

740

Lead Me, Guide Me

Capo 1: (D)
 Refrain (A7) (Em)
 Eb Bb7 Fm

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you

(A) (D) (A7) (D)
 Bb Eb Bb7 Eb

lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each

(A7) (B7) (Em) (D) (A7) (D)
 Bb7 C7 Fm Eb Bb7 Eb

day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

(D) (B7) (Em) (A7) (Em)
 Eb C7 Fm Bb7 Fm

I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me

(A) (D) (D) (D7)
 Bb Eb Eb Eb7

o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the dark-ness your

(Em) (D) (A7) (D)
 Fm Eb Bb7 Eb

face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

to Refrain

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

God Is So Good

658

1 God is so good; God is so good;
2 God cares for me; God cares for me;
3 God loves me so; God loves me so;
4 God is so good; God is so good;

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody in the treble staff consists of a sequence of notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff provides a simple accompaniment with chords and single notes.

God is so good; God's so good to me.
God cares for me; God's so good to me.
God loves me so; God's so good to me.
God is so good; God's so good to me.

The second system continues the melody from the first system. The treble staff melody is: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff continues with accompaniment. The system concludes with a double bar line.

The exact origins of this chorus celebrating God's providential care are not clear, but it seems to have arisen during the 1970s. Because the text changes so little, the slowly rising four-note pattern of the tune provides the primary source of energy within its five-note range.

510 We Gather Here in Jesus' Name

Come, Share the Lord

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em7)
B^b F Gm7

1 We gath - er here in Je - sus' name;
2 He joins us here; he breaks the bread;
3 We'll gath - er soon where an - gels sing;

(D) (Asus)
F Csus

his love is burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame;
the Lord who pours the cup is ris - en from the dead;
we'll see the glo - ry of our Lord and com - ing King;

(A7) (D) (A) (D)
C7 F C F

for through the lov - ing Son the Fa - ther makes us one:
the one we love the most is now our gra - cious host:
now we an - tic - i - pate the feast for which we wait:

(G) (D) (Em) (A) (D)
B^b F Gm C F *Fine*

come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.

(A7) (D) (G) (A7) (D)
C7 F B^b C7 F

(1) No one is a strang - er here; 7 ev - ery - one be - longs.
(2) We are now a fam - i - ly, of which the Lord is head.

(G) (A7) (D) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
B^b C7 F Dm Gm7 Csus C

Find - ing our for - give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs.
Though un - seen, he meets us here in the break - ing of the bread.

The center of this text recalls Christ's post-Resurrection meal at Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), a reminder that the Risen Christ is in our midst when two or three gather in his name (Matthew 18:20) and share a foretaste of the Heavenly Feast (Matthew 26:29/Luke 22:18/Mark 14:25).

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378



1 We wait the peace-ful king-dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
 2 Where is the peace-ful king-dom? When will this new day start?
 3 When wars of des-o-la-tion and hate come to an end,
 4 That lit-tle child shall lead us to walk the cho-sen way,



in gen-tle-ness and friend-ship with-out a fear or sigh,
 We long for peace and com-fort to reign with-in each heart.
 when na-tion meets with na-tion and calls the oth-er "friend,"
 to share the peace-ful king-dom, to greet God's new-born day.



when li-on shall be graz-ing, when snake shall nev-er strike;
 Yet not in our lives on-ly, nor sim-ply in our home:
 still peace in all its full-ness will on-ly have be-gun:
 The child born in a sta-ble is sent to break our chains,



a lit-tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a-like.
 we pray that all cre-a-tion will one day find sha-lom.
 sha-lom for all cre-a-tion be-gins with jus-tice done.
 to bring through word and ta-ble the day when jus-tice reigns.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6-9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its "little child" with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer's sister, his first piano teacher.