A Church Is Burning

Simon & Garfunkel

A church is burning
The flames rise higher
Like hands that are praying
Aglow in the sky
Like hands that are praying
The fire is saying,
"You can burn down my churches
But I shall be free."

Three hooded men through the back roads did creep Torches in their hands while the village lies asleep Down to the church where, just hours before Voices were singing, and Hands were beating, and Saying, "I won't be a slave anymore."

A church is burning
The flames rise higher
Like hands that are praying
Aglow in the sky
Like hands that are praying
The fire is saying,
"You can burn down my churches
But I shall be free."

Three hooded men, their hands lit the spark
And they faded in the night, and they vanished in the dark
And in the cold light of morning, there is nothing that remains
But the ashes of a Bible and a can of kerosene

A church is burning
The flames rise higher
Like hands that are praying
Aglow in the sky
Like hands that are praying
The fire is saying,
"You can burn down my churches
But I shall be free."

A church is more than just timber and stone And freedom is a dark road when you're walking it alone But the future is now, and it's time to take a stand So the lost bells of freedom can ring out in my land

A church is burning
The flames rise higher
Like hands that are praying
Aglow in the sky
Like hands that are praying
The fire is saying,
"You can burn down my churches
But I shall be free."