

FULL SCORE EDITION

SINGING OUR PRAYER

A COMPANION TO

HOLDEN

PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

COMPILED AND EDITED BY

TOM WITT

Shorter Songs for Contemplative Worship

Introduction

This collection of short songs, refrains, and chants serves as a companion to *Holden Prayer Around the Cross*, a collection of evening services that include scripture readings, prayers, silence, and an opportunity to kneel or sit near a large cross, light a candle, and pray. Because these services take place in near darkness, the music used is simple and easily learned without the aid of printed resources. Eyes are closed or focused on the flickering candles at the cross; worshipers are freed from the need to follow notes and words on a page. Short songs and brief refrains such as the ones found in this volume are sung repeatedly as the gathered community meditates on a simple phrase that serves to focus and facilitate prayer.

The rich tradition of ostinato refrains, chants, and canons from the ecumenical community of Taizé, France, provides leaders of Prayer Around the Cross with a wealth of musical resources from which to choose. We have included only six Taizé pieces in this book. Many others can be found on a variety of recordings and books published by GIA Publications (giamusic.com), the North American distributor of Taizé music. Instead, this collection focuses on other emerging sources of short, cyclical pieces that can be used in ways to join our singing and praying together, not unlike music composed at Taizé. Included are some lesser-known songs and refrains written specifically for Holden Prayer Around the Cross liturgies, and others that have been gathered by those who plan such services. Most were composed in North America, with a handful of songs coming from other parts of the world and/or sung in other languages.

We anticipate that this collection of songs might also be useful for other worship settings in addition to evening contemplative services. Some of these pieces might serve well as Sunday morning prayer refrains, litany responses, psalm antiphons, gathering chants, sending songs, or music to accompany the serving of holy communion. A few will be particularly helpful in particular liturgical seasons, especially Advent, Lent, and Epiphany.

For further notes about how to use these pieces and information about each song, see the Performance Notes on page 56 of this book. A companion recording, *Singing Our Prayer Audio CD*, including 24 of these 44 pieces, may be helpful to musicians preparing to lead these songs. Additional helpful information can be found on page 43 of the companion volume, *Holden Prayer Around the Cross: Handbook to the Liturgy* (978-0-8066-9681-2).

Also available:

Singing Our Prayer Audio CD 978-0-8066-9684-3

Singing Our Prayer Assembly Edition 978-0-8066-9682-9

Singing Our Prayer Full Score Edition
A Companion to *Holden Prayer Around the Cross*
Shorter Songs for Contemplative Worship

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15 14 13 12 11 10 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Contents

- 1 Bambelela
Never Give Up
 - 2 Be Still and Know
 - 3 Be Still, God Will Fight Your Battles
 - 4 Bring Your Best to Our Worst
 - 5 Christ, Our Peace
 - 6 Comes a New Song
 - 7 Deep Peace
 - 8 Do Not Forsake Me
 - 9 Dona nobis pacem, Domine
Give to Us Your Peace
 - 10 Flower of Compassion
 - 11 For God, My Soul Waits in Silence
 - 12 a For the Healing of the Nations
 - 12 b For the Healing of Creation
 - 13 Give Us, Lord, a New Heart
 - 14 Heal Us, Lord
 - 15 Help Us See Your Tears
 - 16 If We Live
 - 17 In Silence We Wait
 - 18 In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful
 - 19 It Won't Be Long
 - 20 Kindle a Flame
 - 21 Kyrie eleison
 - 22 Laudate omnes gentes
Sing Praises, All You Peoples
 - 23 Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled
 - 24 Light and Darkness
 - 25 Listen
 - 26 Lumière de Dieu
Come, Light of God
 - 27 Mayenziwe
Your Will Be Done
 - 28 My Soul Thirsts for God
 - 29 Nada te turbe
Nothing Can Trouble
 - 30 O God, We Call
 - 31 Only You, O God
 - 32 Óyenos, mi Dios
 - 33 Pacem in terris
 - 34 Peace, Be Still
 - 35 Seigneur, rassemble-nous
Unite Us, God, in Peace
 - 36 Send Forth Your Spirit
 - 37 Stay with Us
 - 38 Still Waters
 - 39 Stir Up Your Power
 - 40 Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am
 - 41 The Lord Is My Light
 - 42 Though the Earth Shall Change
 - 43 To You All Hearts Are Open
 - 44 Who Will Set Us Free?
- p. 56 Performance Notes and Notes on the Songs

Do Not Forsake Me

♩ = 120

Optional introduction

Optional introduction piano accompaniment in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The melody in the treble clef consists of a series of chords: a whole rest, a half note chord, a whole note chord, and another half note chord. The bass clef features a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

First system of vocal and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are: "Do not for - sake me, O God of my sal - va - tion." The piano accompaniment includes a treble clef with chords and a bass clef with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Chords are labeled as Dm, Am⁷/C, B^b, and Am⁷.

Second system of vocal and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the grand staff. The lyrics are: "Do not hide your face from me. me." The piano accompaniment includes a treble clef with chords and a bass clef with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Chords are labeled as Gm⁷, Am⁷, Dm/B^b, C, and Dm. The system is divided into two sections: "To repeat" and "Last time".

Text and music: Tom Witt, based on Psalm 27:9

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Dona nobis pacem, Domine

9

Give to Us Your Peace

$\text{♩} = 72$

Musical score for 'Dona nobis pacem, Domine' in 4/4 time. The score includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Do - na no - bis pa - cem, Do - mi - ne. Give to us your peace, O Je - sus Christ.' The piano accompaniment features chords: Am, C, Dm, E sus, E.

Text: Traditional, adapt. Taizé Community

Music: Jacques Berthier

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Flower of Compassion

10

Musical score for 'Flower of Compassion' in 4/4 time. The score includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Flow'r of Com-pas - sion, Bloom with - in, bloom with - in, bloom with - in each heart.' The piano accompaniment features chords: D, G/D, G m/D, D, G#m^{7(b5)}/B, G m/B^b, A^{7sus6}, A⁷, D.

Additional leader calls, ad lib.

Blossom of Love . . .
Vision of Justice . . .
Delicate Fragrance . . .
Garden of Mercy . . .
Promise of Beauty . . .
Equal of Equals . . .
Peace that we long for . . .

Text and music: Bret Hesla

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For God, My Soul Waits in Silence

$\text{♩} = 72$

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo of quarter note = 72. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The score consists of two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment includes chord markings: Fm^7/Eb , Abm^6/Eb , and Eb .

For God, my soul waits in si - lence, for

God, my soul waits in si - lence. For

Text and music: Marty Haugen, based on Psalm 62

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In Silence We Wait

♩ = 90-96

In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you

Dm C B♭M⁷

come to us; bring us your light.

Am⁷ Gm⁷ C⁹/A Dm C/D

A Optional C instrument descants

B

Text and music: Susan Masters

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