O GOD OF LOVELINESS

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ICH HALTE TREULICH STILL

G. C. SCHEMELLI’S Musicalisches Gesangbuch, 1736
attrib. J. S. BACH

“O bello Dio”
St. ALPHONSES LIGUORI, 18th cent.
tr. REV. EDMUND VAUGHAN, 1863

1. O God of love-li-ness, O Lord of heav’n a-bove,
   How worth-y to pos-sess My heart’s de-vo-ted love!
   So sweet Thy coun-te-nance, So gra-cious to be-hold,
   That one, one on-ly glance To me were bliss un-told.

2. Thou art bless Three in One, Yet un-di-vi-ded still;
   Thou art that One a-lone Whose love my heart can fill.
   The heav’ns and earth be-low, Were fash-ioned by Thy Word;
   How a-mia-ble art Thou, My ev-er-dear-est Lord.

3. To think Thou art my God— Oh’tought for e-ver bless!
   My heart has o-ver-flowed With joy with-in my breast.
   My soul, so full of bliss Is plunged as in a sea,
   Deep in the sweet a-byss Of ho-ly char-i-ty.

4. O love-li-ness su-preme, And beau-ty in-fi-nite;
   O ev-er-flow-ing stream And o-cean of de-light;
   O Life by which I live, My tru-est life a-bove,
   To Thee a-lone I give My un-di-vi-ded love.