O God Our Help in Ages Past

Fanfare, Recitative and Hymn

Lindsay Lafford

Unison voices, organ and congregation (optional)
Dr. Lindsay Arthur Lafford

Dr. Lindsay Arthur Lafford, Professor Emeritus, was born in Gloucester, England, in 1912 and served as chorister in Hereford Cathedral from 1922 to 1929. He then became an organ scholar there and assistant of Sir Percy Hull, D. Mus., until 1935. In that year he left England to assume the positions of Organist and Choirmaster of St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, and conductor of the HK Philharmonic and Chorus.

In 1939 he was invited to the U.S.A. to teach at Haverford, Swarthmore, and Bryn Mawr Colleges, serving also as University Organist and Director of Music in the Chapel at Princeton. Following service in the United States Navy during World War II, Lafford was a member of the faculties of several colleges and universities – and organist of St. John’s Cathedral, Jacksonville, Florida – until retiring from the University of Miami in 1994.

His extensive conducting career has included eight significant premières of works by Harold Darke, Gordon Jacob, Sir George Dyson, Gustav Holt, and Sir Edward Elgar (“Coronation Ode”). In 1954 he conducted the American premiere of Vaughan Williams’ Hodie, the composer’s last choral composition.

He holds the degree Doctoris in Litteris Humanoribus and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists (plus the Choirmaster’s Diploma), a Fellow of Trinity College, London, and of the American Guild of Organists, and a Diplomate of both the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music.

He is the current Lord of the Manor of Ridley, Northumberland, England, a Title created by King Henry III in the year 1230. Lafford has held the Title since 1998, when it passed to him from the family of the late Queen Mother Elizabeth, of England.

Paraclete Press sheet music is available at www.paracletepress.com
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"
Fanfare, Recitative, and Hymn:
Unison voices, organ and congregation (optional)

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Maestoso $d = 84$

Lindsay Lafford
(Organist of St. John’s Cathedral, 1935-39)
St. Anne: William Croft, 1708

Copyright © 2011 by Paraclete Press, Orleans, MA 02653
All rights reserved.

PPM01135
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home: under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure; suffer to thy servants to escape the snare of the fowler.
Deficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is
sure. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame, from
everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

Soprano Descant (optional)  ff
Choir and Congregation  ff
+ Reed

PPM0135
God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be

thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

FOR CONGREGATION

Lindsay Lafford
(Organist of St. John's Cathedral, 1935-39)
St. Anne: William Croft, 1708

Maestoso \( \frac{d}{4} = 80 \) (Don't hurry)

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our
shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home: un-
der the shadow of thy throne, thy saints have dwelt se-
cure; sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is
sure. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her
frame, from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same. O

God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be
thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

MAY BE COPIED FOR CONGREGATIONAL USE

Copyright © 2011 by Paraclete Press, Orleans, MA 02653
All rights reserved.

PPM01135
Selected Organ Works Published by Paraclete Press

Baldwin, Antony  
Above All Praise—PPMO1136

Campbell, Bruce  
Variations on St. Columba—PPMO1131

Glick, Robert  
Mit Freuden Zart—Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above—PPMO1121

Lafford, Lindsey  
O God Our Help in Ages Past: Fanfare, Recitative and Hymn—PPMO1135

Lau, Robert  
Variations on Wondrous Love—PPMO0847

Lind, Robert  
Tribute to Jeremiah Clarke—PPMO1117

Neswick, Bruce  
Fantasia on Adeste Fideles—PPMO9719

Powell, Robert  
Five Advent Preludes—PPMO0531

Weidner, Raymond  
Cortege: Intrada, Arioso, Finale—PPMO1132
  Invocation—PPMO1146
  Seven Liturgical Preludes—PPMO0127