# The New LDS Organist

## A Guide through the First Months

v.1910

This course of twelve lessons is designed to help pianists adapt their skills to the organ as soon as possible. Lessons 1-5 and 10-12 are for everyone—those who must begin very soon to play for church meetings might consider themselves in "shortcut mode" and skip lessons 6-9. These four lessons are for those who can spend the time required to refine their playing "in polish mode" before beginning to serve as an organist.

All twelve lessons are available free over the Internet as audio podcasts. There is a total of just over four hours of instruction, with each lesson lasting between five and thirty-five minutes plus pause time. The lessons involve listening to instruction, trying out new skills at the organ, and playing simplified hymns. Organists with MP3 players can download the podcasts from iTunes and take the lessons at the organ console. Those without MP3 players can hear the lessons through their computer. Those without computers can print the lessons and study them in written form.

A packet of supporting written materials can also be downloaded free over the Internet (in Adobe pdf format). In addition to the many useful handouts, the packet contains over twenty-five simplified hymns that can be used in those first weeks of service.

Instructions on how to access the course can be found online at <organ.byu.edu>. Those who are all ready familiar with iTunes can simply search for "new lds organist" and download it as usual.

The lesson titles are listed below. For a more detailed list of subtopics, visit <organ.byu.edu>.

#### **Lesson Titles**

- 1. Welcome to Organ Playing! (35 minutes)
- 2. First Steps in Pedal Playing (13 min.)
- 3. Playing Prelude Music that Invites the Spirit (13 min.)
- 4. Effective Hymn Playing—An Overview (11 min.)
- 5. Hymn Playing in Shortcut Mode—Playing Hymns Right Now (5 min.)

(lessons 6-9 are for those who can dedicate the time to learning to play in "polish mode"):

- 6. Hymn Playing in Polish Mode—Playing Single Lines in Legato Style (21 min.)
- 7. Hymn Playing in Polish Mode—Playing Two Independent Legato Lines (28 min.)
- 8. Hymn Playing in Polish Mode—Playing Three Independent Legato Lines (31 min.)
- 9. Hymn Playing in Polish Mode—Playing Four Independent Legato Lines (38 min.)
- 10. Hymn Playing—Deciding When to Tie Repeated Notes (25 min.)
- 11. Playing Postlude Music Appropriately (17 min.)
- 12. Continuing Your Organ Training (15 min.)

The New LDS Organist was produced by Dr. Don Cook of the Brigham Young University School of Music, assisted by Jane Dye, Ruth Eldredge, and Shinji Inagi.

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#### **Simplified Hymn Arrangements**

These 25 simplified hymn arrangements appear in the packet in their normal hymnbook order.

Hymn no.	Title	No. of parts	Hymn no.	Title	No. of parts
3	Now Let Us Rejoice	4	143	Let the Holy Spirit Guide	4
5	High on the Mountain Top	3	163	Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing	4
19	We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet	4	174	While of These Emblems We Partake	3
29	A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief	3	177	'Tis Sweet to Sing the Matchless Love	4
30	Come, Come, Ye Saints	3-4	181	Jesus of Nazareth	3
58	Come, Ye Children of the Lord	4	193	I Stand All Amazed	3
67	Glory to God on High	3	200	Christ the Lord Is Risen Today	4
96	Dearest Children, God is Near You	3	201	Joy to the World	3
98	I Need Thee Every Hour	3	247	We Love Thy House, O God	4
100	Nearer, My God, to Thee	3	274	The Iron Rod	3
103	Precious Savior, Dear Redeemer	3	292	O My Father	4
140	Did You Think to Pray?	3	294	Love at Home	3
142	Sweet Hour of Prayer	3			

#### The Easier Hymns

Following is a list of some of the easier hymns to play directly from the hymnbook, as given in the official LDS Church Music website and in the BYU Independent Study organ courses, Levels 1 and 2. It may be useful for music chairmen and priesthood leaders as organists develop their skills.

Come, Follow Me (116); Come Unto Jesus (117), Do What Is Right (237); Glory to God on High (67); God Be with You Till We Meet Again (152); I Know My Father Lives (302); How Gentle God's Commands (125); How Great the Wisdom and the Love (195); I Stand All Amazed (193); Keep the Commandments (303); Let the Holy Spirit Guide (143); Love at Home (294); Now Let Us Rejoice (3); Redeemer of Israel (6); Sweet Is the Work (147); Sweet Hour of Prayer (142); Teach Me to Walk in the Light (304); We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet (19).

## **Materials Needed for Each Lesson**

The materials that should be at your fingertips for each lesson are listed below. Each title refers to an item from this packet or from the LDS *Hymnbook*. For a complete table of contents for this packet, see the previous page, "Table of Contents—Packet."

#### Lesson 1. Welcome to Organ Playing!

About Your Calling
The Organ Console
Internet Resources for Organists
Hymn 5 (simplified and *Hymnbook*)
Hymn 100 (simplified)

#### **Lesson 2. First Steps in Pedal Playing**

Pedal Orientation Hymn 142 (simplified)

## Lesson 3. Playing Prelude Music that Invites the Spirit

Resources: Easy Prelude and Postlude Common Stop Names Listed by Family Regis. Suggestions for Prelude/Postlude

## Lesson 4. Effective Hymn Playing—An Overview

Hymn Registration Shortcuts Hymns 6 and 166 (*Hymnbook*)

#### Lesson 5. Hymn Playing in Shortcut Mode—Playing Hymns Right Now

Hymn Registration Shortcuts Hymn 3 (*Hymnbook*)

#### Lesson 6. Hymn Playing in Polish Mode— Playing Single Lines in Legato Style

The Six Organ Fingering Techniques Common Stop Names Listed by Family Hymns 174 and 5 (simplified) Hymn 259 (*Hymnbook*)

## Lesson 7. Hymn Playing in Polish Mode—Playing Two Independent Lines

Common Stop Names Listed by Family Hymns 58 and 98 (simplified) Hymns 254, 31, 205, and 6 (*Hymnbook*)

## Lesson 8. Hymn Playing in Polish Mode—Playing Three Independent Legato Lines

How to Learn Three-Part Hymns and Pieces Common Stop Names Listed by Family Hymn 98 (simplified) Hymns 108 and 226 (*Hymnbook*)

## Lesson 9. Hymn Playing in Polish Mode—Playing Four Independent Legato Lines

Three-Stage Plan for Learning Hymns or . . . Hymn Registration Shortcuts
Sample from Hymns from the L.D.S. Hymnal . . . Sample from Three-Stave Hymn Accompaniments
Organ Training Resources Available through BYU
Redeemer of Israel: Example of Fully-Prepared Score Hymns 3, 5, and 174 (simplified)
Hymnbook

## Lesson 10. Hymn Playing— Deciding When to Tie Repeated Notes

Sample of a Hymn Marked in Shortcut Mode Sample from *Hymns from the L.D.S. Hymnal* . . . Sample from *Three-Stave Hymn Accomp*. . . . Redeemer of Israel: Example of Fully-Prepared Score Hymn 19 (*Hymnbook*)

#### Lesson 11. Playing Postlude Music Appropriately

Resources: Easy Prelude and Postlude Common Stop Names Listed by Family Hymn 140 (simplified) Registration Suggestions for Prelude/Postlude Music

#### **Lesson 12. Continuing Your Organ Training**

About Your Calling Organ Training Resources Internet Resources for Organists

## **About Your Calling**

A list of suggested readings and resources for the LDS organist

#### **Addresses by General Authorities**

Eyring, Henry B. "Rise to Your Call." Ensign, November 2002.

Hinckley, Gordon B. "The Quest for Excellence." Ensign, September 1999.

Jensen, Jay E. "The Nourishing Power of Hymns." Ensign, May 2007.

Kimball, Spencer W. The Gospel Vision of the Arts." Ensign, July 1977.

Oaks, Dallin H. "Worship through Music." Ensign, November 1994.

Packer, Boyd K. "The Arts and the Spirit of the Lord." Ensign, August 1976.

Packer, Boyd K. "Reverence Invites Revelation." Ensign, November 1991.

#### **Official Church Communication**

LDS Church Music website < https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/music?lang=eng >

Frequently Asked Questions

< https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/callings/music/introduction-to-music/frequently-asked-questions? lang=eng >

Guidelines from Handbook 2

< https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/callings/music?lang=eng >

Quotes from Church Leaders and the scriptures about music

< https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/music/resources/music-quotes?lang=eng >

#### Other Resources

Organ Study at BYU website < organ.byu.edu >

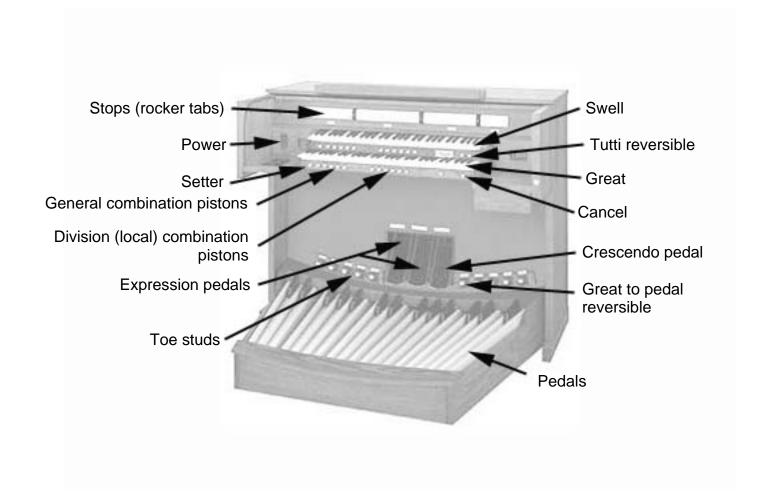
Resources for LDS organists < ldsorganists.info >

Howarth, Paul R. "Tips for Beginning Organists." Ensign, September 2002.

## **The Organ Console**

The diagram below indicates standard positions for the various items. However, organ consoles vary widely in their design. Some of the most common variations are as follows:

- Expression and crescendo pedals. If only one is present, it is usually an expression pedal that affects the volume of the entire organ. Crescendo pedals are absent on many consoles.
- Great to Pedal reversible. If present, this is usually located directly to the right of the right-most expression (or crescendo) pedal. It may also be present as a thumb piston.
- General and divisional combination pistons. Many organs have only one set of combination pistons. If so, they will be generals, centered underneath one or both manuals. If both generals and divisionals are present, the generals are usually located to the left underneath the manual(s).
- Stops. These may be present as drawknobs, located in stop jambs on both sides of the manuals.
- Tutti/sforzando reversible. If present, this is usually the right-most and highest thumb piston and/or toe stud.



## **Internet Resources for Organists**

#### General "Hot Spots" of Organ-Related Web Resources

• Pipe Organs and Related Topics albany.edu/piporg-l

Links of topical interest albany.edu/piporg-l/piplinks.html

• American Guild of Organists agohq.org

The New Organist (videos and other resources) <a href="https://www.agohq.org/neworganist/">https://www.agohq.org/neworganist/</a>
Educational Resources <a href="ago.networkats.com/members\_online/members/createorder.asp">ago.networkats.com/members\_online/members/createorder.asp</a>
Lessons for the New Organist and other educational videos <a href="youtube.com/user/GuildofOrganists">youtube.com/user/GuildofOrganists</a>

• Wikipedia en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pipe\_organ

#### **Specific Areas of Interest to Organists**

• BYU

Organ Study at BYU organ.byu.edu

BYU Organ Workshop organworkshop.byu.edu

BYU Musicians' Summerfestival (ages 14-18) summerfestival.byu.edu

The New LDS Organist organ.byu.edu/the-new-lds-organist

OrganTutor organtutor.byu.edu

Independent Study Organ Courses

College-credit courses (Levels 1-6): <u>is.byu.edu/site/courses/index.cfm?school=univ</u>

Certificate-only courses (Levels 1-6, noncredit) <u>elearn.byu.edu</u> > Catalog > Continuing Ed. Courses

Free courses (Levels 1-2 only, noncredit, no certificate) <u>elearn.byu.edu</u> > Catalog > Free Courses

#### Organists of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Organ Training Resources organ.byu.edu/TrainingResources.pdf

Discussion group for organ students and teachers groups.google.com/group/LearningOrgan

Resources for LDS Organists (DeeAnn Stone) <u>LDSOrganists.info</u>

Belnap Hymn Studies for Organists creativeworks.byu.edu/Catalog/ViewItem.aspx?item=SM004

Carol Dean marked Hymnbook (about \$30+shipping, email Jennifer Morgan Ldsorganistblog@gmail.com)

History of LDS Hymns en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints hymns

Temple Square Organs mormontabernaclechoir.org/about/organs?lang=eng

Jackman Music jackmanmusic.com

Online Music for the LDS Organist wardorganist.com

A Blog for LDS Organists organlessons.blogspot.com

#### Organ Music

sheetmusicplus.com, michaelsmusicservice.com, loisfyfemusic.com/index.htm, organhistoricalsociety.org Kelvin Smith online music library untraveledroad.com/music/music.htm

#### • Recordings and broadcasts

Pipedreams Program Archives pipedreams.publicradio.org/listings

JAV Recordings pipeorgancds.com

Pro Organo (Zarex) proorgano.com

Bach Organ Works (free online recordings - Kibbie) blockmrecords.org/bach

OrganLive.com (free Internet audio station) organlive.com

#### • The organ itself

Encyclopedia of Pipe Organ Stops http://www.organstops.org/index.html

Organ History faculty.bsc.edu/jhcook/OrgHist/index.html

A Young Person's Guide to the Pipe Organ (The Pipe Organ Guide) agohq.org/young-persons-guide/

#### • Miscellaneous

Facebook pages: American Guild of Organists (closed group) facebook.com/groups/AGOCG/;

Facebook Organists' Assoc. (public group) facebook.com/groups/organists/

AGO Young Organists <a href="https://www.agohq.org/regional-divisions-for-young-organists/">https://www.agohq.org/regional-divisions-for-young-organists/</a>

A Wiki resource on organ playing organplayingwiki.byu.edu

BACHorgan.com <u>bachorgan.com</u>

Pipe Organs: Remarkable and Historical Instruments from Around the World <u>mypipeorganhobby.blogspot.com</u>

MIDI primer <u>arts.ucsc.edu/EMS/Music/tech\_background/MIDI/MIDI.html</u>

Secrets of Organ Playing: Down to earth tips, advice, and training for organists (Vidas Pinkevicius) organduo.lt

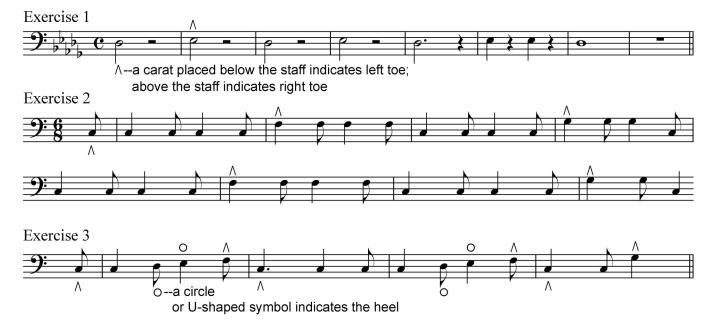
## **Pedal Orientation**

## **Organ Shoes**

visit <organ.byu.edu/ORSHOE.html>



#### **Pedal Exercises for Lesson 2**



Continue by learning the pedal line of Hymn 142, "Sweet Hour of Prayer" (simplified for organ in three parts) as described near the end of Lesson 2.

## **Resources: Easy Prelude and Postlude**

Listed in approximate order from easier to more challenging

Stone, DeeAnn. Resources for LDS Organists. Visit <u>ldsorganists.info</u>.

This is an exhaustive listing of hymn preludes and free accompaniments on hymns found in the LDS hymnbook—a most useful resource for any LDS organist. There is no indication, however, as to the level of difficulty.

Manual-Only Hymns for Organ and Transformations. Provo, UT: Brigham Young University, 2010. Visit <a href="lds.org/music/accompanying-others?lang=eng#2">lds.org/music/accompanying-others?lang=eng#2</a> (free download).

Manual-Only Hymns is designed to assist the LDS pianist in making the transition to the organ. With practice, the voice parts of these 38 hymns can be played smoothly and with independence of line. This is enabled by eliminating the pedal parts, by reducing the voice parts from four to three, by arranging the hymns for ease of execution, and by providing organ fingering. Transformations is a companion volume to Manual-Only Hymns that provides easy supplemental material to "transform" the hymns into simple preludes or postludes.

Croft, D. Kim. *Nine Hymn Studies*. Orem, UT: Pioneer Music Press, 1986. Visit jackmanmusic.com

These simple three-part hymn settings are fingered and pedaled in legato style, and include a very easy pedal part. They are some of the easiest available pieces to play for prelude or postlude, but not for congregational accompaniment.

Cook, Don. *Easy Organ Hymn Settings*. Orem, UT: Jackman Music, 1992. Visit jackmanmusic.com

This collection contains 28 three-part transcriptions of LDS hymns. The original soprano part is played by the right hand. The left hand plays a new middle part that leaves the harmony unchanged from the original. The bass part, also not deviating from the original notes, appears on its own pedal staff. Repeated notes are sometimes tied in the bass and middle parts. Fingering and pedaling are provided. These transcriptions can be used for congregational hymn accompaniment, or for prelude or postlude. They were designed to provide a bridge between the very easy *Nine Hymn Studies* by Kim Croft and the four-part hymns in the *Hymnbook*.

Cook, Don. *OrganTutor Organ 101 Workbook*. Provo, UT: Brigham Young University, 1998/2007. Visit organtutor.byu.edu

This organ method contains a few hymn settings and pieces that were hand-picked for the early-level LDS organist, such as "Prelude on Deliverance" by Richard Elliott. The method, along with the computer tutorial, also serves as the basic text for the Level 1 and 2 BYU Independent Study organ courses.

Dupré, Marcel. Seventy-Nine Chorales for the Organ, Opus 28. New York: H. W. Gray, 1932.

These one- or two-page pieces are provided with fingering and pedaling in legato style. A few are based on hymns in the LDS hymnbook. This book is required in the Level 1 and 2 BYU Independent Study organ courses.

Manookin, Robert P. Hymn Preludes for Organ, Book One. Orem, UT: Sonos (Jackman Music), 1976. Visit jackmanmusic.com

This is the first of many volumes of LDS hymn preludes by Robert Manookin. This first volume contains two or three pieces that are particularly useful for the early-level organist. These pieces are on the repertoire list for the BYU Independent Study Level 1 and 2 organ courses.

(continued)

Cundick, Robert and Don Cook. *Three-Stave Hymn Accompaniments*. Provo, UT: BYU Creative Works Office, 2003. Search <three stave hymn> to order bound volume or for free download.

This is a collection of 62 hymns transcribed for organ on three staves. The goal: make it easier for an organist to play the hymns well by writing the bass part on its own pedal staff and adding ties generously between repeated notes. Fingering and pedaling must be added, and the text is not present in the score.

Belnap, Parley L. *Hymn Studies for Organists*. Rev. ed. Provo, UT: BYU Creative Works, 1992/2003. http://creativeworks.byu.edu/Catalog/ViewItem.aspx?item=SM004.

This method book on hymn playing provides fingering and pedaling for many hymns, as well as generous instruction on all aspects of hymn playing. The hymn text is not present in the scores.

Hymns of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Salt Lake City, UT: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. 1985.

Prelude and postlude music can be played directly from the hymnbook. Variety can be introduced by applying the registration suggestions and rearrangement of parts as suggested in Lessons 3 and 11. Later, you can learn more details on rearranging parts through the "Music 116—Organ Techniques and Literature" podcasts. Go to iTunes and search "organ techniques."

Chamberlin, David. LDS Hymn Voluntaries. Visit chamberlinmusic.com.

This composer is developing a massive collection of hymn preludes—one for each hymn in the hymnbook. Each volume contains preludes of varying difficulty levels and that range in style from traditional to contemporary. New volumes are produced periodically.

In addition to the websites given above after some listings, some of these items are also available through the BYU Store. Visit byustore.com/books-main/books or call 1-800-253-2578.

# **Common Stop Names Listed by Pipe Category and Family of Organ Tone**

Most every speaking stop found on organs in LDS meetinghouses is listed under its pipe category (flue or reed) and family of organ tone.

	REED pipe category		
Flute family	FLUE pipe category Principal family	String family	Reed family
Blockflöte	Choral bass	Aeoline	Chorus reeds
Bourdon (– doux, Contre –)	Diapason	Cello	Basson (Contre –)
Chimney flute	Double diapason	Echo gamba	Bombarde
Clarabella	Doublette	Fugara	Clairon (Clarion)
Copula	Dulciana	Gamba	Dulzian
Cor de nuit	Fifteenth	Salicet	Fagotto (Fagott) [bassoon]
Doppelflöte	Montre	Salicional	(pronounced "fuh-GOT")
Fife	Octave (Oktav)	Unda maris	French trumpet
Flautino	Open diapason	Viola	Hautbois [oboe]
Flauto dolce	Prestant	Viola da gamba	Oboe
Flûte (– à bec, – à fuseau,	Principal (Prinzipal)	Viola celeste	Posaune [trombone]
– bouchée, – celeste,	Quint(e)	Viola pomposa	Rankett
- harmonique, - ouverte)	Spitz prinzipal	Violone (Contre violone)	Tromba
Gedackt (Gedeckt) (– flûte)	Super octave	Voix celeste	Trompette (Trompete)
Harmonic flute	Twelfth		Trumpet
Hohlflöte			Waldhorn
Holzgedackt	Chorus mixtures:		
Koppelflöte	(Plein jeu, Mixture,		Solo reeds
Larigot	Fourniture, Cymbal,		Clarinet
Lieblich gedeckt	Scharf, Acuta)		Cromorne
Melodia	Jenari, Teata)		English horn (Cor Anglais)
Nacht <u>horn</u>			Festival trumpet
Nazard (Nasard, Nasat)			French horn
Octavin			Horn
Open flute			Krummhorn
Orchestral flute			Regal
Piccolo			Rohrkrummhorn
Pommer			Rohr schalmei
Quintatön (Quintadena)			Schalmei
Quintflöte			Tuba (– mirabilis)
Rohrflöte			Tuou ( minuoms)
Sifflöte			
Spillpfeife			Other reeds
Stopped diapason			Vox humana (Voix humaine)
Subbass			( voix numum)
Гibia			
Tierce (Terz)			
Traverse flute			
Waldflöte			
Zauberflöte			
	Securialtera II (These are us	ually flutes unless they are found	1
on the Great, in which case the		ually flutes unless they are found	
Hybrid stops (share o	Some stop names that can		
Erzähler	easily be identified with the		
Geigen (– di	wrong family are underlined		
Gemshorn, (	and and an analytimes		
Spitz <u>flöte</u>			

## Registration Suggestions for Prelude/Postlude Music by Don Cook

Music that is carefully selected and properly presented can greatly enhance the spirit of worship. . . . Quiet prelude and postlude music creates an atmosphere of worship that invites the Spirit into Church meetings. The organist or pianist usually plays hymns or other appropriate music for five to ten minutes before and after a meeting.

— Handbook 2: Administering the Church: Music in the Ward, 14.4, 14.4.3 https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/handbook-2-administering-the-church/music/music/lang=eng#144

To build a stop combination for a prelude or postlude that accomplishes the purposes described above, **first identify these important characteristics in the music.** If these are not indicated in the score, make the decision yourself:

- 1. MOOD: Meditative or jubilant? Use more words that describe the mood or sound more precisely (light or heavy, clear or rich, sparkling or foundational, simple, calm, reverent, ethereal, solid, majestic, quietly jubilant, etc.)
- 2. VOLUME: Overall volume level (very soft, soft, medium, etc.)
- 3. SOLO: Will a solo and an accompaniment be played on two separate manuals (solo and accompaniment registration), or will both hands play on the same manual (chorus registration)?

#### Next, decide on the sound that you want and find it on the organ.

#### CHORUS REGISTRATION

For "chorus-type" registration, in which both hands play on the same manual, try the combinations given below. Use the handout "Common Stop Names Listed by Pipe Category and Family of Organ Tone" to find particular flutes, principals, strings, reeds, or hybrids (as indicated below) on your organ. The following list begins with the softer stops or combinations, which are usually most effective in enhancing the spirit of worship:

- 1. a soft 8' stop alone (flute, hybrid, or string)
- 2. the celeste effect (use two 8' stops [hybrid, flute, or string, with celeste], or a single celeste stop marked "II" [like Gemshorn Celeste II 8'])
- 3. two soft 8' stops (flute and hybrid, flute and string)
- 4. flutes 8' and 4'
- 5. two soft 8' stops and flute 4'
- 6. flutes 8', 4', and 2' (or flute 8', principal 4', and flute 2')
- 7. principal 8' alone
- 8. principal 8' and flute 4', or flute 8' and principal 4'
- 9. principals 8' and 4'
- 10. principal 8' plus no. 1, 3, 4, 5, or 6 above
- 11. principals 8' and 4' plus no. 1, 3, 4, 5, or 6 above
- 12. principals 8', 4', and 2' (note the brightness of the 2' principal)
- 13. Adding the chorus mixtures and/or chorus reeds probably reach beyond an appropriate volume level for preludes and most postludes in Sacrament meeting.

#### SOLO AND ACCOMPANIMENT REGISTRATION

For "solo and accompaniment" registration, one hand (usually the right) plays the solo part *on either the Swell or the Great*, and the other hand (usually the left) plays the accompaniment on the remaining manual. First, decide whether the sound of the solo or the accompaniment is most important to you, and begin building that combination. Next, build the other combination, balancing it with the first. For the accompaniment (usually played by the left hand), use one of the chorus-type registrations given above.

For the solo part (usually played by the right hand), you need only find a more prominent (louder) stop or combination. *The solo may be registered with any chorus-type registration (see above), as long as the accompaniment is softer.* Celeste effects, however, are usually most effective in the accompaniment part. The following is a list of solo stops or combinations that are not included in the chorus registrations given above. These usually result in a more colorful solo:

- 1. a single harmonic flute 8'
- 2. flutes 8' and 2' (a "gap" combination)
- 3. combinations of the 8' flute and other stops from the Cornet (pronounced "cor-NAY"):
  - a. flutes 8' and 2 2/3' (an especially effective soft solo combination)
  - b. flutes 8', 4', and 2 2/3'
  - c. flutes 8', 2 2/3', and 1 3/5' ("Sesquialtera")
  - d. flutes 8', 4', 2 2/3', and 1 3/5'
  - e. flutes 8', 4', 2 2/3', 2', and 1 3/5' (the full Cornet)
- 4. string 8' (may sound like a soft reed)
- 5. flute 4'
- 6. soft reed 8' (Oboe, Cromorne, Clarinet, French horn, English horn, Schalmei)
- 7. soft reed 8' "rounded out" with other mild 8' and 4' stops (flutes, hybrids, strings)
- 8. all the 8' stops on the Great that blend, possibly including the Swell to Great coupler (a very warm, "singing" solo combination)
- 9. a larger chorus reed 8' (Trompette, Fagott) (more effective as a meditative solo stop when played in the tenor range)
- 10. a larger chorus reed 8' "rounded out" with other 8' and 4' stops

#### PEDAL BALANCE

Build the bass part to balance with the chorus-type combination (not the solo). Choose a soft 16' and 8' stop from the Pedal division (Subbass, Bourdon, Gedackt, Lieblich Gedackt). As an alternative, select a soft 16' Pedal stop and Swell to Pedal or Great to Pedal (whichever does *not* have the solo). To balance larger manual combinations, add larger 16' stops followed by 8' stops in the Pedal as needed. If manual-to-pedal couplers are used, the 8' balance will occur automatically as manual stops are added.

#### Write down the combination or save it to memory for later use.

Once you have selected the combination that you want, write down the stops in pencil on the music. You can then draw this combination by hand whenever you play that piece on that organ—if you have time. If you will not have time to draw the stops by hand, set the combination on a combination piston ("preset") as described in Lesson 1 under the combination action. Be sure to double-check your preset just before the meeting!

## **Hymn Registration Shortcuts**

Following is an easy-to-use "shortcut" plan for selecting stops in either meditative or jubilant hymns for congregational singing. It can be used with most pipe or digital church organs.

#### A FEW OF THE MOST IMPORTANT GUIDELINES

- 1. **Support** the congregation with confidence, but do not overpower
- 2. Let the **text** guide the registrational plan for the hymn
- 3. Begin with stops from the **principal chorus** especially the 8' principal (diapason)
- 4. 8' and 4' pitches are minimum for the manual; 16' and 8' are minimum for the pedal
- 5. In **meditative hymns**, substitute flutes for principals at 4' and 2' levels as needed to reduce sharpness
- 6. Use **changes of registration** between verses and/or between verse and chorus

#### **BASIC HYMN REGISTRATION**

MEDITATIVE HYMNS: Begin with this basic combination

Great: Principals 8' and 4' (the stops may be called Principal, Diapason, Octave, or Prestant)

Pedal: The main 16' stop (may be called Principal, Subbass, Bourdon, or Gedackt), and Great to Pedal

JUBILANT HYMNS: Add the 2' principal on the Great to the meditative hymn combination, resulting in-

Great: Principals 8' 4' and 2' (the 2' stop may be called Super Octave, Fifteenth, or Doublette)

Pedal: The main 16' stop, and Great to Pedal

#### FOR A SINGLE CHANGE OF REGISTRATION BETWEEN VERSES

MEDITATIVE HYMNS: Couple the Swell chorus 8' 4' 2' to the Great

Begin with the Basic Hymn Registration for Meditative Hymns (above). Also, prepare the following:

Swell: flutes or principals 8' and 4', and flute 2', resulting in—

an 8' stop (Bourdon, Gedackt, Geigen Prinzipal, or Diapason)

a 4' stop (Flute, Nachthorn, Spitzprinzipal, Octave, Prestant, or Kloppelflőte)

the available 2' stop (Piccolo, Blockflőte, Flute à bec)

Later, between verses or between a verse and the chorus, add the Swell to Great coupler

JUBILANT HYMNS: Add the Great chorus mixture

Begin with the Basic Hymn Registration for Jubilant Hymns (see above)

Later, between verses or between a verse and the chorus, add the Great chorus mixture (usually called Mixtur[e], and always followed by a Roman numeral)

For yet another change, you might add a chorus reed 8' on the Great or Swell (Trumpet, Trompette, Tromba, or Fagott)

## The Six Legato Organ Fingering Techniques



## **How to Learn Three-Part Hymns and Pieces**

#### Stage 1: **PREPARE**

Step 1. SIGHT-READ. Do your best to play through the piece. This will help you identify some of the obstacles to overcome, such as notes, rhythm, fingering, legato, or independence.

#### Step 2. PREPARE THE SCORE

- a. If you are dealing with a HYMN:
  - Mark PHRASING in the text. For each verse, mark a comma or vertical line in places where a break would help to clarify the meaning of the words. Mark a slur between words where playing without a break might help to clarify the meaning. Even thought the congregation may breathe at such points, you can really draw attention to the message of the hymn in this way.
  - ADD ANY TIES. If necessary, add ties as needed to improve the sustained character of the hymn. This will only be necessary in four-part hymns played directly from the hymnbook. In all of the arrangements that came with this course, these decisions have all ready been made, and any adjustments have been written into the music.
- b. Divide the piece into SECTIONS. If you did rather well at sight-reading, the sections can be larger (four to eight measures). If your sight-reading was far from the mark, make the sections smaller (one to two measures). Continue with the following steps for each section.
- c. Add FINGERING AND PEDALING. This is a must unless you can sight-read it very well. Planning and learning good fingering and pedaling helps in two very important ways. First, security—you will be able to play more accurately and with greater confidence. Second, retention—you will be able to bring it back with only minimal effort for the rest of your life. You do not need to mark fingering or pedaling for every note; instead, mark key places—where a new pattern begins, a skip occurs, a crossing, substitution, glissando, or any unnatural action must occur. Make just enough marks to lead you to play the passage the same way every time. Mark fingering and pedaling for the whole piece or just a few sections at a time, as you prefer.

#### Stage 2: **LEARN EACH SECTION**

#### Step 1. Practice ONE LINE.

- Step 1a. Begin by practicing one line SLOWLY AND PERFECTLY. How slowly? Slowly enough to stay in control. Make sure the fingering or pedaling are exactly as planned, or adjust them as needed. Check for accuracy of notes and rhythm, for perfect legato, and for well-defined breaks between repeated notes and at phrase breaks. Practice at that tempo until you can play it three to five times perfectly without much conscious effort.
- Step 1b. SLIGHTLY INCREASE TEMPO. How slightly? It depends, but try 2-4 beats per minute. Practice until you can play it three to five times perfectly without much effort. Repeat this step until you arrive at a "goal" tempo for that step.
- Step 2. Practice A SECOND LINE. Go through step 1 for a second line.

#### Step 3. Practice TWO LINES COMBINED.

Step 3a. Begin by practicing the first and second lines SLOWLY AND PERFECTLY. Remember: slowly enough to stay in control. Thoroughly learn the fingering or pedaling exactly as planned, or adjust them as needed. Check notes and rhythm as before, but now shift your attention to the perfect legato and well-defined breaks in *each* line. Make sure that when a break occurs in one line, it does not cause a break in another line where sustained tone is needed. And make sure that the sustained tone in one line does not cause a tie or "flinch" in another line where a well-defined break should occur. If such problems occur, using the "freezing technique" as described in Lesson 7 will save a lot of time. Practice at that slow tempo until you can play it three to five times perfectly without much conscious effort.

Step 3b. SLIGHTLY INCREASE TEMPO, as explained in step 1b. Repeat this step until you arrive at a "goal" tempo for that step.

- Step 4. A THIRD LINE. Repeat step 1 for a third line.
- Step 5. THREE LINES COMBINED IN PAIRS. Practice step 3 for the third and *second* lines. When finished, practice step 3 for the third and *first* lines.

#### Step 6. ALL THREE LINES COMBINED.

Step 6a. Begin by practicing all three lines together SLOWLY AND PERFECTLY. Always practice slowly enough to stay in control. Keep the fingering and pedaling as planned, watch notes and rhythm, the legato, the well-defined breaks, and independence of line. Be quick to use the "freezing technique" whenever independence problems occur. Practice at that slow tempo until you can play three to five times perfectly without much conscious effort.

Step 6b. SLIGHTLY INCREASE TEMPO, as explained in step 1b. Repeat this step until you arrive at a "goal" tempo for that step.

Step 7. NEW SECTION. Repeat steps 1-6 for a new section.

#### Stage 3: **REVIEW AND COMBINE THE SECTIONS**-

Continue practicing previously learned sections each day, always practicing slowly enough to stay in control. Each time you learn one, leave it, and learn it again, as long as you are playing with great control, you will be driving reflex-like habits deeper into your subconscious mind. It is the *subconscious recall* of those many physical "reflexes" that you will rely on as you perform hymns and pieces. Begin combining the sections into larger and larger sections as they become easier, until you can play the entire hymn.

As you put the sections together, devise and begin practicing a REGISTRATIONAL PLAN that reflects the meaning of the text and the spirit of the music, and that supports and encourages the congregation.

# Three-Stage Plan for Learning Hymns Or Other Four-Part Pieces

First, sight-read through the piece, identifying the main obstacles.

#### 1. PREPARE THE SCORE

- Deal with the TEXT (if you are learning a hymn). Understand the meaning, and mark phrasing
- Deal with REPEATED NOTES if you are learning a hymn directly from the hymnbook
- Divide into SECTIONS
- Add FINGERING AND PEDALING

#### **2. LEARN EACH SECTION**. Go through the practice method you need to learn it to perfection:

- the 15-step method,
- the 7-step method, or
- a method that is customized to your abilities
- For each step, be sure to:
  - 1. Practice SLOWLY AND PERFECTLY until you can play it three to five times perfectly without much conscious effort
  - 2. SLIGHTLY INCREASE TEMPO, practicing until you can play it three to five times perfectly with little effort. Repeat this step until you arrive at a "goal" tempo for that step

#### 3. REVIEW AND COMBINE THE SECTIONS

- Continue practicing previously learned sections each day
- Always practice slowly enough to stay in control
- Learn a section, leave it, and learn it again to drive reflex-like habits deep into your subconscious
- Combine sections into larger sections as they become easier until you can play the entire hymn

#### THE FIFTEEN-STEP METHOD (for the more challenging pieces). Each *voice* is treated as a unit:

- Single voices first: soprano, alto, tenor, bass
- All two-voice combinations next: bass/tenor, bass/alto, bass/soprano, tenor/soprano, alto/soprano, alto/tenor
- All three-voice combinations next: soprano/alto/tenor, soprano/alto/bass, soprano/tenor/bass, alto/tenor/bass
- Finally, all four voices together: soprano/alto/tenor/bass.

#### THE SEVEN-STEP METHOD (for less challenging pieces). Each hand or the feet are treated as a unit:

- Single units first
  - 1. right hand (including soprano and most of the alto voice)
  - 2. left hand (including tenor and occasional notes from the alto voice)
  - 3. pedal
- Two-unit combinations
  - 4. pedal and left hand
  - 5. pedal and right hand
  - 6. right hand and left hand
- All three units
  - 7. right, left, and pedal

## Sample from Hymns from the L.D.S. Hymnal Marked for the Organ

by Carol Dean

#### Father in Heaven, We Do Believe

180





Text: Parley P. Pratt, 1807-1857 Music: Jane Romney Crawford, 1883-1956 For sacrament: Verses 1 - 4 For baptism: Verses 1-3, 5-6

Most of the hymns from the LDS hymnbook are marked in this manner. Contact Jennifer Morgan at jenniferorganist@gmail.com

# Sample from *Three-Stave Hymn*Accompaniments by Robert Cundick and Don Cook

Louis M. Gottschalk hymn no. 170

Aimed at ease in performance, this four-part version offers a separate pedal staff and a good treatment for the repeated notes. Fingering, pedaling, and phrasing must be added as has been done below.



## Organ Training Resources Available through Brigham Young University

MAIN WEBSITE doncook@byu.edu; 801-422-3260

The BYU Organ Study Website—Visit organ.byu.edu and then click the menu bars and then LDS Organists

#### **BOOKS AND SOFTWARE**

Hymn Studies for Organists (Belnap) (\$15.95+shipping) creativeworks.byu.edu/catalog/ViewItem.aspx?item=SM004

Three-Stave Hymn Accompaniments (Cundick) (free downloads) organ.byu.edu/3StaveHymns/index.htm

Manual-Only Hymns for Organ (Cundick) (free downloads)

https://www.lds.org/bc/content/shared/english/pdf/callings/music/manualonly-100602.pdf?lang=eng

and *Transformations* (Cundick) (use with Manual-Only Hymns to create easy preludes and postludes) lds.org/bc/content/shared/english/pdf/callings/music/transformations-100618-eng.pdf?lang=eng

OrganTutor Organ 101 (Cook) (visit organtutor.byu.edu and then follow the specific links)

OrganTutor Online Tutorial (for smartphones, tablets, laptops, desktops) (\$50 for 3-year subscription, \$30 for 6 months) The OrganTutor Workbook only (no Online Tutorial) (printed version: \$20.50+shipping) (pdf \$9.50) https://www.ardpublications.com/

#### ORGAN COURSES THROUGH BYU INDEPENDENT STUDY AND ONLINE

College-credit courses: *Music 399R* Sections (Levels) 1-6 (\$386-\$965) is.byu.edu/site/courses/index.cfm?school=univ (scroll down to "Music 399R")

Levels 1-2 free self-study versions: <a href="https://is.byu.edu/catalog/free-courses">https://is.byu.edu/catalog/free-courses</a> (scroll down to "Music 071" or "Music 072")

(When prompted, click on the words "click here to register for the self-study track," which requires only an email address)

Levels 1-6 certificate-only versions (\$150)

<u>elearn.byu.edu</u> > Catalog > Continuing Education Courses > find "Organ Performance, Level 1," etc.

- Level 1 Beginning organ: for pianists with little or no previous formal organ training, or who need help in applying what they have learned in their organ playing.
- Level 2 Review of basics: for those with organ training, but who would benefit from a review of basic legato organ technique, repertoire, hymn playing, and registration. Should be able to sight-read single-line melodies.
- Level 3 Early intermediate: for those with substantial training and fluency in legato organ technique, repertoire, registration, hymn playing, and registration. Should be able to sight-read two-part music.
- Level 4 Intermediate: for with substantial training and fluency in legato organ technique, repertoire, registration, hymn playing, and registration. Have training in playing organ pieces in both legato and articulate styles. Should be able to play easy four-part vocal scores, to sight-read simple three- and four-part organ music and hymns, and to transpose hymn melodies (only) up to and including a major second up and down.
- Level 5 Early advanced: for those with substantial training and fluency in legato organ technique, repertoire, registration, hymn playing, registration, and in intermediate organ pieces in both legato and articulate styles. Should be able to play moderately difficult four-part vocal scores and easy choir accompaniments, to sight-read moderately difficult four-part organ music and hymns, and to transpose simple hymns into all keys up to and including a major second up and down.
- Level 6 Advanced: for those with substantial training and fluency in legato organ technique, repertoire, registration, hymn playing, registration, and in early advanced organ pieces in both legato and articulate styles. Should be able to play more difficult four-part vocal scores and choir accompaniments, to sight-read more difficult four-part organ music and hymns, and to transpose moderately difficult hymns into all keys up to and including a major second up and down.

The New LDS Organist (A "quickstart" organ course in 12 podcasts & packet) (free online) organ.byu.edu/the-new-lds-organist/

Creative Hymn Playing Techniques (Music 116R podcasts—audio lessons) organ.byu.edu/116podcasts.htm

#### **ORGAN WORKSHOPS**

The BYU Organ Workshop (for adults or guardian-accompanied teens, Aug. 6-9, 2020) organworkshop.byu.edu

BYU Traveling Organ Workshops (Fri. evening organ concert, Sat. morning workshop) https://sites.google.com/view/byuorgan

The BYU Musicians' SummerFestival (for ages 14-18, June 14-20, 2020) summerfestival.byu.edu

# Redeemer of Israel Example of Fully-Prepared Score



Text: William W. Phelps, 1792-1872; adapted from Joseph Swain, 1761-1796 Included in the first LDS hymnbook, 1835. Music: Freeman Lewis, 1780-1859

(1) Sw: Tr 8 6+: Pr 8 42 Pd: Pr 16 8, 6+/Pd Pd: + Tr 16 The following have been added into the score:

#### **Text**

- · Keywords underlined
- Phrasing (given with slurs, vertical lines, and verse numbers in the text)

Plan for treatment of repeated notes (ties only)

Fingering and pedaling (note changes in the last two measures to allow for right-hand stop changing between verses)

## Music—Instructions for the introduction

- Modified "boundaries" (marked with double diagonal lines)
- Idea (soprano and alto duet, then accompanied)
- Registration (trumpet duet alone, then with flue accompaniment)

#### Registrational plan

- Combination listed for pistons 1 and 2
- Manual indications (given at the beginning of each verse)
- Stop change indications (given at the end of each verse)

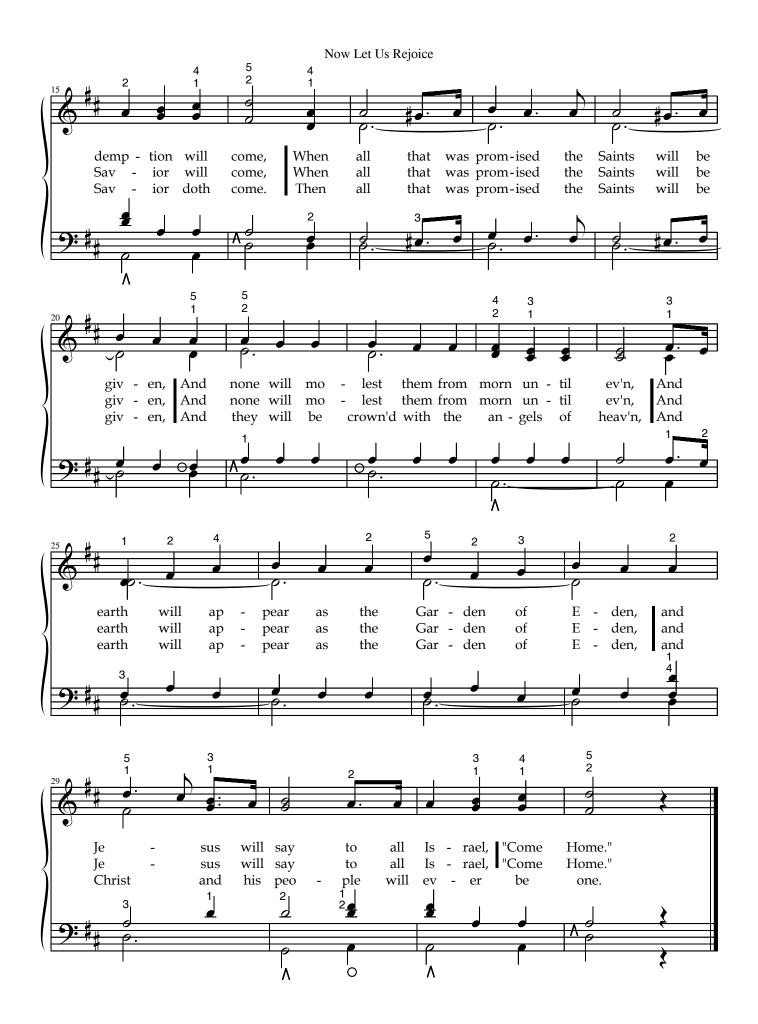
# Sample of a Hymn Marked in Shortcut Mode



## Now Let Us Rejoice

Simplified for organ in four parts





## High on the Mountain Top



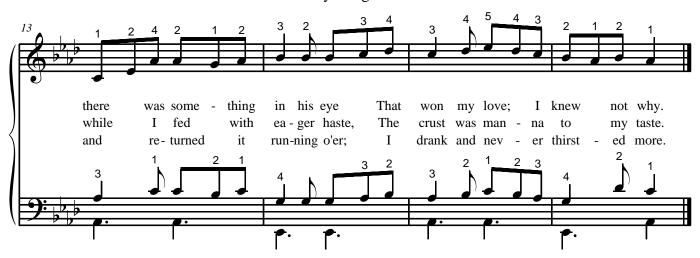
## We Thank Thee, O God, for a Prophet

Simplified for organ in four parts





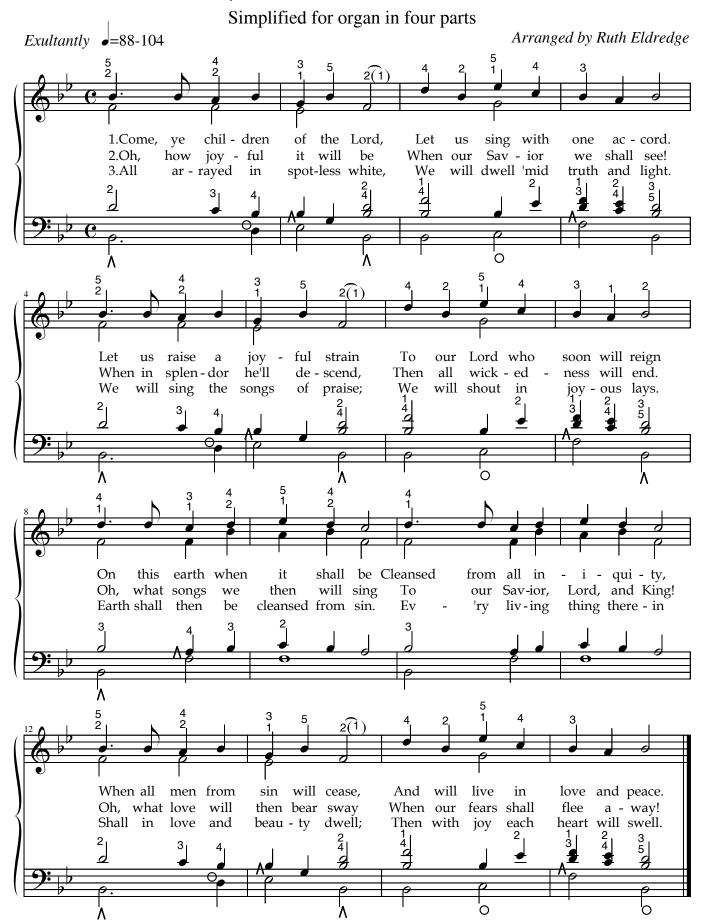
### A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief



## Come, Come, Ye Saints



## Come, Ye Children of the Lord



## Glory to God on High



## Dearest Children, God is Near You



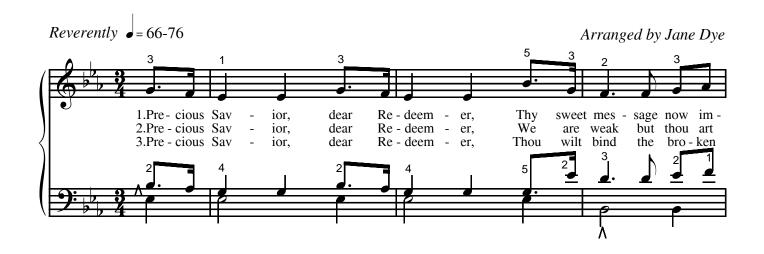
## I Need Thee Every Hour

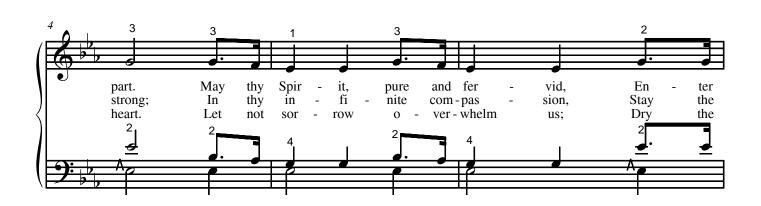


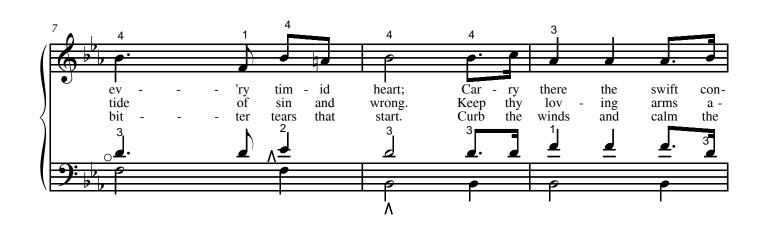
## Nearer, My God, to Thee



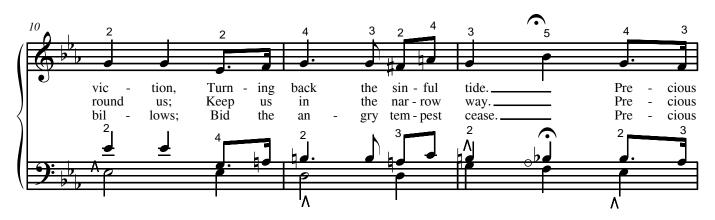
## Precious Savior, Dear Redeemer

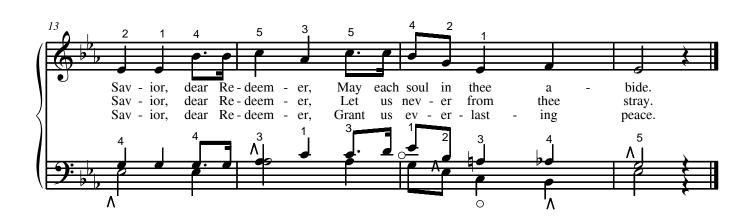






#### Precious Savior, Dear Redeemer

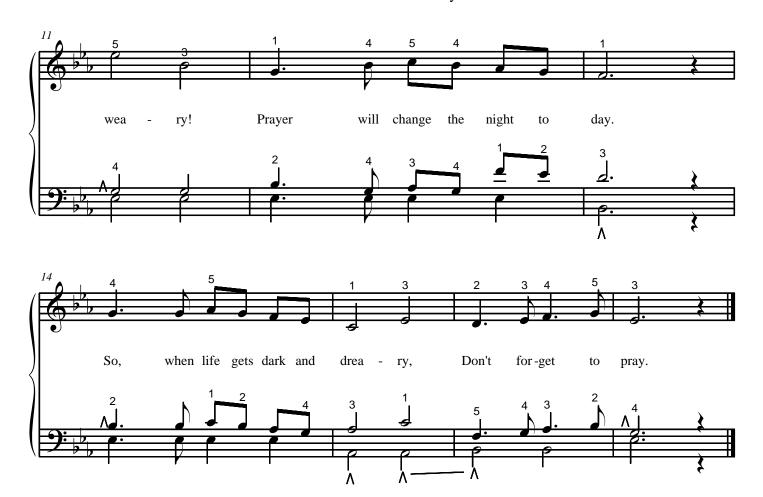




# Did You Think to Pray?

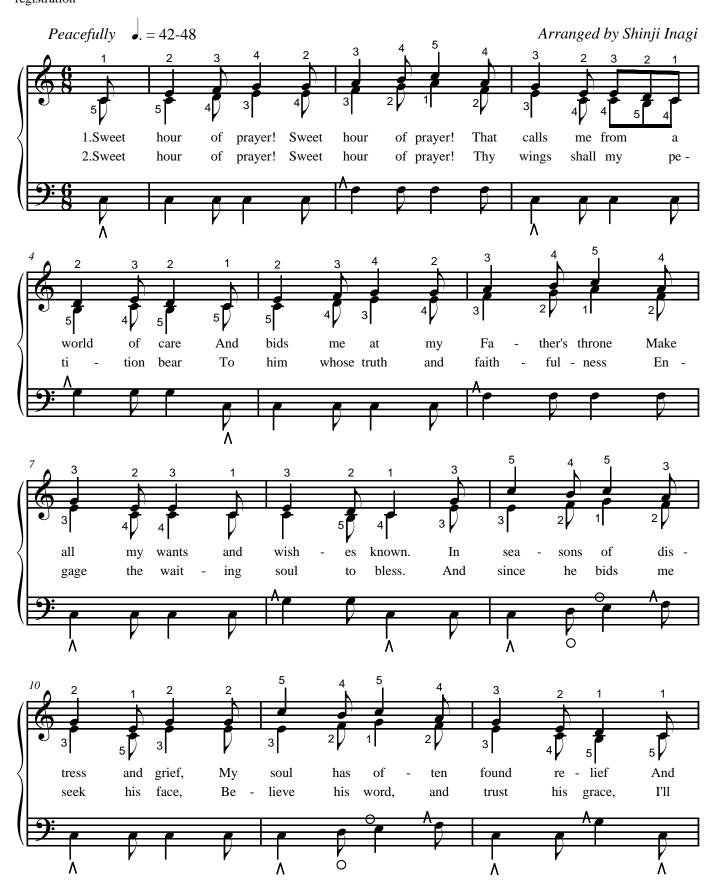


#### Did You Think to Pray?

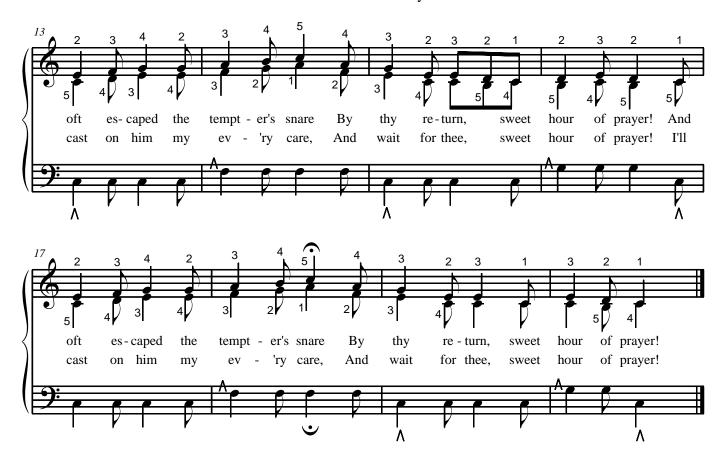


#### \* RH plays soprano LH plays alto each played on different manual, but with similar registration

## Sweet Hour of Prayer

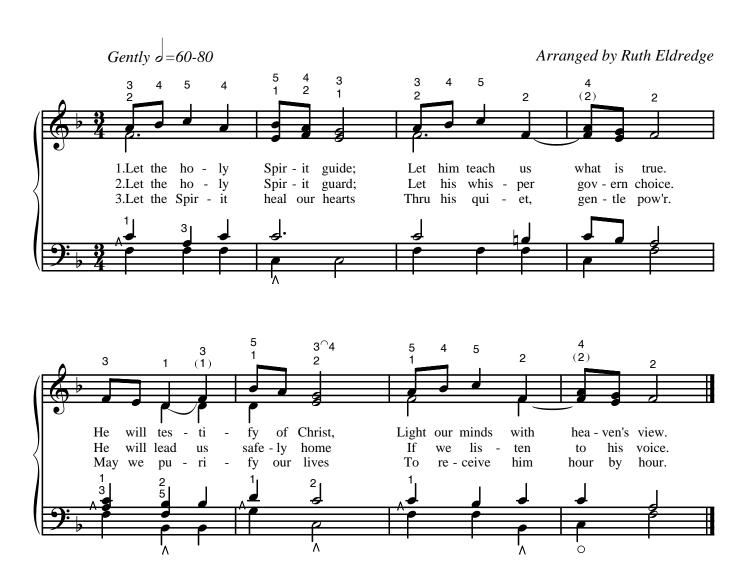


#### Sweet Hour of Prayer



# Let the Holy Spirit Guide

Simplified for organ in four parts



Text by Penelope Moody Allen, b. 1939. © 1985 LDS. Used by permission.

## Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

#### 163

Simplified for organ in four parts



## While of These Emblems We Partake

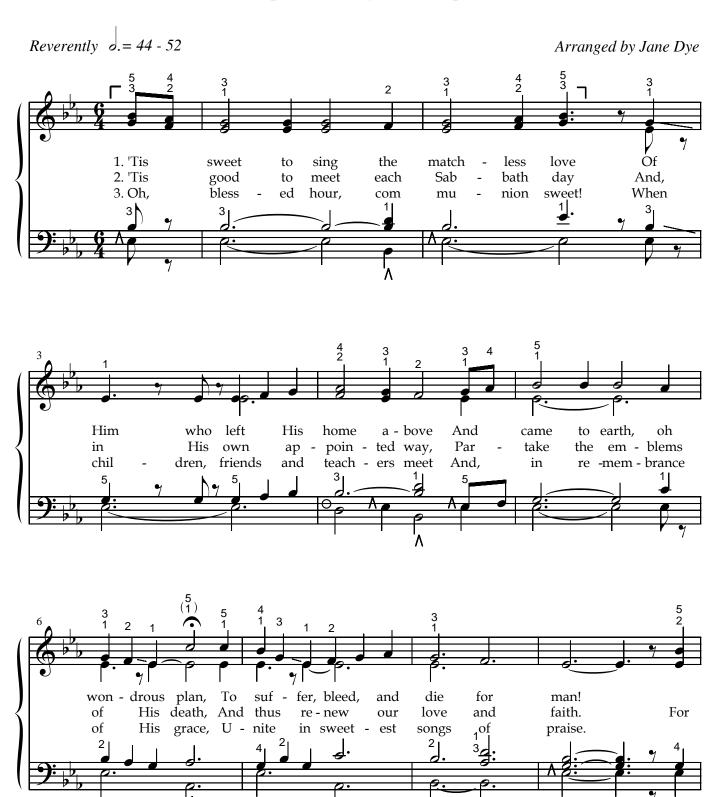
174

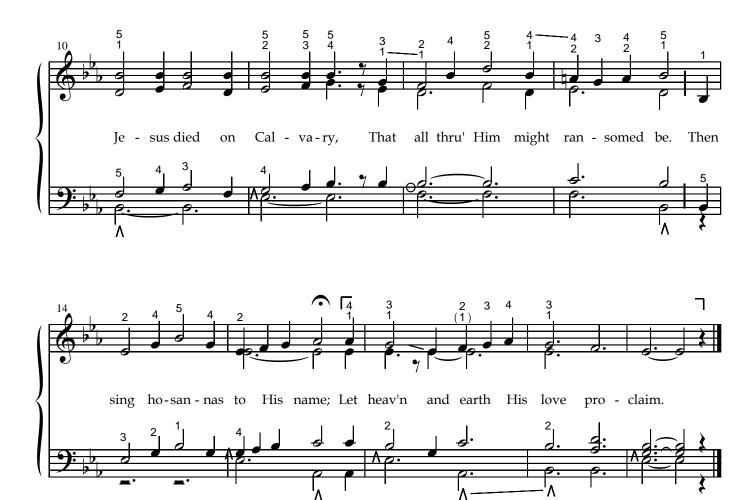
Simplified for organ in three parts



"While of These Emblems We Partake"
Original music by Alexander Schreiner and original lyrics by John Nicholson
Composition © by Intellectual Reserve, Inc.

#### Simplified for organ in four parts

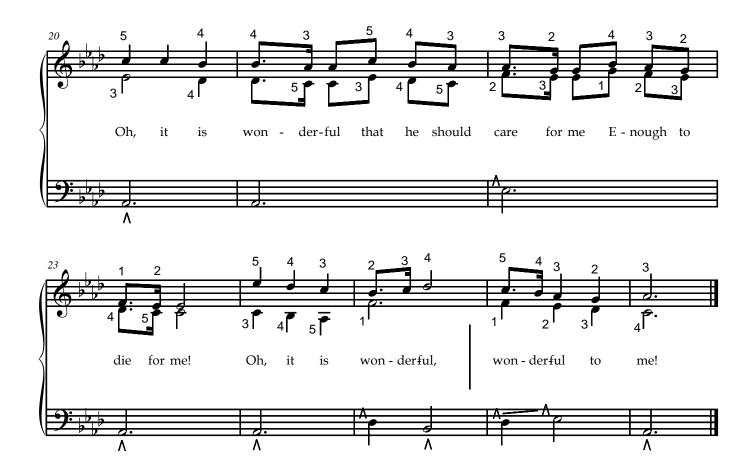






## I Stand All Amazed





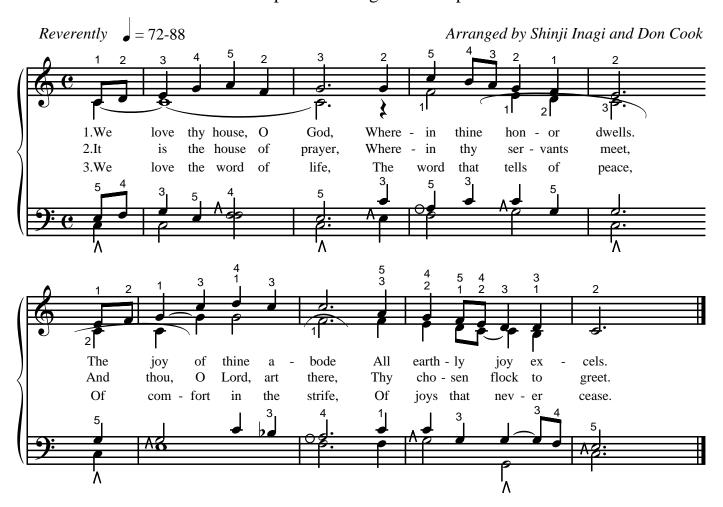
## Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Simplified for organ in four parts



# Joy to the World





Original music by Leroy J. Robertson, 1896-1971. © 1948 LDS. This arrangement © 2007 by Brigham Young University. Used by permission.

### The Iron Rod



# O My Father Simplified for organ in four parts





#### Love at Home



