

Matthew 11: 28-29

*“Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.*

*Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am gentle and lowly in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.”*

Is There Room for a Sinner? is a general anthem that may be especially useful for Lent and discipleship. It incorporates the refrain from a traditional 19th century American folk hymn, *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*. Suggested corresponding scripture readings include Exodus 1: 6-22 & 2: 1-10, Psalms 80 & 124, Matthew 11: 25-30, John 6: 35-40 and Romans 7: 14-25a. One basic homiletical theme is the promise of salvation through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Subtle blues harmonies lend this anthem a “soulful” quality. The flute part is entirely optional but adds special poignancy. Soloists may sing the opening section (mm. 1-14). This section may also be sung as a response to a prayer of confession. The final verse serves as a triumphant affirmation of salvation for all true believers who repent of their sins and come to Jesus in humility and servitude.

Pepper Choplin is Minister of Music at Greystone Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. An accomplished performing artist in voice, piano and guitar, he is active as a studio musician and freelance composer. Choplin earned music degrees from the University of North Carolina/Greensboro and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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IS THERE ROOM FOR A SINNER?

for S.A.B. or 2-part mixed voices, accompanied,
with opt. flute*

Words and Music by
PEPPER CHOPLIN (ASCAP)

Soulfully (♩ = ca. 80)

FLUTE (optional) *mp*

ACCOMP. *mp*

4 SOLO (or unison women) *mp* ⑤

Is there room in Your house for a sin-ner, Lord?

SOLO (or baritones) *mp*

Is there

(tacet)

4 ⑤

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It begins with a tempo marking of 'Soulfully' and a quarter note equal to approximately 80 beats per minute. The flute part is optional and marked 'mp'. The piano accompaniment is also marked 'mp'. The vocal parts include a solo for women or unison women, and a solo for baritones. The lyrics are: 'Is there room in Your house for a sin-ner, Lord? Is there'. There are two measures marked with a circled '5' and a '4' above them, indicating a four-measure phrase. A '(tacet)' instruction is placed below the vocal line after the second measure.

* For performance by 2-part mixed voices, omit the alto. Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 20905. Flute part may be found on page 11.

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7

mp

For this world is full of temp-
 room for a sin-ner like me? For this world is full of temp-

Piano accompaniment for measures 7-9.

10

rit.

ta-tion and sin. — O Lord, have mer-cy on me O

Piano accompaniment for measures 10-12, including a *rit.* marking.

13

⑭ A bit faster (♩ = ca. 88-92) (end solo)

Lord, have mer-cy on — me. (end solo)

(FLUTE)

A bit faster (♩ = ca. 88-92)

mp

Flute solo for measures 13-14.

13

⑭ A bit faster (♩ = ca. 88-92)

Piano accompaniment for measures 13-14.

16

mf Tutti

Do you hear the — pray-ing of a *(tacet)*

16

mf

19

mf Tutti

Do you hear a sin-ner like me? When I'm

mp

sin-ner, Lord? And when I'm

22

on

mf

on my knees, I — ask You, please, “Dear Lord, have mer-cy on,

25 me.

mer-cy on me. — O Lord, have mer-cy on — me.

(FLUTE)

25

28 *f*

*Come, ye sin - ners, — poor and need - y, weak and wound - ed, —

28 *f*

* *COME, YE SINNERS, POOR AND NEEDY*; from *Southern Harmony*, 1835; words by Joseph Hart (1712-1768).

31

sick and sore. Je - sus read - y — stands to save _ you,

This block contains the vocal line for measures 31 to 33. The melody is in a minor key with a key signature of two flats. The lyrics are: "sick and sore. Je - sus read - y — stands to save _ you,". The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass line and a vocal line with some grace notes and slurs.

31

This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 31 to 33. The left hand plays a simple bass line, while the right hand features a more active melody with slurs and grace notes, mirroring the vocal line.

34

full of pit - y, — love and pow'r.

mf

This block contains the vocal line for measures 34 and 35. The lyrics are: "full of pit - y, — love and pow'r." The dynamic marking *mf* is indicated above the staff. The melody is simple and ends with a whole note.

mf

This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 34 and 35. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs, and the left hand provides a steady bass line. The dynamic marking *mf* is indicated below the staff.

34

mf

This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 34 and 35. The right hand features a more complex texture with slurs and a dynamic marking of *mf* below the staff. The left hand continues with a steady bass line.

37

38 *brightly*

Hear the thanks from a sin-ner who's for - giv-en, Lord. _ Hear the

brightly

37

38

brightly

40

f

thanks from a sin-ner set free. 'Cause you healed my sin and _

f

mf

f

40

f

43

took me in, — and now there's room _ for _ me. 'Cause you

43

46

healed my sin and — took me in, — and now there's room, there's

46

DESCANT

49 (opt., a few high voices) *f*

There's room in Your house _ for ____

S. room _ for me. _ There's room in Your house _ for

A. B.

49

This block contains the musical notation for measures 49 through 51. It features three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, and Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "There's room in Your house _ for ____" for the Soprano part, and "room _ for me. _ There's room in Your house _ for" for the Alto and Bass parts. The piano part includes a descant starting at measure 49. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid on the page.

me. There's room for me! ____

me. There's room for me! ____

me. There's room for me! ____

52

rit. *ff*

This block contains the musical notation for measures 52 through 54. The lyrics are: "me. There's room for me! ____" for the Soprano part, and "me. There's room for me! ____" for the Alto and Bass parts. The piano part continues with accompaniment. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid on the page.

52

rit. *ff*

This block contains the musical notation for measures 55 through 57. The piano part continues with accompaniment. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid on the page.

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FLUTE

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mp

A bit faster (♩ = ca. 88-92)

rit. mp

mf

mf f

mf

brightly mf f

ff

rit. ff

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