

Portraits in Song

Great Hymnwriters

Medium High

An Anthology or Program for Solo Voice & Piano
for Concert & Worship

8 Best-Loved Hymns with Reproducible Program Notes

Featuring Arrangements by Jay Althouse, Patti Drennan, Mark Hayes,
Lloyd Larson, Anna Laura Page, Jean Anne Shafferman, and Douglas E. Wagner

Medium High Book (25854)	ISBN 0-7390-4212-2
Medium High Book & Accompaniment CD (25855)	ISBN 0-7390-4213-0
Medium High Accompaniment CD (25856)	ISBN 0-7390-4313-7
Medium Low Book (25860)	ISBN 0-7390-4218-1
Medium Low Book & Accompaniment CD (25861)	ISBN 0-7390-4219-X
Medium Low Accompaniment CD (25862)	ISBN 0-7390-4314-5

Copyright © MMVI by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA.
Cover Design by Cathy Ciccarelli Graphics

The purchase of this book carries with it the right to reproduce pages 50–52. NOT FOR RESALE.



FOREWORD

Song is distinguished from other musical forms by the presence of text. Hymns are songs with texts that praise God, and it is by the first lines of these texts that hymns are popularly titled. Yet, text writers remain, for the most part, the “unsung heroes” of hymnody.

This anthology is a celebration of some of the greatest of these heroes, spanning approximately 200 years from the late 18th to the early 20th centuries. These great hymnwriters are a diverse group, including a blind female poet (Fanny Crosby), a former slave ship captain (John Newton), and an eminent scholar/pastor/statesman (Henry Van Dyke). Their common bond is a devout faith and a gift for expressing that faith with words.

Vocal students and recitalists will discover in this collection inspired arrangements in a broad variety of styles that foster the art of singing, with piano accompaniments conceived in the tradition of art song. Reproducible program notes (pages 50–51) enhance the performer’s understanding and are an excellent source for printed recital programs.

Great Hymnwriters is also an outstanding worship resource for the church musician. The songs may be performed individually, or grouped together to create a special program celebrating our rich heritage of hymnody.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page	CD Track
Foreword	2	
I Sing the Mighty Power of God – Words by Isaac Watts (1674–1748)		
Arranged by Anna Laura Page	3	1
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing – Words by Charles Wesley (1707–1788)		
Arranged by Douglas E. Wagner	8	2
Holy, Holy, Holy – Words by Reginald Heber (1783–1826)		
Arranged by Mark Hayes	12	3
Amazing Grace – Words by John Newton (1725–1807)		
Arranged by Jay Althouse.	20	4
Blessed Assurance – Words by Fanny Crosby (1820–1915)		
Arranged by Patti Drennan	24	5
It Is Well with My Soul – Words by Horatio Spafford (1828–1888)		
Arranged by Anna Laura Page	32	6
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee – Words by Henry Van Dyke (1852–1933)		
Arranged by Lloyd Larson	38	7
My Life Flows On in Endless Song – Words and Music by Robert Lowry (1826–1899)		
Arranged by Jean Anne Shafferman	44	8
Reproducible Program Notes.	50	
About the Arrangers	52	

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

Words by
CHARLES WESLEY (1707–1788)

Music by **CARL G. GLÄSER** (1784–1829)
Arranged by **LOWELL MASON** (1792–1863)
Setting by **DOUGLAS E. WAGNER** (ASCAP)

Moderately; with freedom (♩ = ca. 69) *poco rit.* **mf**

Moderately; with freedom (♩ = ca. 69)

ACCOMP. **mp** *poco rit.*

5 *a tempo* **f**

for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise, the

a tempo **mf**

9 *poco rit.* *a tempo*

glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of His grace!

poco rit. *a tempo*

Copyright © MMVI by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA.

THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Words by
FANNY J. CROSBY (1820–1915)

Music by
PHOEBE PALMER KNAPP (1839–1908)
Arranged by
PATTI DRENNAN (ASCAP)

With a gospel feeling (♩ = ca. 108)

ACCOMP. *mf*

The piano accompaniment is written for a grand piano in treble and bass clefs. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 3/4. The piece begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The melody is characterized by frequent triplets, particularly in the right hand. The left hand provides a steady harmonic foundation with chords and single notes. The piece is divided into four systems of music. The first system covers measures 1 through 4. The second system covers measures 5 through 8. The third system covers measures 9 through 12. The fourth system, starting at measure 13, includes the vocal melody and lyrics. The lyrics are: '1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is —' and '2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de -'. The piano accompaniment continues for measures 13 through 16, ending with a final chord.

5

9

13 *mf*

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is —
2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de -

Copyright © MMVI by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA.

THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.