame.
Give us the strength to firmly hold
Fast to the good with hearts made bold.

November: *One Love for All*

Romans 12:10 *Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.*

5. O Christ, who makes us brothers dear,
Grant us Your grace and cast out fear:
Let each of us affection know
And from us each full honor flow
To all the body's members, who
Are one with us and one with You.

December: *One Zeal by All*

Romans 12:11 *Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.*

6. As when the shepherds angels heard,
So may it be that at Your Word
Our hearts are stirred to faithful zeal,
Our mouths to voice Your love's appeal,
Our hearts to serve in one accord
Your body and its Head, O Lord.

January: *One Hope for All*

Romans 12:12 *Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.*

7. O God, we know that all things good
You grant us, Jesus' brotherhood.
Yet also tribulation's wrath
Oft falls on those who trace Christ's path.
Oh, hear our prayer from evil night:
Lord, give us hope that shines forth light.

February: *One Generosity to All*

Romans 12:13 *Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.*

8. For us, the doors of heaven stand
Full open to the Promised Land.
So thus may we, with arms flung wide,
Give aid to those who ills betide
And welcome to each stranger who,
Into our lives, is sent by You.

March: *One Blessing for All*

Romans 12:14 *Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.*

9. Though mankind was Your enemy
 You sent Your Son to set us free:
 And through His blood and righteousness
 All people You did choose to bless.
 May we who once stood as your foe
 Bless those who, to Your Church, mean woe.

April: *One Compassion for All*

Romans 12:15 *Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.*

10. O Christ, our sin-wrought pains You know
 From suffering in this world below.
 Grant us like hearts that we might feel
 The hurts of others, nor conceal
 The joy that comes from You above,
 But freely share Your boundless love.

May: *One Harmony among All*

Romans 12:16 *Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.*

11. Concordia!—one heart—have we,
 One peace, one love, one harmony.
 Throw off our sinful pride of heart,
 That love of others be our art
 And love of self be cast away,
 While serving others day by day.

Close of School: *One Purpose Throughout All*

Romans 12:2 *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

12. Into the world You bid us go,
Our faith let it not overthrow
But, by Your Word and Spirit kind,
Transform each person's heart and mind,
So, guided by Your holy light,
We think and say and do what's right.

Doxology: *One Praise from All*

Romans 15:5–6 *May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

13. One God You are, yet Persons Three—
You dwell in perfect unity.
May we, though many, with one voice
In You forevermore rejoice:
We praise You, Father, with the Son
and Holy Spirit, Three-in-One.

Scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.