Martin Luther, in 1517
held a hammer, before popes and kings and queens.
He hit the nail on the head
when the disputation was read
giving birth to a conversation.
But the word quickly spread
And all the people said,
This is gonna be a reformation.

Where the gospel and the law are properly distinct
where sinner and the saint are inextricably linked
where by faith the just are alive
and where God is in communion with all the baptized.

Now Luther was a man
Doing everything one can
To keep the law (of God) and all that it required
He traveled far from home
Made a pilgrimage to Rome
But (what he saw) was not the life to which his soul aspired

When Tetzel came along,
with a coffer and a song
Luther’s flock in Wittenberg was confused.
And Luther was dismayed,
that money had been paid
for what was free and that the Gospel was abused.

Well The Pope issued a statement
demanding Luther’s abatement
but Luther could not in confidence recant.
And at the hand of the Pope’s legations
he endured interrogations
and at Worms Luther responded, “Here I stand.”

But the Emperor called for Luther’s arrest
but along the road at Prince Frederick’s behest
soldiers kidnapped Luther, the Prince’s vassel.
And protected as a knight,
he invested time to write
A common-language text at Wartburg castle.

Now common people on their own
Could see the light the Scriptures shone
On the creeds, confessions, prayers and no less
They could evaluate Church teaching,
Singing and the preaching
Throughout Europe thanks to Gutenberg’s press
Martin Luther

The pulpit and the pen
The culture and the ken
The Gospel’s joy proclaimed and sinners sought
Confess your sin and when you do
Boldly trust in Christ it’s true
“Eine feste Berg ist unsere Gott.”

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