VERSE 1  (Piano only…slow tempo)
G       D       Em7
A long, long time ago
Am              C
We must all remember
Em                             D
How the Reformation got its start
G         D              Em7
A boy to Hans and Margaret born
Am                       C
Was baptized on the following morn
Em                C                          D
The child of the Luthers was named Mart
Em                    Am
Young Martin Luther got the call
Em                              Am
When a lightning bolt caused him to fall
C             G              Am
He sold his books for law school
C                         D
And took up studying God’s rule
G           D            Em
He entered the monastic life
AM7                  D
In the peaceful Erfort countryside
G              D                   Em
And something touched him deep inside
C          D7            G
The day he took those vows
REFRAIN 1  (Add acoustic guitar)
G    C                 G            D
So my, my this here Lutheran guy
G                         C
May be famous, but he’s dangerous
G                D
And a thorn in our side
G            C                G          D
Them good old boys at the Vatican cried,
Em         A7
Saying, “Just recant or you will be tried”
Em         D7
He said, “Here I stand, I won’t be denied”

VERSE 2 (full band in…pick up tempo)
G                     Am
He started on his quest with love
C                      Am
And the utmost faith in God above
Em                       D
He let the Bible be his guide
G             D        Em
But he stood up to the monks who told
Am7                               C
That works could save your mortal soul
Em                         A7                     D
And tried to teach, “By grace we’re justified”
Em                         D
Well he said John Tetzel was a crook
Em                         D
‘cause of the indulgences he took
C           G               A7
Then late one Halloween night
C             D7
He gave the Vatican a fright
G                 D          Em
He nailed his Ninety-Five Theses to the door
Am                     C
Never meant to start a holy war
G        D           Em
But this is what he was called for
C         D7             G         C       G       D7
The day he took those vows

REFRAIN 1

VERSE 3
G                    Am
Archbishop Albert with the Pope
C                 Am
And Cardinal Cajetan all spoke
Em                     D
‘bout Martin Luther’s heresy
So they called him back to Rome to see
If a Diet of Worms could ever be
Enough to make him stop his blasphemy
He was ex-communicated then
By a jury of his former friends
The courtroom was adjourned
The verdict was returned
And while Martin left that day from Rome
To Castle Wartburg, his new home
He recalled the fervor he had known
The day he took those vows

REFRAIN 1

VERSE 4  (VERSE 6 in the original song) (Piano only…slow tempo)
He met a girl who’d been a nun
And escaped the convent on the run
Katharina Bora was her name
In Wittenberg as man and wife
Mart ’n’ Katy started their new life
And pretty soon six new Lutherans came along
Now the printing press was all the rage
And Martin’s words were on each page
The Word was also spoken
For the rules had all been broken
And the three that he admired the most
The Father, Son and the Holy Ghost
 Were praised with an angelic host
The day he took those vows

REFRAIN 1

REFRAIN 2
And they were singing, My, my this here Lutheran guy
May be famous, but he’s dangerous
And a thorn in our side
Them good old boys at the Vatican cried,
He said, “Here I stand, I won’t be denied”