



Music for the Church Year

16 Seasonal Hymn Arrangements for Church Pianists

Arranged by **Brenda Dillon**

Music for the Church Year contains 16 seasonal hymn arrangements for use throughout the church year. It begins with Advent and progresses through Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. These arrangements provide church pianists with music for these church seasons as well as for Good Friday, Ash Wednesday, All Saints' Day, Communion, and Trinity Sunday. The season called Ordinary Time lasts for half of the year until Advent begins again. In addition to music for specific seasons, events, and days, several arrangements are included for general services during Ordinary Time. As an aid to the performer, approximate performance times are included for each arrangement.

My path to becoming a church pianist started when I was in fourth grade and the pianist at my local church was leaving home for college. My mother handed me a hymnal and said that I would need to have several hymns ready to play for church in the fall. Fortunately, my piano teacher taught me how to read chords, omit notes when appropriate, and enhance hymns as my technical ability improved. These skills have stayed with me and played a major role in creating the arrangements in this collection. I am grateful to my piano teacher for helping me develop these skills and to the church members who encouraged me as I started on this journey.

This book is dedicated to church pianists who want to play music that is accessible, creative, and appropriate for the worship calendar. May they enjoy playing them as much as I enjoyed arranging them.

Brenda Dillon



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CONTENTS

TITLE	CHURCH YEAR (SEASON/HOLIDAY)	PAGE
BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS	GOOD FRIDAY	6
BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD	PENTECOST	8
CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER.	TRINITY SUNDAY	10
CHILDREN'S MEDLEY	GENERAL.	3
CHRIST IS RISEN	EASTER	12
COVENTRY CAROL	CHRISTMAS	20
GESÙ BAMBINO	CHRISTMAS	14
GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN	EPIPHANY	16
I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY	GENERAL.	18
IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL.	LENT	22
LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER	COMMUNION	28
LO, HOW A ROSE E'RE BLOOMING.	ADVENT	25
O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE	ASH WEDNESDAY	30
SILENT NIGHT	CHRISTMAS	32
STEAL AWAY TO JESUS	ALL SAINTS' DAY	35
WERE YOU THERE? / KUM BA YAH	LENT	38
CHURCH YEAR (SEASON/HOLIDAY)	TITLE	PAGE
ADVENT	LO, HOW A ROSE E'RE BLOOMING	25
ALL SAINTS' DAY	STEAL AWAY TO JESUS	35
ASH WEDNESDAY	O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE	30
CHRISTMAS	COVENTRY CAROL	20
	GESÙ BAMBINO	14
	SILENT NIGHT	32
COMMUNION	LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER	28
EASTER	CHRIST IS RISEN	12
EPIPHANY	GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN	16
GENERAL.	CHILDREN'S MEDLEY	3
	I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY	18
GOOD FRIDAY	BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS	6
LENT	IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL.	22
	WERE YOU THERE? / KUM BA YAH	38
PENTECOST	BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD	8
TRINITY SUNDAY	CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER.	10

Dedicated to migrant children and their caretakers
Children's Medley
(General)

Arr. Brenda Dillon

Boldly (♩ = 76)

f

pedal ad lib.

“Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep”
George W. Meyer

5 **Tenderly**

mp

9

3

13

rit.

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

(Good Friday)

Frederick C. Maker
Arr. Brenda Dillon

Slowly, with rubato (♩ = ca. 72)

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of five systems of music, each with a measure number in a box at the beginning of the system. The first system (measures 1-4) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a *pedal ad lib.* instruction. The second system (measures 5-8) features a forte (*f*) dynamic. The third system (measures 9-12) is marked mezzo-forte (*mf*). The fourth system (measures 13-16) is marked forte (*f*). The fifth system (measures 17-20) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a *cresc. poco a poco* instruction. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above or below notes. The score uses various musical notations including slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

(Pentecost)

Robert Jackson
Arr. Brenda Dillon

Reflectively (♩ = 60)

p

LH 5 2

pedal ad lib.

5 2 1 3 1 5 2 1 1 1 4 1

Detailed description: This system contains the first four measures of the piece. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major). The tempo is 'Reflectively' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The piece begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with fingerings 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 5, 1, 4, 1. The left hand provides a bass line with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 3, 1, 5, 2, 1, 1, 1. A 'pedal ad lib.' instruction is placed below the first measure. The system concludes with a fermata over the final chord.

6

a tempo

rit.

mp

5 1 1 3 5 3 1 2 5

Detailed description: This system contains measures 5 through 8. Measure 5 begins with a fermata from the previous system. The tempo changes to 'a tempo'. The right hand continues with a melodic line, including a fermata over measures 6 and 7. The left hand has fingerings 2, 1, 1, 3, 5, 3, 1, 2, 5. A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is placed over measures 6 and 7, and a 'mp' (mezzo-piano) dynamic marking is placed over measure 8. The system ends with a fermata over the final chord.

11

5 2 1 4 2 1 1 3 2 3 4

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 through 12. The right hand features a melodic line with a fermata over measures 10 and 11. The left hand has fingerings 2, 1, 1, 3, 5, 2, 1, 3, 2, 3, 4. The system concludes with a fermata over the final chord.

16

f

mp

5 2 1 2 1 3 2 2 2 2 2

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 through 16. The right hand features a melodic line with a fermata over measures 14 and 15. The left hand has fingerings 5, 4, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 3, 2, 2, 2, 2. The dynamic changes from *f* (forte) to *mp* (mezzo-piano) over measure 14. The system concludes with a fermata over the final chord.