# FR

HYMNS AFFIRMING THE LGBTQIA2S+ COMMUNITY



#### Songs for the Holy Other

In our society and in our churches, we continue to build walls marking "out" and "in". We continue to mark boundaries of "us" and "them", of "normal" and "other". *Songs for the Holy Other* aims to provide congregations working to dismantle these walls with a toolbox of hymns by and for those who identify as members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, transgender, nonbinary, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, aromantic, two-spirit, and other sexual/gender minority (LGBTQIA2S+) community and their allies. For many members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, assimilation is not an option; we continue to be othered for our identities, relationship-styles, dis/abilities, race, economic status, and more. The title, *Songs for the Holy Other*, is a self-conscious claiming of otherness as holy and beloved of God. We who have been labeled as "wholly other" are claiming our holiness, and reclaiming our otherness as a prophetic witness to the church.

Hymn writer and theologian Rev. Dr. Carl P. Daw, Jr., FHS writes:

"Human otherness (of whatever kind) provides a sacramental reminder of the ultimate otherness of God, and openness to human otherness has the potential to enlarge our perception of and receptivity to divine otherness. It is also an essential element of human maturity to recognize otherness, i.e. to know where the self ends and otherness begins, whether that otherness be other people or non-human objects. From a theological perspective, "otherness" is a necessary dimension of the movement from the disappointments of self-sufficiency to the assurances of trust in God."

The gifts God has given us are not in spite of our otherness, our queerness, our LGBTQIA2S+ identities, but rather our identities are inextricably tied up in our God-given gifts, and are, in and of themselves, a gift to the church, as we reflect the rainbow diversity of God's creation.

This collection emerged from a desire to make queer hymns — hymns by, for, or about the LGBTQIA2S+ community — accessible to a wider range of congregations. While the idea emerged from the membership of the The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, and the committee was made up of LGBTQIA2S+ and allied members of The Hymn Society, it would not have been possible without the support of the staff and executive committee of the The Hymn Society. We also realize that there are many more authors and composers than we could include in this collection. We celebrate the contributions of those who have paved the way for this collection, and hope to create a dynamic resource of additional resources that are available to congregations in the near future.

#### Songs for the Holy Other Working Group

Cedar Klassen, Kitchener, ON - Coordinator\*
CJ Redden-Liotta, Annandale, VA - Music Editor\*
David Bjorlin, Chicago, IL - Executive Committee Liaison
Stephanie Budwey, Nashville, TN\*
Tom Baynham, St. Louis, MO
Matthew Messenger, Manassas, VA
T. Wes Moore, Pollocksville, NC
Slats Toole, Princeton, NJ\*
\*These members self-identify as members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community

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| Alchemy of Healing                            | Gilo                               | COLUMCILLE        | John Bell            |
| All Belong Here                               | Lenora Rand                        |                   | Hannah Rand          |
| All Colors of the Rainbow                     | Carl P. Daw                        | ABBOT'S LEIGH     | Cyril Taylor         |
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|   |                                    |                   |                      |

The authors and composers in boldface type have self-identified as a member of the LGBTQIA2S+ Community.

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# A Hymn for Self-Acceptance

Wesley King

BEACH SPRING B.F. White, harm. Ronald A. Nelson



# Alchemy of Healing

Gilo COLUMCILLE Irish Melody, arr. John Bell

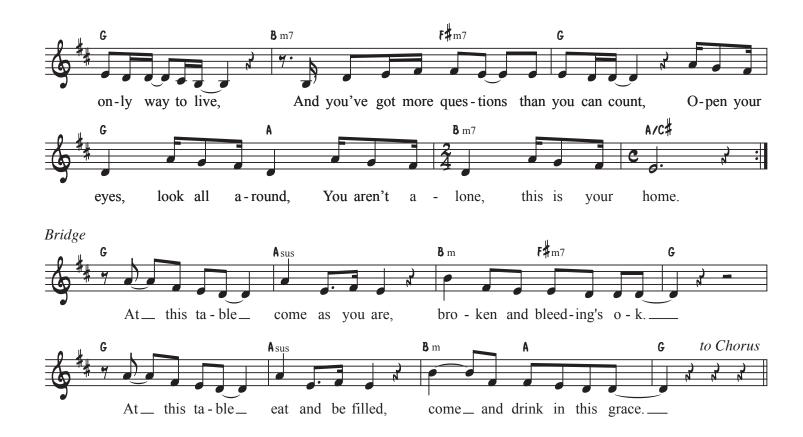


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# All Belong Here

as recorded by The Many





#### All the Colors of the Rainbow

Carl P. Daw

ABBOT'S LEIGH

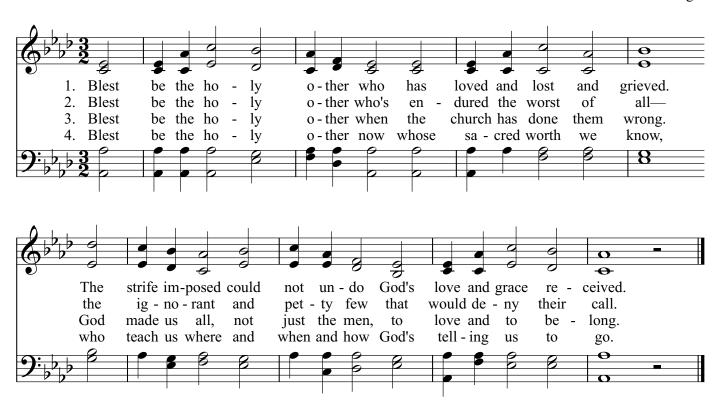
Cyril V. Taylor



#### 12b As Colors in the Sky = 60 Unison Eb Eb/D CmCm/B♭ col - ors the sky, we move and blend in love, 2 Our bod - ies may not match way we feel in - side, but the 3 Cre - at - ing God, you dance, you move as in three. Come one Eb/G Fm7 Bbsus4 Bb Our mix, a match, as gifts from heaven a - bove. touch of this, a we can change, trans-form, and find your love still deep and wide. So The show us, by your rain-bow light, our shared hu - man - i - ty. Eb/D CmCm/B♭ gen - ders may seem fixed, ev - en these may change but we break the mold trad - i - tions put in place, let heav - ens and the earth made new ev - ery help are Gm7 Cm7 FmВ♭7 ЕЬ find beau - ty in - be - tween that may we at first seem strange. with cour-age live our lives with kind-ness, love, and grace. dis - cov - er by your grace, new truth, new life, new ways.

# Blest Be the Holy Other

Dan Windham EVAN William Havergal



#### Christ Our Health

#### A Hymn for Those Afflicted by AIDS

Edward Moran, 1984

ST. THOMAS (Wade) John Francis Wade

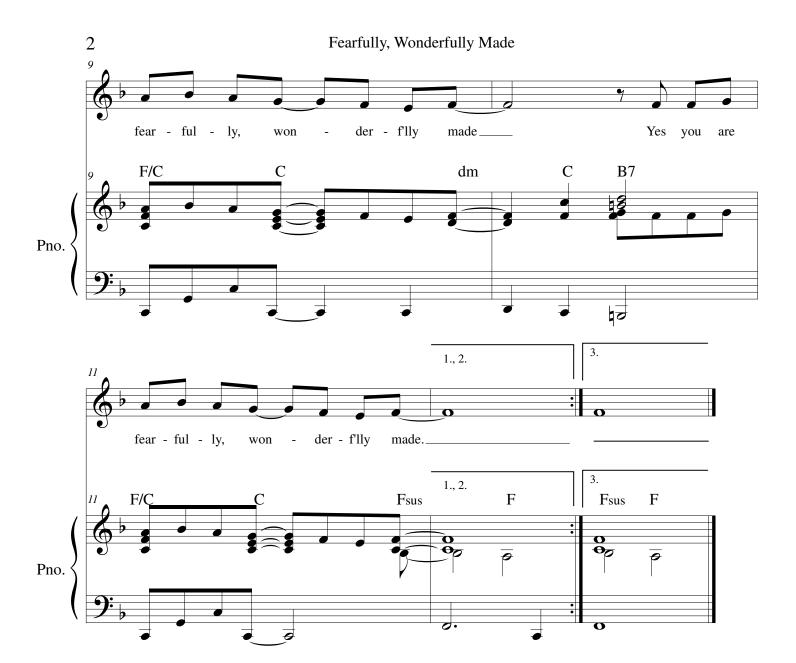


# Fearfully, Wonderfully Made

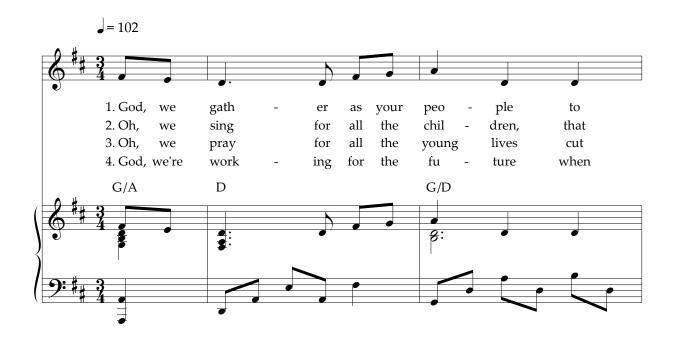
Biblical references: Psalm 139: 1, 13-15, Matthew 3:16-17, Isaiah 43:1-2

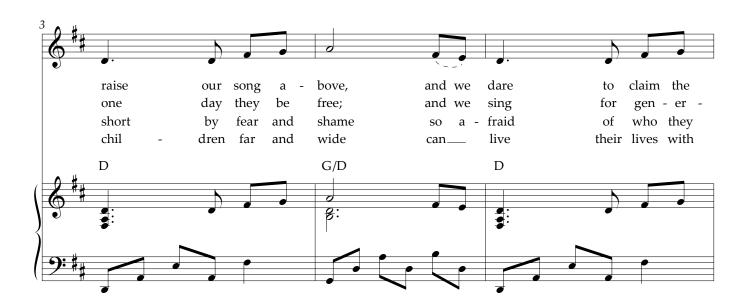
Nathan Crabtree and Erik Whitehill





# For All the Children









## For Those Who Suffered

To LGBTQ Victims of Violence



## God Calls You Good

For Pastor Ben Colahan and the congregation of Faith Lutheran Church, Chico, CA

Paul M. Vasile



# God Gave This World a Gift



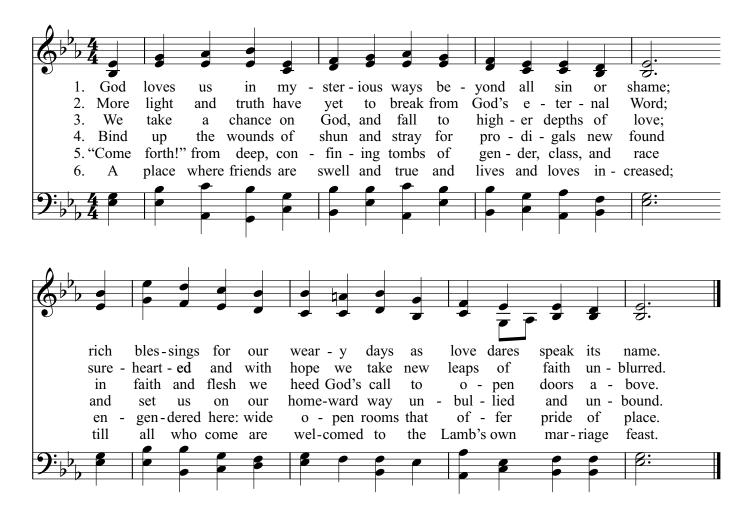
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# God Loves Us in Mysterious Ways

Edward Moran, 2015

DUNDEE
Scottish Psalter 1615



# God of Many Faces

Amy Cerniglia



# God of Queer, Transgressive Spaces



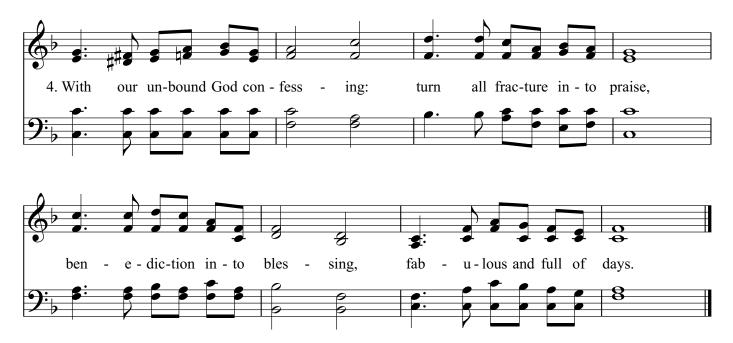
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# God of Queer, Transgressive Spaces

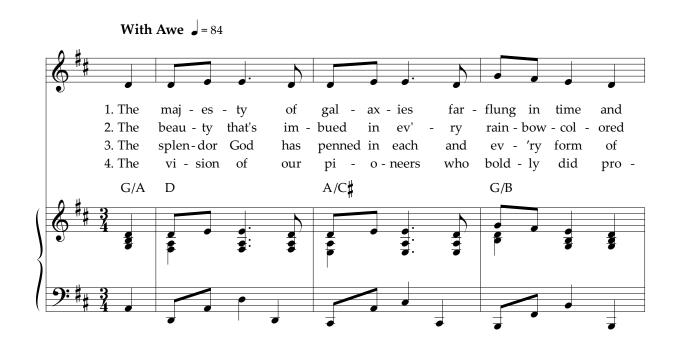
**CONVERSE** 

Edward Moran, 2007; alt. 2019

Charles C. Converse 1868 1. God of queer, trans-gres-sive ces: vish man-ger, emp-ty tomb; spa and sor-row fall un - done; 2. Thanks to God for grave dis - or der: shroud 3. Stone walls shall not be our ron bars shall not en - cage. pri son, pre - cious wine - dark loaves and ces, bend our ba-ren lives to bloom. gar-ments, at swad dle Her be - lov - ed One. East - er His or der, Christ trans - fig - ured, Christ now the fren-zy, where the where rage? ri sen: God's own de - vi-ance is of vir-gin, Word made flesh; Je sus: born Broth - ers bind ye to each oth er, sis - ters, too, and have no shame. Shed - ding clouds of flesh and gen der, gar - ments shin-ing like the sun. and bur - ied, still he ri What ab - nor - mal world - li - ness! dead ses! Sing with God, our Father-Mo ther love that dares now speak its name. the cross-roads of sur - ren -Bod - ies be - ings breathe as one. (to stanza 4) der.



# **God's Limitless Imagination**











## God's Love Is Boundless

In celebration of Tracy Glaser-Bacon's ordination, September 4, 2016 at New Vision United Church of Christ, Canton, Ohio

Meter: 10 10 10 10

God's love is boundless; no depth and no height can plunge us in shadows or hide us from sight. No present, no future, no span is too far; God remains with us, wherever we are.

There is no border enclosing God's love; no limit to test, no below, no above. No center to strive for, no margin to fear; Anywhere, everywhere, God is still here.

People make limits, and mark "out" and "in" to name some unworthy and tainted by sin. But when we are "out," Love provides us a place: we have a home in God's infinite grace!

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b.1979; © 2016, GIA Publications, Inc.





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# I Know that God Loves Me





I Know





# I Met a Stranger On the Road

David Bjorlin **KINGSFOLD** Ralph Vaughan Williams 1. met a stran-ger on the road who read a book lone, 2. told the the Christ whose life de - nounced each wall,  $I_{-}$ sto - ry of draw our bound-ary lines di -For when we vi - ding out from in, whose skin was dark and lan-guage strange, whose sta - tus was un - known. whose love nar-rowed sights: Lamb raised up ex - pands our the for all. then Christ stands the o - ther side; clu - sion is sin. ex our pil - grim from a And yet he read my sa - cred text, this broad, be-lieved, I flawed: And when I asked if he saw my view was Praise God for stran - gers the road—the diff - 'rent and the oddon God?" guide to and asked,"Where can find lead me to this both coun - tered grace that both were led God. we en day, we to grim pil guides who our hand and God. take lead us back to

Text ©2018 GIA Publications, Inc.

### I Shall Not Leave from by Your Side

Meter: LM

I shall not leave from by your side; where you will live, I shall abide. Where you will go, I'll walk with you. Where you will sleep, I'll slumber, too.

Your people, I shall call my own: flesh of my flesh, and bone of bone; and to your God I'll sing my praise, the One whose love shall fill our days.

And when, at last, you close your eyes, and angels bid your soul to rise, my heart shall fly to heaven with you, for death cannot such love undo.

May God, who binds us heart to heart, abide with us, and never part.

Though joy or pain may round us roll, the love of God shall make us whole.

Text: Chris Shelton, 2018

This hymn sets the song of Ruth to Naomi in Ruth 1:16-17, one of the great love texts of Scripture. It is primarily about the love between two women – though Ruth's final words are very much a prayer, asking that God prevent even death from parting them. While we often reserve such songs for weddings – if Scripture is able to sing of human love, shouldn't we? The text was built with the rising and falling sound of the Southern Harmony tune, PROSPECT, in mind.



## I Shall Not Leave from By Your Side



### Impartial, Compassionate God of All Lives

Adrienne Stricker ST. DENIO



### Jesus, You Have Truly Called Us



WORDS: Daniel Charles Damon

**BEACH SPRING** 

MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White, The Sacred Harp, 1844; arr. Daniel Charles Damon

8.7.8.7.Ref.

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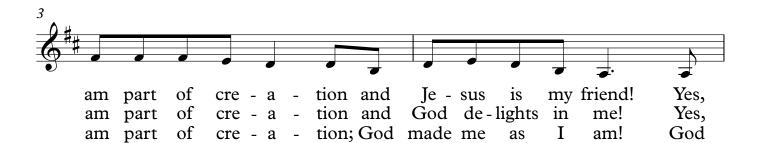
### Like the Weeping Willow

Words: Amy Sens Music: Traditional



- Like the weep ing wil low\_ sway ing in the wind,
- 2. Like the rol-ling ri ver, run-ning to the sea,

  3 Like the ti ny spar row, or the gen tle lamb,





Je - sus is my friend! O Je - sus is my friend! God de-lights in me! O God de-lights in me! God made me as I made me as I am! am!

TUNE: ROVING GAMBLER

### Love Astounding

Jeannette M. Lindholm

HOLY MANNA Wiliam Moore, Columbian Harmony 1825



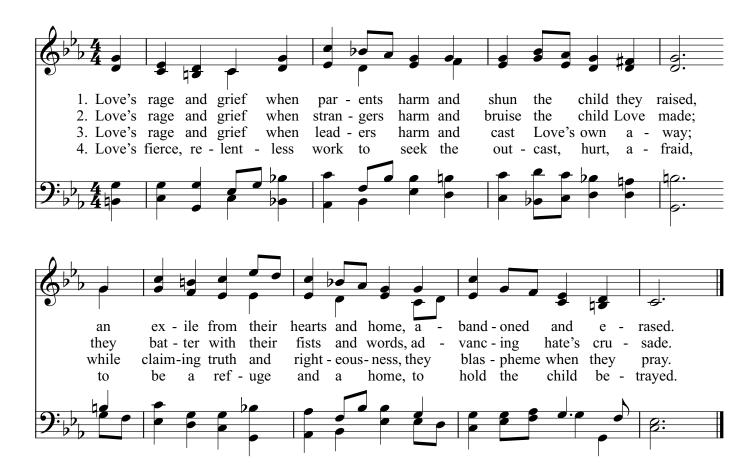


### Love's Rage and Grief

Jeannette M. Lindholm

BANGOR

William Tans'ur

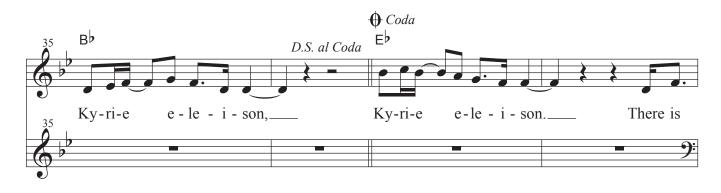


## Lovely Needy People

Music by Gary Rand Lyrics by Lenora Rand











### New Patterns of Loving

Barbara Hamm ST. DENIO



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### O God, Bestow Your Love and Care

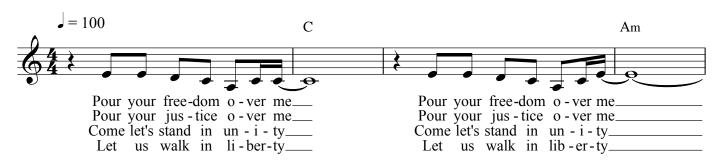


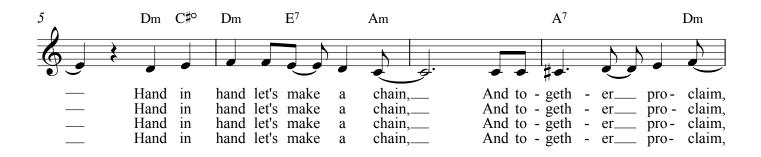
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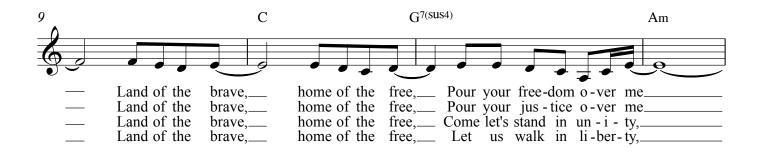
MARRIAGE HYMN 8.8.8.6.

### Pour Your Freedom Over Me

Cheryl Bragg

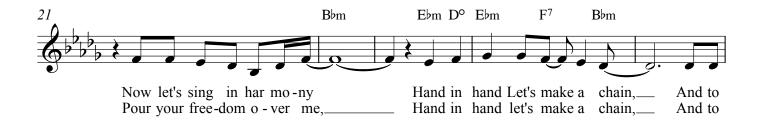


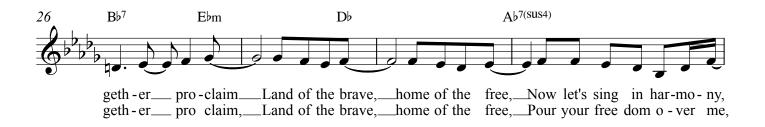


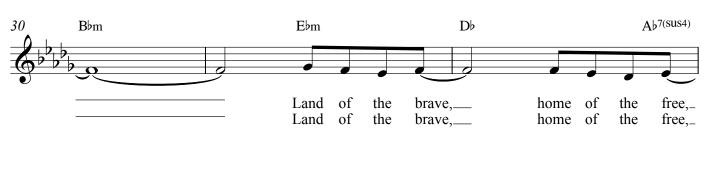














# Queerly Beloved

Amanda Udis-Kessler





### Quirky, Queer and Wonderful Quirk - y, queer, and won der - ful, dis - tinct, u - nique, and odd.... C C/F Bb/F ВЬ Last time to CODA ● all of our hu - man ty re - veals the face God. C/E C 1.No 2.From pre - hend the last "nor - mal" pass dles; range first. en the can com Je - sus rid he we learn said To Stanza 3 4.In 5.The Christ the ma - ny false parts sions us gen - der, class, and race, serve a dif - f'rent role. di vi of that each form ВЬ ВЬ Asus A7 DmAsus A7 Dm

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Music: THE Q TUNE: Sally Ann Morris, 2018. © GIA Publications, Inc.





# Rest in Power

Bilingual Spanish/English

by Elaine Romanelli (SESAC)

a Pulse Nightclub Commemoration

Commissioned by Intersection: Faith, Latinx, LGBTQ+; Faith, Family, Equality: The Latinx Roundtable; and the Church of St. Matthew & St. Timothy

### Rest in Power

Lyrics inspired by poetry from 'Intersection' sessions 7/17–4/18

A Pulse Nightclub Commemoration

Elaine Romanelli (SESAC)





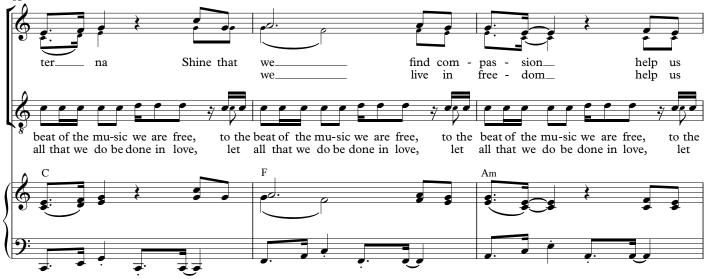




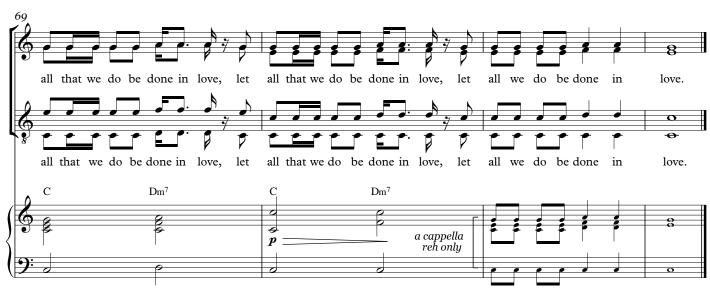




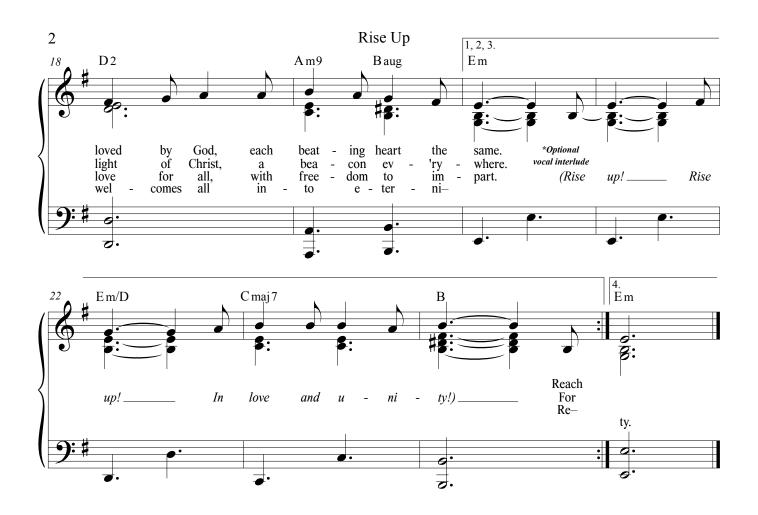




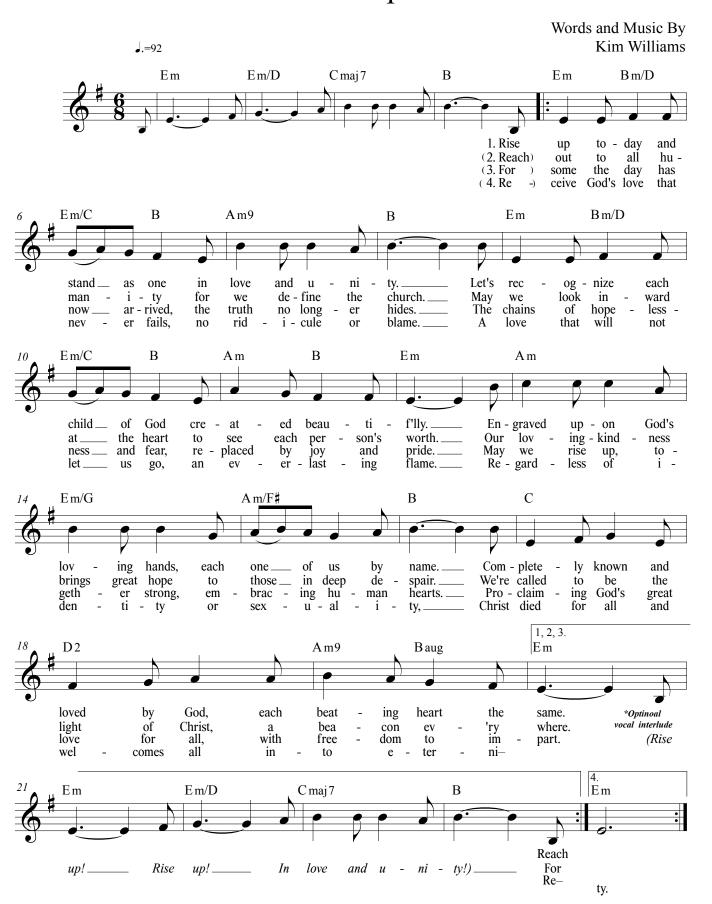








AUTYMN 8.6.8.6 with interlude



Words and Music by Kim Williams

Tempo: J.=92 - Key: Em - Time: 6/8

Intro

Em / | Em/D / | C maj7 / | B /

Verse 1

Em Bm/D Em/C B

Rise up to - day and stand as one

Am9 B

In love and uni - ty

Em Bm/D Em/C B

Let's recog - nize each child of God

Am B Em

Cre - ated beauti - f'lly

Am Em/G

En - graved upon God's loving hands

Am/F# B

Each one of us by name

C D2

Com - pletely known and loved by God

Am9 Baug Em

Each beating heart the same

<u>Interlude</u>

Em Em/D Cmaj7 B

Rise up! Rise up! In love and uni - ty

Verse 2

Em Bm/D Em/C B

Reach out to all hu - mani- ty

Am9 B

For we define the church

Em Bm/D Em/C B

May we look inward at the heart

Am B Em

To see each person's worth

Am Em/G

Our lovingkindness brings great hope

Am/F# B

To those in deep de - spair

D2

We're called to be the light of Christ

Am9 Baug Em

A beacon every - where

Interlude

Verse 3

Em Bm/D Em/C B

For some the day has now ar - rived

Am9 B

The truth no longer hides

Em Bm/D Em/C B

The chains of hopeless - ness and fear

Am B Em

Re - placed by joy and pride

Am Em/G

May we rise up, to - gether strong

Am/F# B

Em - bracing human hearts

C D2

Pro - claiming God's great love for all

Am9 Baug Em

With freedom to im - part

Interlude

Words and Music by Kim Williams

Tempo: J. =92 - Key: Em - Time: 6/8 - Page 2

#### Verse 4

Em Bm/D Em/C B

Re - ceive God's love that nev - er fails

Am9 B

No ridicule or blame

Em Bm/D Em/C B

A love that will not let us go

Am B Em

An ever - lasting flame

Am Em/G Am/F# B

Re - gardless of i - dentity or sexuali - ty

C D2

Christ died for all and welcomes all

Am9 Baug Em

In - to e - terni - ty

### Sing a New World into Being

Mary Louise Bringle **NETTLETON** Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second 1813 ing. Sing a world Sound a hope - ful theme. 1. new in - to be bold and 2. Sing a new world in - to be ing where each gen - der class and race 3. Sing a new world in - to be ing where the home - less find home. Sing a world in - to ing. Join the an - cient proph-ets' new be cry Find for si - lent yearn - ings. Lend your voice and dare dream: a tune brings its rain - bow gifts and to God's lim - it - less col - ors em - brace; where no chil - dren filled with God's sha - lom; ev - er hun - ger but are plen for time health and ty when all tears have been wiped dry; dream a\_\_\_\_ church where all who ship find their\_ lives and loves be - long. wor where the\_\_ lines that once di vi ded form in stead the ties that bind. where all\_\_\_ peo - ple work for jus tice, where all\_\_\_ hate and vengeance cease. when com - pas - sion flows like wa ters, pour- ing\_\_ balm for all who grieve. Sing world Sing as Christ in - spires your song! a new in - to be ing. Sing a world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind! new peace. Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

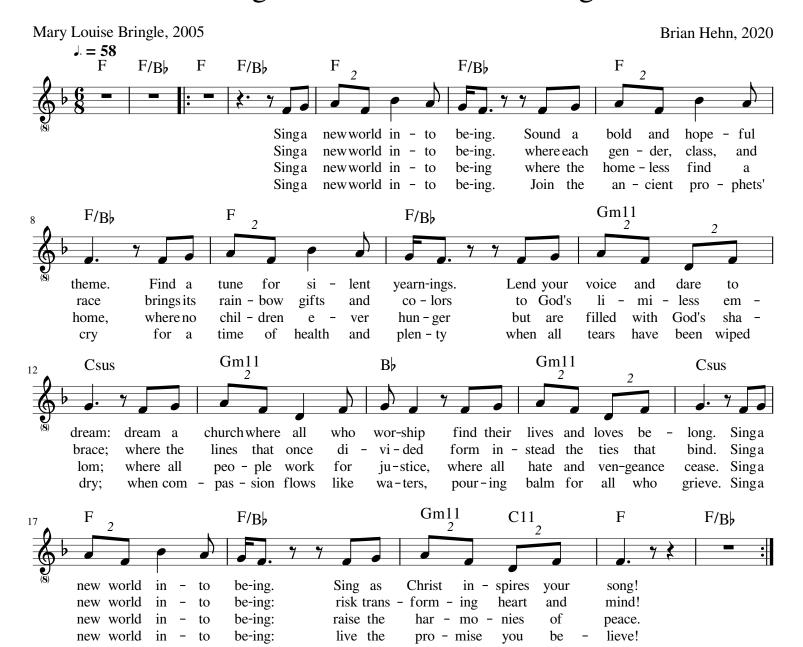
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# Sing A New World into Being





# Melody Only Sing A New World into Being



### The Dove Will Fly on Mended Wing

Tim Reaburn O WALY WALY Traditional English, harm. CJ Redden-Liotta 1., 5. Re - lig - ion, cul - ture, creed and race each hu - man spir it and each face 2. And take a - way new found song, a new found voice a to act on wrongs. peo - ple stand, peo - ple call: come ga - ther here and wel-come all. 4. And chains will fall, the shack-les break, the earth will rise, and pow-ers quake, we cel - e - brate, we dance and each one might bring. sing the tal-ents here To trust, to heal, to help us to stand as re - new - ing hope. cope, one, Di-ver-si - fy and cel - e that hope-less - ness is not our fate. brate just-ice will roll, and free - dom the dove will sing, fly on men-ded wing.



WORDS and MUSIC: Barbara Hamm © 2015

HEART'S CHOICE L.M.D.

# The Kingdom of God is the Queerest of Nations





### The Love that Goes Unspoken

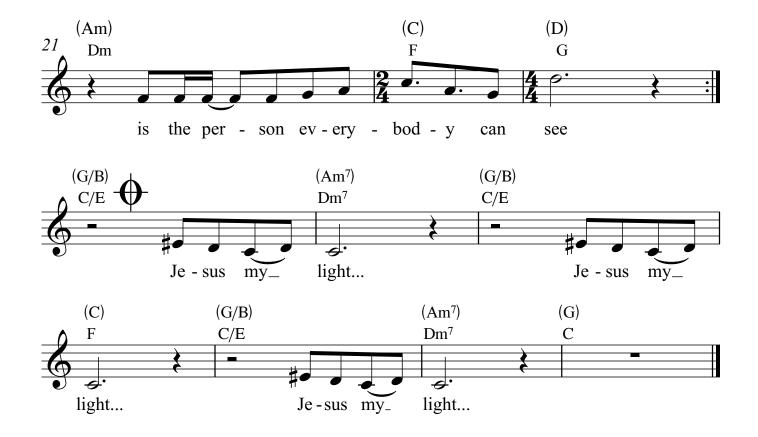
Mary Louise Bringle LLANGLOFFAN



## Transfigure Me

(Mark 9:2-9)





For Dee Dressler and the transgender community. Brave journey.







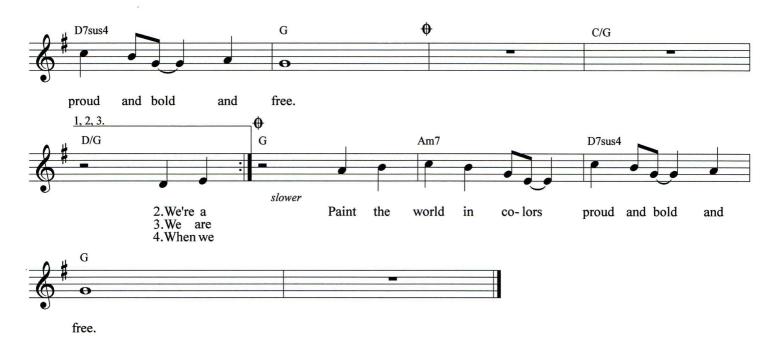




SATB anthem version available from David Kai: davidwkai@gmail.com www.sites.google.com/site/davidwkaismusic

Re. Tune name "Slocan": it is my custom to name my hymn tunes after camps and ghost towns where Canadians of Japanese descent were interned during the Second World War. In this way I hope to ensure that these places will not be forgotten.





Website: www.sites.google.com/site/davidwkaismusic Email: davidwkai@gmail.com

#### We Are a Rainbow an affirming hymn

Words and music by David Kai ©2017 Tune: Slocan

And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. Genesis 1: 3 (RSV)

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ..." I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth." Genesis 9: 8, 11-13 (NRSV)

Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colors.

Genesis 37: 3 (KJV)

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Psalm 30: 5b (NRSV)

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house."

Matthew 5: 14, 15 (NRSV)

These scriptures are the inspiration behind this hymn written particularly for affirming ministries. The hymn draws on rainbow and rainbow-coloured imagery in the Bible, and the imagery of light which is composed of rainbow colors. The hymn suggests that affirming ministries have a badly needed light which they can proudly share with the world.

#### We Are a Rainbow

Words and music by David Kai ©2017 Tune: Slocan (see below)

We're the light of all the world, we are a city on a hill, We're a candle on a stand proclaiming light, We will not hide our lamp beneath a bushel any more, We will shine a ray of hope that's burning bright.

Chorus: We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace,
For the flood of tears will finally cease to be,
Come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky,
Paint the world in colors proud and bold and free.

We're a coat of many colors, sewn from many different threads, Covering all in warmth, in welcome and in grace, God said "Let there be light", created every varied shade, In the rainbow each of us can find a place. Chorus:

We are hope to still believe in tomorrow's better day,
We are peace in a world that's torn apart,
We are joy that will last in all the struggles that we face,
We are love that blooms and grows in every heart. Chorus:

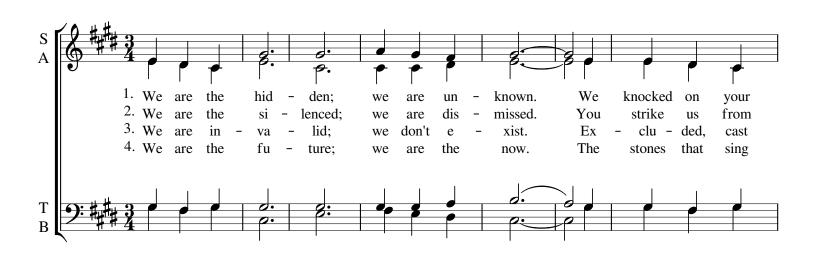
When we face the storms of life, we will never be alone, For our God will be with us on the way, Hand in hand, side by side, we won't be frightened\* any more, As the mourning night of tears breaks into day. Chorus:

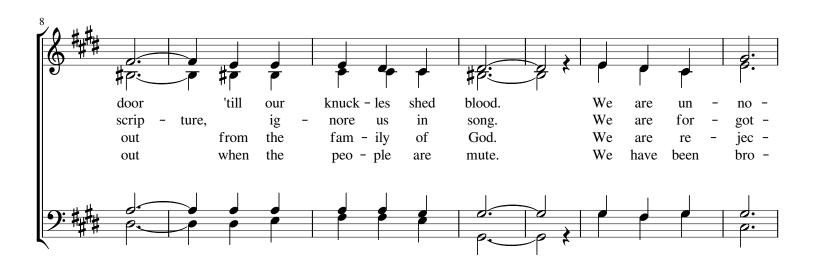
#### \*alt: clobbered

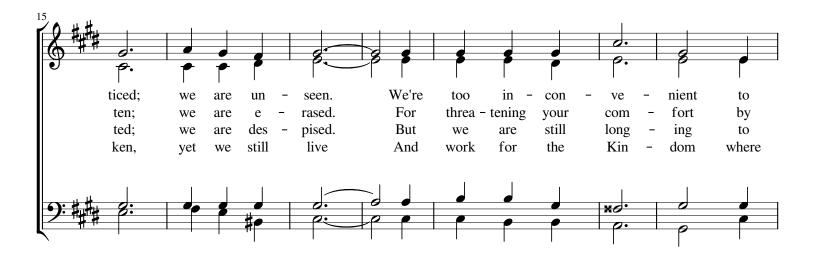
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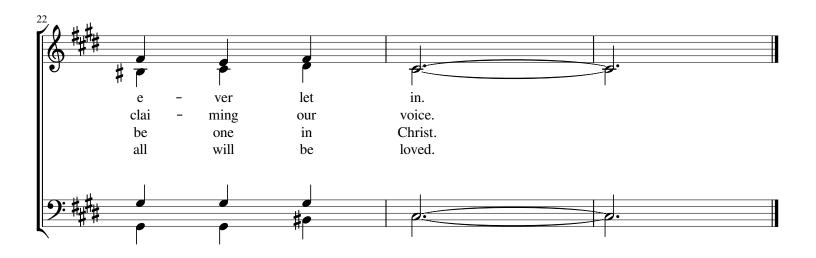
### We Are the Hidden







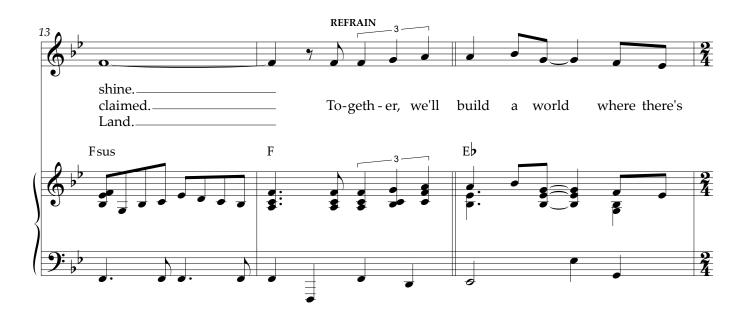
Text: Slats Toole, b. 1989 Music: Megan Coiley, b. 1989



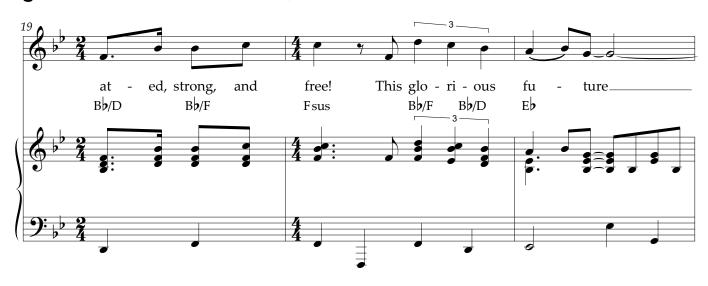
## We'll Build a World

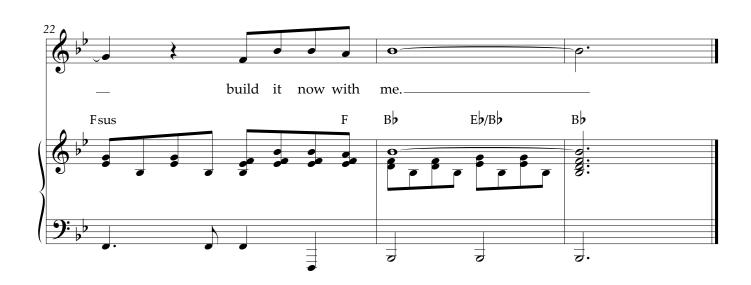












### Seekers



Text: Gretchen Toler Debus ©2019 Music: Ben A David Hensley ©2019

#### When Comes the Time

**Hymn for Baptism** 



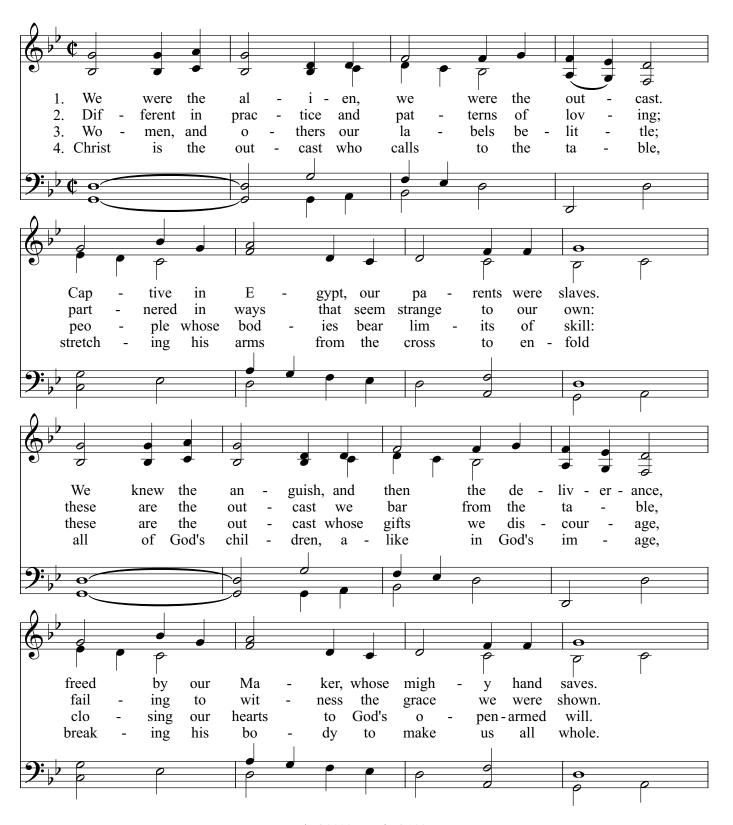
**Alternate Tunes: Bourbon** 

**Tender Thought** 

#### Who Is the Alien?

Mary Louise Bringle

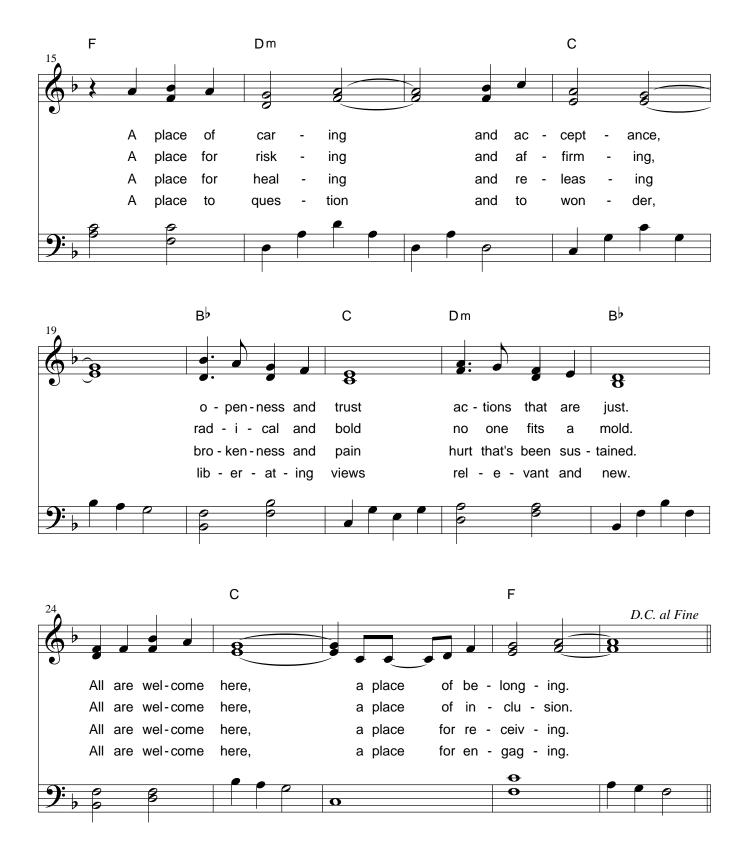
STAR IN THE EAST Southern Harmony harm. Marty Haugen





# With Open Hearts





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