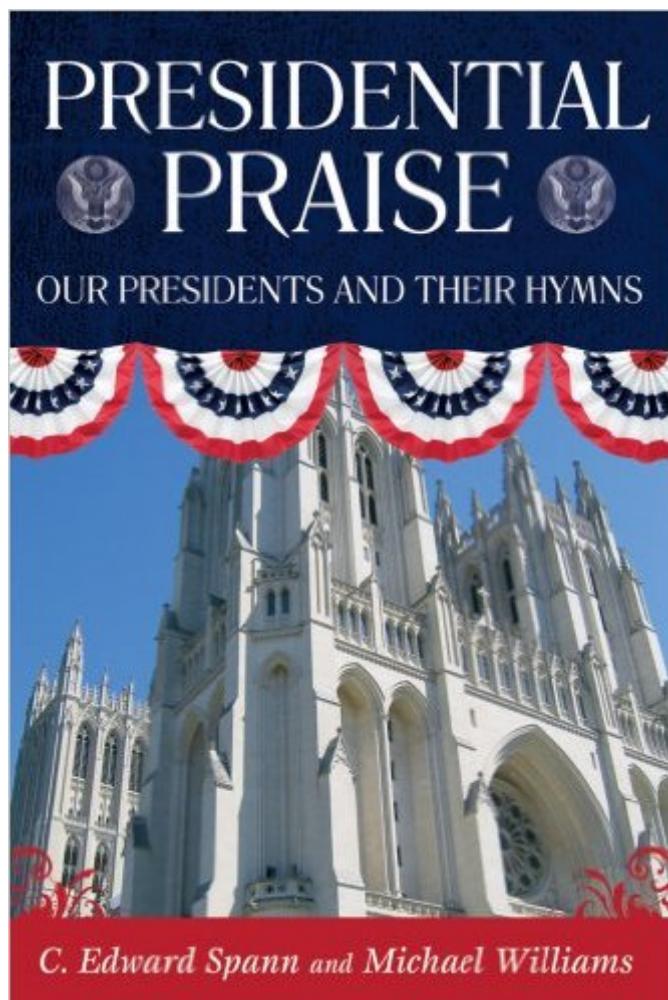


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# Presidential Praise: Our Presidents And Their Hymns



## **Synopsis**

Discover the hymns that influenced US presidents. "Presidential Praise: Our Presidents and Their Hymns" offers the most comprehensive coverage ever written of the influence of hymns on the lives and administrations of America's presidents. Each chapter begins with Michael Williams' concise presentation of each president's path to the White House and his accomplishments and failures as president. D. Edward Spann then introduces how each president regarded music, whether or not he was musical, and music in the White House during each president's administration. These hymns may be related to developments in the life of the president, including his spiritual journey, major decisions he had to make as president, or even his selection of the inaugural Scripture. Spann then tells the story of how the hymn was written, both the words and the music. Presenting this scholarly material in an inspiring manner is part of the delight of the book. In doing so, the book covers a panorama of hymnody from 1614 to the 1980s. After an interpretation of the words, it is demonstrated why the chosen hymns were meaningful to each president. The format of each chapter reveals this special emphasis that can't be found elsewhere.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The book Presidential Praise should be in the library of every musician, theologian and historian! The scholarship and attention to detail that Ed Spann and Mike Williams have shared in this book combine to tell the story of faith in the lives of our presidents that needs to be told. This book makes history come alive in so many ways and on so many levels. While it is a historical book, it is also a

book of devotion, of poetry, of music and of hope. A book that needs to be read and shared over and over again.

This is a wonderful book, combining the aspect of history and hymnology. The authors have done great job weaving a story about each of the presidents and their favorite hymn. The inclusion of the CD with all the songs sung by a small choir is an added bonus.

I care that our presidents live their faith, and that they have a faith. This book answered a lot of my questions concerning these leaders. Dr. Spann and Dr. Williams did their research and did it well.

Dr. Spann is a meticulous, heartfelt man of music honoring the Father and our country. He's gone to great lengths in detailed study to share what the Presidents of the USA have appreciated in hymns and spiritual songs. Music moves man like few other mediums, not exempting the powerful leaders of America. Seeking to connect our identity in history with the songs engrained in our religious faiths, Spann lays out a wealth of research that reinforces the love for our God. Having been an actual student of the author's demeanor of love, grace, and instruction I am honored to highly recommend this unique work.

I love the book I purchased from . Hymns are special to me. I learned about half of my theology from the traditional hymns. It was interesting to see how the type of hymn that was each president's favorite matched what we know about their personality and character.

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