

# I AM A CHILD OF GOD

Ann L. Schrooten      AUGSBURG CHORAL LIBRARY

## Composer's Notes:

This arrangement was created for use during Affirmation of Baptism (confirmation) at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, during my tenure there as a musician from 1996–2022. Each confirmand could choose in advance a particular stanza to be sung immediately following the laying on of hands as a sort of “theme verse” for this moment in their faith journey. The choosing of their stanza proved to be a meaningful part of their discussion with friends, parents, and faith leaders in the weeks leading up to their confirmation. The Youth Choir was responsible for singing the chosen stanza for their friends being confirmed, which added to the meaning of the moment not only for the confirmands, but for the entire congregation. Every time we rehearsed it and then sang “I Am a Child of God” in worship I gave thanks to Cheryl and Bruce Harding for creating such a contemporary and grace-filled text that really seemed to give voice to the range of faith journeys represented in the lives of our young people.

The descant, here designated for stanzas 3 and 5, could be used on any stanza, but I felt that its power really lifted up the emotions expressed in those two stanzas, particularly—anger and joy. Also, the pianist, in collaboration with worship leaders, might offer to keep the 8-bar piano “riff” running quietly throughout the laying on of hands to tie it all together as one unit rather than simply starting and stopping each succeeding stanza. Musicians should feel free to improvise gently on those eight measures—stretching rhythms and chords as needed until time to sing the next stanza.

I'd like to dedicate this arrangement to the young people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church who really brought this to life with their voices and their witness! —Ann L. Schrooten

*for the young people of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota*

Cheryl and Bruce Harding  
arr. Ann L. Schrooten

**Resolutely** (♩ = 126)

Piano

5

## Performance Notes:

Dynamics for voices are at Director's discretion, and as appropriate for conveying text of each stanza.

Alternate accompaniment (cue-size notes for measures 9–25) may be used *ad libitum*, especially for stanzas 2 and 4.

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9 Descant *f*

3 I am an an gry of voice,  
5 I am a song of joy,

Unison voices

1 I am a child of God,  
2 I am an end - less prayer,  
3 I am an an - gry voice,  
4 I am a cry for peace,  
5 I am a song of joy,

*sim.*

*p* (alternate accompaniment)

13

(3) I am com - pas - sion and con - ster - na - tion,  
(5) I am the mo - ment of ju - bi - la - tion,

(1) I am a glimpse of God's new cre - a - tion.  
(2) I am a yearn - ing for con - tem - pla - tion,  
(3) I am com - pas - sion and con - ster - na - tion,  
(4) I am com - mit - ment and ded - i - ca - tion,  
(5) I am the mo - ment of ju - bi - la - tion,