



Songs
Like
Incense

Accompaniment Book



Saint Meinrad

Liturgical Music

Songs Like Incense

Accompaniment Book

Music composed by Bro. Tobias and Fr. Columba.

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INTRODUCTION

This collection of liturgical songs, with guitar and string bass accompaniment and optional instrumental descants, consists of responsorial psalms for congregational use. Normally the cantor will sing the refrain, this being repeated by all immediately, and again after each verse.

When there is two-part harmony given for the refrain, it may be song by solo voices alone, or by the entire congregation, the top line of music then being used as the melody line.

The chords that are indicated are merely suggestions for a starting point, and leave the individual performers the freedom to develop their own strum or picking patterns, Chords that are marked with an asterisk (*) can be found in graph form on page 35.

It is our hope that this music will prove to be for you, as it has for our monastic community, a vehicle of peaceful, reflective and joyous prayer.

Brother Tobias Colgan
Father Columba Kelly
Monks of St. Meinrad Archabbey

The page numbers of the musical pieces in this version have changed from the 1978 version.

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How good and how pleasant

(Ps132) [2:54]

This song was first composed for that moment in the monastic profession rite when the sign of peace is given to the newly-professed monks. For the ancient Hebrews, living in a desert country, perfumed olive oil and the morning dew relieved the dryness of their lives — like friendship.

There is one thing I as of the Lord

(Ps26:1;4;13-14) [2:32]

This is a psalm of trust sung in the monastic profession rite. It is also an evening psalm: we are confident that the darkness of this world's night can never blot out the light of Christ.

Holy, holy, holy

(Ps 148:2;11-12;13) [2:56]

In this song all creatures are called upon to witness the splendor and the beauty of God. Worship is the great “equalizer,” because in the experience of worship all distinctions fall away: “There is no longer male or female, Jew or Greek, slave or free man.” There is only God and his children.

May your love be upon us

(Ps32:2-3;6-7;20-22) [3:04]

Stringed instruments are often mentioned in the Bible in connection with the praise of God. We are exhorted to “play loudly with all your skill.” Composing a skillful melody is an important craft of the monastery and grows out of the care we take with our public prayer.

If today you hear his voice

(Ps94:1-7) [2:58]

St. Benedict tells his monks to sing this psalm at the start of each day's work of praise. It often rings in the ears of monks coming late to morning prayer.

We carry in our body

(Ps85:1-2;5-6;9-10) [2:30]

This is a song of the Easter Mystery: how the sufferings of Jesus are repeated in the life of each Christian crying out in need and in trust, “Save me!” — and how the gift of new life is given through his marvelous resurrection.

My prayers come before you like incense

(Ps140:1;2;3;8-9, adapted) [4:45]

This is the psalm for the setting of the sun. The repetition here of the word “listen” is an urgent plea for God to be present, particularly now that night is falling and darkness is covering the earth. In the Old Testament this psalm reminded the faithful Jew of the sacrifices that were offered in the temple at sunset. As Christians we are reminded of the one perfect sacrifice, Jesus offering himself to the Father.

Happy the People

(Ps32:12-13;18-19 vs. #3:

Cf. Eph. 1:17-18) [2:30]

The people of God are bound for the promised land and are called to continual hope in God’s promises.

This poor man called

(Ps33:2-3;7;16;18;19;23) [2:31]

This song recalls in a direct and poignant way the plight of the poor. The poor know their need for God, and realize that their lives are empty without him. Persistent in prayer, God’s friends are his friends always, for richer or for poorer.

How great is your name

(Ps8:2;4-9) [3:01]

This psalm celebrates the dignity of the human person and reminds us to reflect our responsibility toward all creatures.

Come, Lord, bring to us your peace

(Ps 54:2-3; Ps41:2;3) [3:07]

This song describes our basic longing and is particularly appropriate to the season of Advent. We remember that Jesus promised us a peace that the world cannot give.

The love of the Lord is everlasting

(Ps102:1-2;3-4;11-12;17) [3:07]

In this psalm of God’s love, everyone and everything is called to praise the Lord. The fear of the Lord of which the psalmist speaks is not fright; it is rather the reverence of a child for his parents.

Suggestions for Use

Below you will find suggestions for the use of the songs in the collection. The songs are indicated by their page number.

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- May your love be upon us page 16
- This poor man called..... page 26
- Come, Lord bring to us your peace..... page 30

CHRISTMAS

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- How great is your name..... page 28
- The love of the Lord is everlasting page 32

EPIPHANY

- Holy, holy, holy page 14
- Happy the People page 24
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LENT

- If today you hear his voice page 18
- We carry in our body..... page 20
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HOLY WEEK

- We carry in our body..... page 20
- This poor man called..... page 26

EASTER

- How good and how pleasant..... page 10
- We carry in our body..... page 20

ASCENSION DAY

- Holy, holy, holy page 14
- We carry in our body..... page 20
- How great is your name..... page 28

PENTECOST

- How good and how pleasant..... page 10
- There is one thing I ask of the Lord..... page 12
- May your love be upon us page 16
- Happy the People page 24
- Come, Lord bring to us your peace..... page 30

TRINITY SUNDAY

- Holy, holy, holy page 14
- The love of the Lord is everlasting page 32

SAINTS' DAYS

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- There is one thing I ask of the Lord..... page 12
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- The love of the Lord is everlasting page 32

THANKSGIVING DAY

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- There is one thing I ask of the Lord..... page 12
- May your love be upon us page 16

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May your love be upon us.....	page 16
Happy the People.....	page 24
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The love of the Lord is everlasting.....	page 32

HOW GOOD AND HOW PLEASANT

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.

REFRAIN:

Confidently ♩ = 80

Dm Am Dm Am Dm Dm

How

Dm Dm G A

good and how pleas - ant it is,

D Am D

broth - ers dwell - ing in un - ni - ty!

Last time
D Dm Dm D

ty!

VERSE ONE: Dm Dm Am

It is like_ pre - cious oil up - on the

Dm Am Dm

head run - ning down up - on the beard,

Dm Am Dm

run - ning down up - on Aa - ron's beard up - on the

G Am Dm Dm D.S.

col - - - lar of his robes. How

VERSE TWO:

Dm Dm Dm Am

It is like the dew of Her -

Dm Dm Am Dm

mon which falls on the heights of Zi - on.

Dm Am Dm

For there the Lord gives his bless - - ing,

G Am Dm Dm D.S.

life for ev - er. How

THERE IS ONE THING I ASK OF THE LORD

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.

REFRAIN:

Lively

G *G/F# *EmaddG Cmaj7 Dsus4 D G

G/F# EmaddG Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4 D

There is

G G/F# EmaddG Cmaj7 Cmaj7

1,2,3
Dsus4 D

4.
Dsus4 D D.S.

one thing I ask of the Lord,_____ to live in the house of the Lord.____ Lord.____ There is

Last time
Dsus4 D G G/F# EmaddG Cmaj7

Lord._____

Cmaj7 Dsus4 D G G

VERSE ONE:

D G G/F# EmaddG *G/D

The Lord is my light and my help;_____

Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4 D G G/F#

whom shall I fear?_____ The Lord is the strong-hold of my

EmaddG G/D Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4 D D.S.

life;_____ be - fore whom shall I shrink?_____ There is

VERSE TWO:

D G G/F# EmaddG G/D

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,_____

Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4 D G G/F#

for this I long;_____ to sav - or the sweet-ness of the

EmaddG G/D Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4 D D.S.

Lord,_____ to be - hold his tem - ple._____ There is

VERSE THREE:

D G G/F# EmaddG G/D

I am sure I shall see the Lord's good - ness_____

Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4 D G G/F#

in the land of the liv - ing. Hope in him, hold firm and take

EmaddG G/D Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4 D D.S.

heart._____ Hope in the Lord!_____ There is

DESCANT FOR VERSES:

D G *G/F# *EmaddG G/D Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4

D G G/F# EmaddG G/D Cmaj7 Cmaj7 Dsus4 D

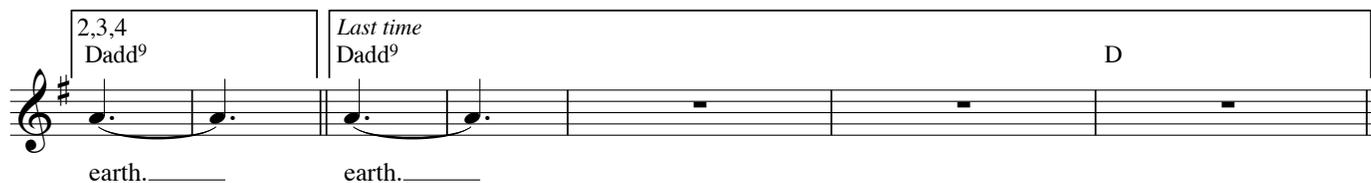
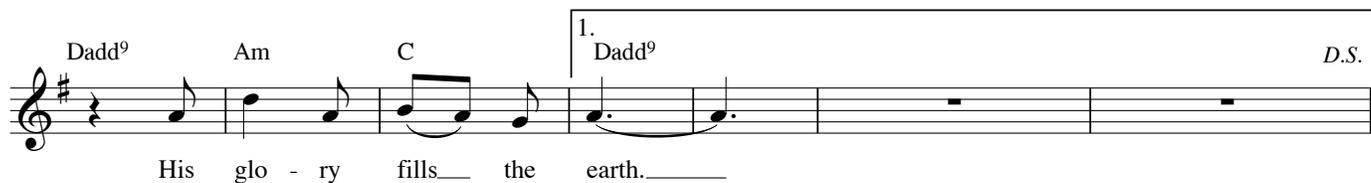
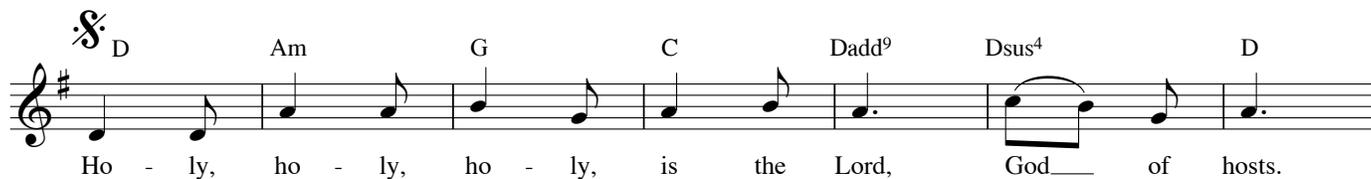
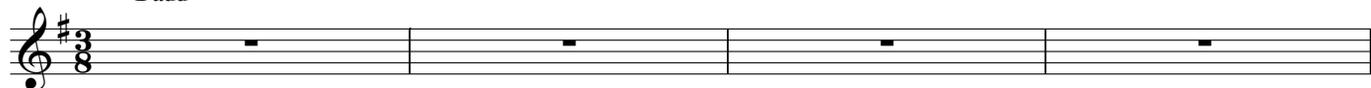
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.
Fr. Columba Kelly, O.S.B.

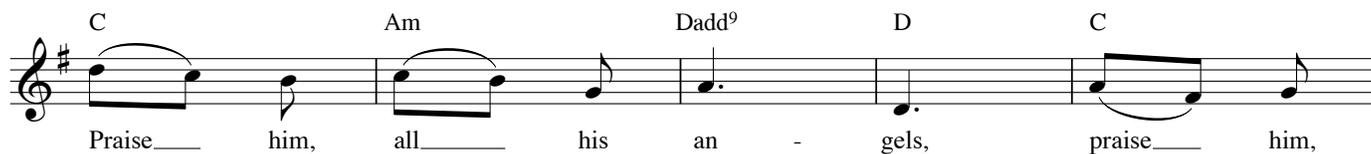
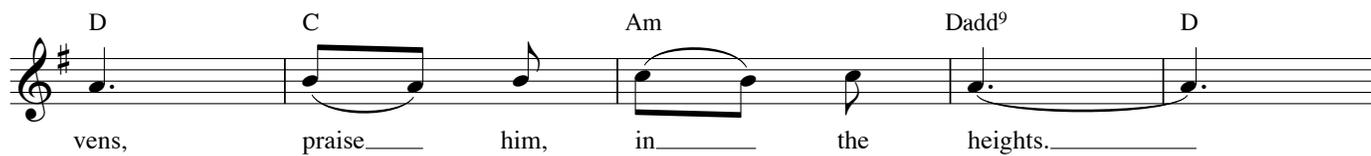
REFRAIN:

Reflectively ♩ = 48

*Dadd⁹



VERSE ONE:



VERSE TWO

Dadd⁹ G C Dadd⁹

All earth's kings and peo -

D C Am Dadd⁹ D

ples, earth's prin - ces and rul - ers;

C Am Dadd⁹ D C

young men and maid - ens, old men to -

G Dadd⁹ D.S.

geth - er with child - ren.

VERSE THREE:

Dadd⁹ G C Dadd⁹

Let them praise the name of the Lord,

D C Am Dadd⁹ D

for he a - lone is ex - al - ted. The

C Am Dadd⁹ D C

splen - dor of his name reach - es be - yond

G Dadd⁹ D.S.

heav - en and earth.

MAY YOUR LOVE BE UPON US

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.
Fr. Columba Kelly, O.S.B

REFRAIN:

Slowly $\text{♩} = 42$

Am Em Am Em

Am Em Dm Em F Dm Am

May your love be up - on us, O Lord, as we place

Dm Em

1. Am Em Am Em *D.S.*

all our hope in you.

2,3,4 Am Em

Last time Am Em Am Em Am

you.

VERSE ONE:

Am Em Am Em F Dm

Give thanks to the Lord up - on the

C F Dm Esus⁴ E

harp, with a ten - stringed lute sing him songs, O

Am Am Dm G

sing him a song that is new, play

Am Em Am Em Am Em *D.S.*

loud - ly with all your skill.

VERSE TWO:

Am Em Am Em F Dm

By his word the heav - ens were

C F Dm Esus⁴ E

made, by the breath of his mouth all the stars. He col -

Am Am Dm G

lects the waves of the o - - cean; he

Am Em Am Em Am Em D.S.

stores up the depths of the sea.

VERSE THREE:

Am Em Am Em F Dm

Our soul is wait - ing, wait - ing for the

C F Dm Esus⁴ E

Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. In

Am Am Dm G

him do our hearts find joy. We

Am Em Am Em Am Em D.S.

trust in his ho - ly name.

IF TODAY YOU HEAR HIS VOICE

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.

REFRAIN:

Rhythmically, not too fast ♩ = 58

*Dadd⁹ § Dm Dm G *Amadd⁹ Am

If to - day you hear his voice,___

Dm Am 1. Cmaj⁷ Dadd⁹ D.S. 2,3,4 Cmaj⁷ Dadd⁹ Last time Cmaj⁷ D D

har - den not your hearts._____ hearts._____ hearts._____

VERSE ONE:

Dadd⁹ D G C Dadd⁹ D C F Em

Come, ring out___ our joy___ to the Lord;___ hail___ the rock___ who saves_____

Dadd⁹ Dm G Dm

us._____ Let___ us come be - fore him, giv - ing

G C Am Em Dadd⁹ D.S.

thanks,___ with songs___ let us hail_____ the Lord._____

VERSE TWO:

Dadd⁹ D G C Dadd⁹ D C F Em

A might - y God___ is the Lord.___ In___ his hand are the depths___ of the

Dadd⁹ Dm G Dm

earth._____ The heights of the moun - tains are his,_____ to him be - longs the

G C Am Em Dadd⁹ D.S.

sea, and the dry land shaped by his hands.

VERSE THREE:

Dadd⁹ D G C Dadd⁹ D C F Em

Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before God who

Dadd⁹ Dm G Dm

made us, for he is our God and we the people of his

G C Am Em Dadd⁹ D.S.

pas - ture, the flock that is led by his hand.

DESCANT FOR REFRAIN:



*Dadd⁹ Dm Dm G *Amadd⁹ Am Dm

Am Cmaj⁷ Dadd⁹ D.S. Cmaj⁷ Dadd⁹ Last time Cmaj⁷ D D

DESCANT FOR VERSES:

Dadd⁹ D G C Dadd⁹ D C F Em

Dadd⁹ Dm G Dm

G C Am Em Dadd⁹ D.S.

WE CARRY IN OUR BODY

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.
Fr. Columba Kelly, O.S.B.

REFRAIN:

Joyfully

D Amaj⁷ Cmaj⁷ D Amaj⁷ Cmaj⁷

We

D D Am⁷ Cmaj⁷ Bm Cmaj⁷

car - ry in our bod - y the death of the Lord that ours may be the

Fmaj⁷ I. D Amaj⁷ Cmaj⁷ D.S. 2,3,4 D Amaj⁷ Cmaj⁷

gift of his life. We life.

Last time D Amaj⁷ Cmaj⁷ D Amaj⁷ Cmaj⁷ D

life.

VERSE ONE:

D Amaj⁷ Cmaj⁷ Dm Am Dm Am

Turn your ear, O Lord, and give an - swer for

Dm Am Dm Am Dm Am Dm

I am poor and need - y. Pre - serve my life for I am faith - ful;

Am Dm Cmaj⁷ Fmaj⁷ D Amaj⁷ Cmaj⁷ D.S.

save the ser - vant who trusts in you. We

VERSE TWO:

D Amaj7 Cmaj7 Dm

O Lord, you are

Am Dm Am Dm Am Dm

good and for - giv - ing, full of love to all who call.

Am Dm Am Dm Am Dm

Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and at - tend to the

Cmaj7 Fmaj7 D Amaj7 Cmaj7 D.S.

sound of my voice. We

VERSE THREE:

D Amaj7 Cmaj7 Dm Am

All the na - tions shall come to a -

Dm Am Dm Am Dm Am

dore you and glo - ri - fy your name for you are

Dm Am Dm Am Dm Cmaj7

great and do mar - vel ous deeds, you who a - lone are

Fmaj7 D Amaj7 Cmaj7 D.S.

God. We

MY PRAYERS COME BEFORE YOU LIKE INCENSE

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.

REFRAIN:

Reflectively ♩ = 40

Dm Dm Am Am C C *Dadd⁹ D

Dadd⁹ D D Am⁷ Dadd⁹ D *D/F# G A A

My prayers come be - fore__ you like in - - cense, the

D G Am D Am C 1. Dadd⁹ D Dadd⁹ D.S.

rais - ing of__ my hands like the ev' - ning of - fer - ing._____

2,3,4 Dadd⁹ D Last time Dadd⁹ D Dadd⁹ D

ing._____ ing._____

VERSE ONE:

Dadd⁹ D Dm Am C Dadd⁹ Dm

I call to you, Lord,__ help_____ me. Lis - ten to

C F A D D Gm C G

me when I call to you. Lord, I cry to you,_____ so lis - ten__

*G/B Dadd⁹ Dm Am C Dadd⁹ D Dadd⁹ D.S.

__ to me, Lord, I am in - vok - - ing you.

VERSE TWO:

Dadd⁹ D Dm Am C Dadd⁹ Dm



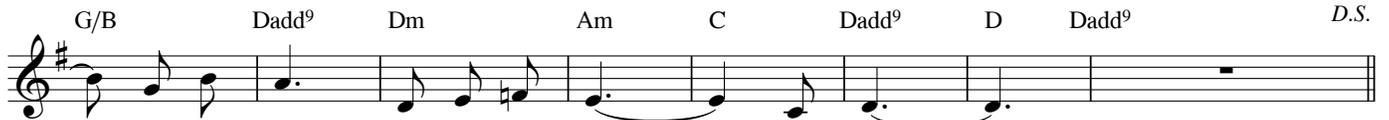
Keep me from e - vil, watch o - ver me. Set a

C F A D D Gm C G



guard at the door of my lips. Lord, I turn to you, so lis - ten

G/B Dadd⁹ Dm Am C Dadd⁹ D Dadd⁹ D.S.



to me, Lord, I am in - vok - ing you.

VERSE THREE:

Dadd⁹ D Dm Am C Dadd⁹ Dm



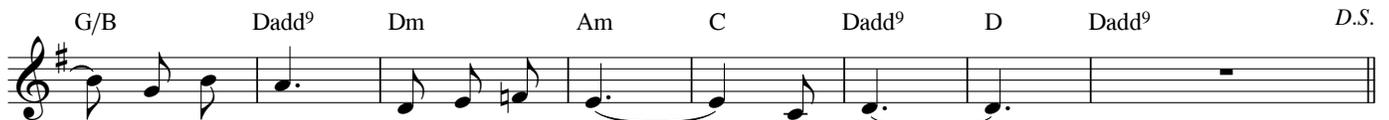
De - fend me, O Lord, I take re - fuge in you. Guard me from

C F A D D Gm C G



those who do e - vil. Lord, I trust in you, so lis - ten

G/B Dadd⁹ Dm Am C Dadd⁹ D Dadd⁹ D.S.



to me, Lord, I am in - vok - ing you.

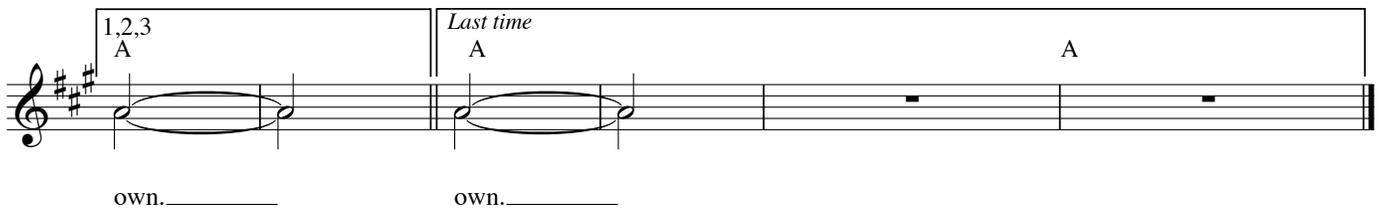
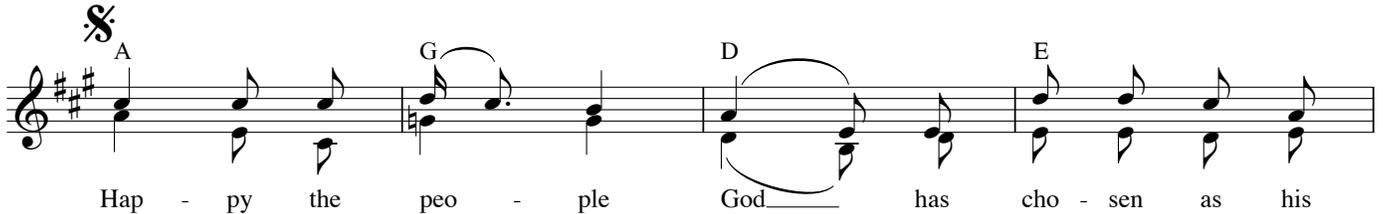
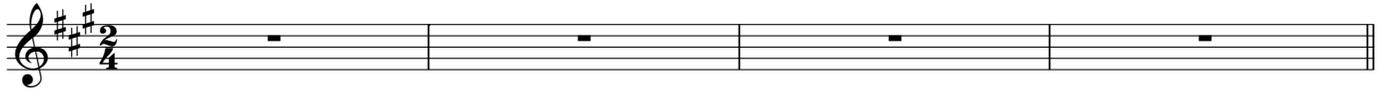
HAPPY THE PEOPLE

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.

Confidently ♩ = 72

REFRAIN:

A



VERSE ONE:

Am

Am

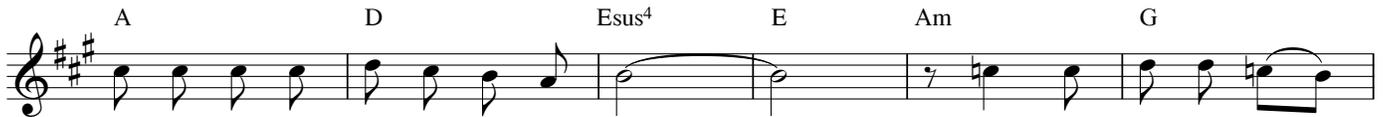
G

Fmaj⁷

E



They are hap - py, whose God is the Lord, the



peo - ple he has cho - sen as his own. From the hea - vens the



Lord looks forth, he sees all the chil - dren of men.

VERSE TWO:

Am

Am

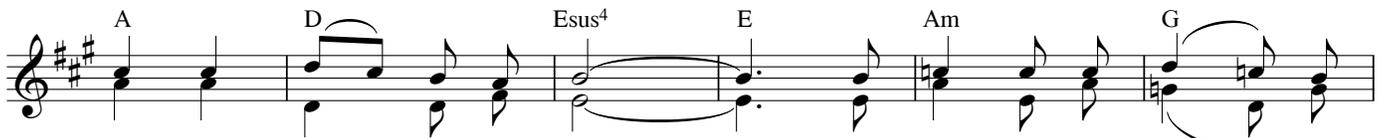
G

Fmaj⁷

E



The Lord looks on those who re - vere him, on



those who hope in his love, to res - cue their souls from

Fmaj7 E A D Esus4 E D.S.

death, to keep them a - live in fam - ine.

VERSE THREE:

Am Am G Fmaj7 E

May the fa - ther of our Lord Je - sus Christ en -

A D Esus4 E Am G

light - en the eyes of our heart, that we might see how -

Fmaj7 E A D Esus4 E D.S.

great is the hope to which we are called.

DESCANT FOR REFRAIN:

A

A G D E 1,2,3 A Last time A

1,2,3 Last time

DESCANT FOR VERSES:

Am Am G Fmaj7 E

A D Esus4 E Am G

Fmaj7 E A D Esus4 E D.S.

D.S.

THIS POOR MAN CALLED

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.

Broadly ♩ = 50

REFRAIN:

E *F/E+4 E F/E+4

This

F/E+4 E Am Dm G 1. E E D.S.

poor__ man__ called;__ the Lord heard__ him.____ This

2,3,4 E Last time E

him.____ him.____

VERSE ONE:

E E F/E+4 E

I will bless the Lord at all times____ his

Am Dm E Am G Am Dm

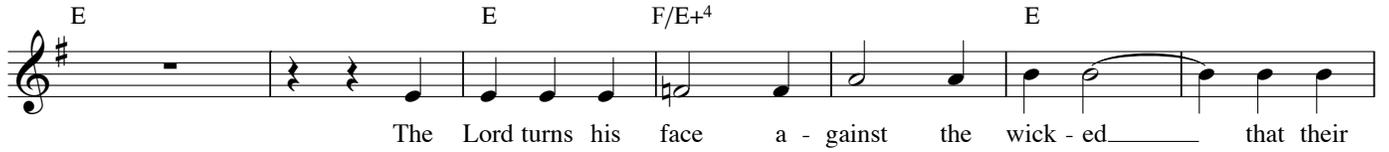
praise al - ways on my lips;____ in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.____

G F E E D.S.

— The hum - ble shall hear and be glad.____ This

VERSE TWO:

E E F/E+4 E



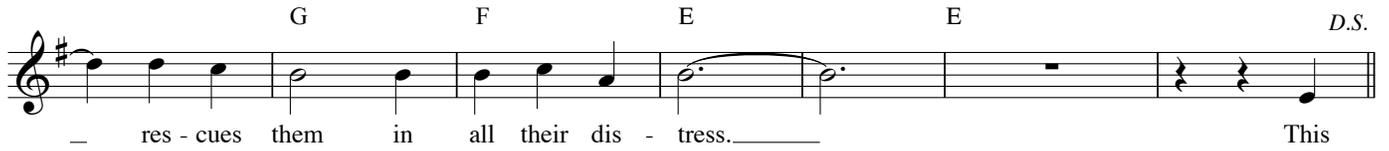
The Lord turns his face a - gainst the wick - ed that their

Am Dm E Am G Am Dm



name be re - mem-bered no more. The just call and the Lord hears,

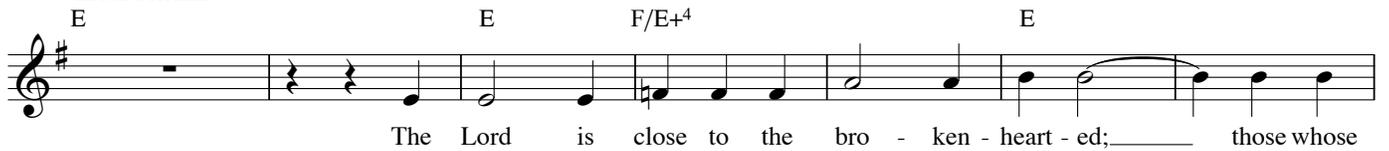
G F E E D.S.



- res - cues them in all their dis - tress. This

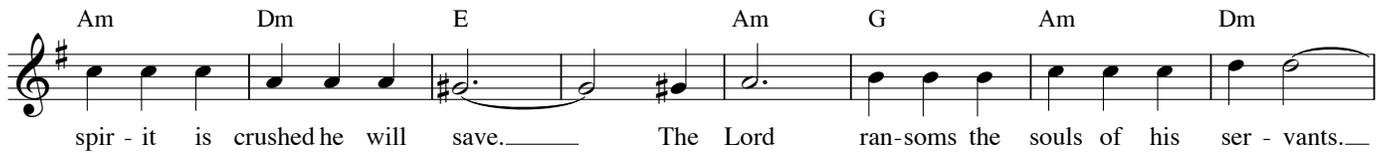
VERSE THREE:

E E F/E+4 E



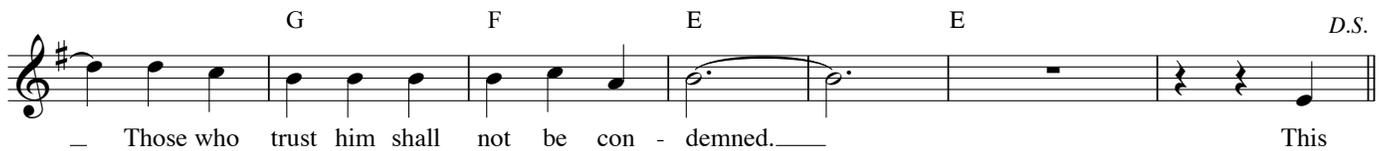
The Lord is close to the bro - ken - heart - ed; those whose

Am Dm E Am G Am Dm



spir - it is crushed he will save. The Lord ran-soms the souls of his ser - vants. -

G F E E D.S.



- Those who trust him shall not be con - demned. This

HOW GREAT IS YOUR NAME

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.

Confidently ♩ = 42

REFRAIN:



Dm Am Dm Am Dm C Gm Dm Am

How great is your name, O Lord, our God, through

F *C/E

1. Dm Am Dm Am D.S.

all the earth. How

2,3,4 Dm Am

Last time Dm Am Dm Am Dm

earth. earth.

VERSE ONE:

Dm Am Dm Am Dm Am F

The hea - vens are the work of your hands; the moon and the

C F C Dm Gm Dm

stars you ar- ranged. What is man that you should keep him in mind,

Am Gm Am Dm Am Dm Am D.S.

mor - tal man that you care for him. How

VERSE TWO:

Dm Am Dm Am Dm Am

Yet you made him lit - tle less than a god; with

F C F C Dm Gm Dm

glo - ry and hon - or you crowned him, gave him pow'r o'er the work of your hand,

Am Gm Am Dm Am Dm Am D.S.

put all things un - der his feet. How

VERSE THREE:

Dm Am Dm Am Dm Am F

All of them, sheep and cat - tle, yes, e - ven the

C F C Dm Gm Dm

sav - age beasts, birds of the air, and fish

Am Gm Am Dm Am Dm Am D.S.

that make their way through the wa - ters. How

DESCANT FOR REFRAIN:

Dm Am Dm Am Dm C Gm Dm Am F

*C/E 1. Dm Am Dm Am D.S. 2,3,4 Dm

Am Last time Dm Am Dm Am Dm

DESCANT FOR VERSES:

Dm Am Dm Am Dm Am F C F

C Dm Gm Dm Am

Gm Am Dm Am Dm Am D.S.

COME, LORD BRING TO US YOUR PEACE

Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.
Fr. Columba Kelly, O.S.B.

Slowly $\text{♩} = 42$

REFRAIN:

Em Am Em Am Em Am Bm

Come, Lord, bring to us your peace.

G D C Cmaj⁷ Am Bm

Let us re-joice be-fore you with a per-fect heart. —

1. Em Am Em Am D.S.

2,3,4 Em Am Last time Em Am Em Am Em

heart. — heart. —

VERSE ONE:

Em Am Em Am Bm G Dsus⁴ D

O God, lis-ten to my prayer, do not hide — from my

Am D G C Cmaj⁷ Am D

plead - ing, at - tend to me — and re - ply; — with my

G Em Am Bm Em Am Em Am D.S.

cares I can - not — rest. —

VERSE TWO:

Em Am Em Am Bm G Dsus⁴ D

Like the deer that yearns for run - - ning

Am D G C Cmaj⁷ Am D G

streams, _____ so my soul is _____ year - ing for you, _____

Em Am Bm Em Am Em Am D.S.

_____ my _____ God. _____

VERSE THREE:

Em Am Em Am Bm G Dsus⁴ D

My soul is thirst - ing for God, the God _____ of my

Am D G C Cmaj⁷ Am D G

life; _____ when can I en - ter and see _____ the face _____

Em Am Bm Em Am Em Am D.S.

_____ of _____ God? _____

THE LOVE OF THE LORD IS EVERLASTING

Fr. Columba Kelly, O.S.B.
 Bro. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B.
 Bro. Samuel Weber, O.S.B.

Joyfully ♩ = 42

REFRAIN:

D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7 ~~S~~D Gmaj7 D Cmaj7 Dsus4 D

The love of the Lord is ev - er - last - ing

Bm Am *G/B *G/C

1. D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7 D.S.

up - on those who hold him in fear._____

2,3,4 D Gmaj7

Last time D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7 D

fear._____ fear._____

VERSE ONE:

D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7 D

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,_____ all my be - ing,

Am Cmaj7 G/B G/C D D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7

bless his ho - ly name._____ My soul, give thanks to the Lord,_____ and

Am Cmaj7 G/B G/C D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7 D.S.

nev - er for - get all his bless - ings.

VERSE TWO:

D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7 D Gmaj7 D

It is he_ who for - gives all your guilt,_____ who heals ev' - ry

Am Cmaj⁷ G/B G/C D D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷

one_ of your ills,_____ who re - deems your life_ from the grave,_____ who

Am Cmaj⁷ G/B G/C D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷ D.S.

crowns you with love and com - pas - sion._____

VERSE THREE:

D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷ D

As the heav - ens are high a - bove the earth_____ so_ strong is his

Am Cmaj⁷ G/B G/C D D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷

love for those who fear him. As far_ as the east is from the west_____ so

Am Cmaj⁷ G/B G/C D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷ D.S.

far does he re - move_ our sins._____

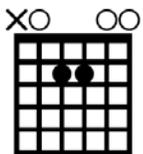
DESCANT FOR VERSES:

D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷ D

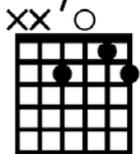
Am Cmaj⁷ *G/B *G/C D D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷

Am Cmaj⁷ G/B G/C D Gmaj⁷ D Gmaj⁷

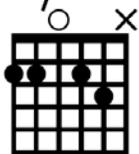
Am(add9)



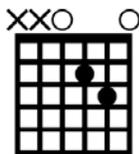
C/E



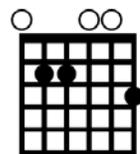
D/F#



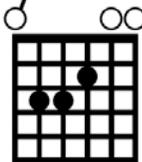
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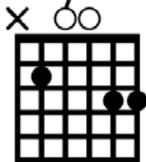
Em addG



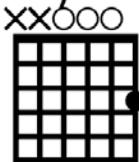
F/E+4



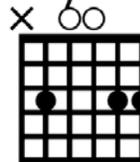
G/B



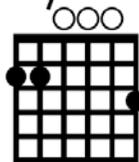
G/D



G/C



G/F#





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