

Onward Christian Soldiers

Music by Sabine Baring-Gould; Words by Arthur Sullivan; Arranged by Cathy Stamegna

Flexible Instrumentation

Flex 1: Treble C Instruments: Flute, Oboe, Violin

Flex 2: Bb Instruments: (Bb) Clarinet, Trumpet

Flex 3: Bass C Instruments: Bassoon, Trombone, Violoncello

Verses 1, 3 and the Refrain of this arrangement align with the traditional. Verse 2 is somewhat of a variation of that melody and harmony and more pensive than march-like. If you prefer the conventional arrangement, simply repeat Verse 1 and omit my variation (Verse 2).

Written as a processional for school children in the latter 1800's, this hymn was later adopted by the Salvation Army as their processional, chosen by Winston Churchill in 1941 for a church service aboard the HMS Prince of Wales (after agreeing to the Atlantic Charter), sung during the civil rights movement, banned by some denominations from their hymnals for its military tone.

As a well-known hymn, I felt it belonged in my ***Hymns of Comfort Collection***, conceived during the Coronavirus Pandemic. Presently, the ***"Hymns of Comfort Collection"*** includes:

God Save Our Native Land (*with "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"*)
Jesus Paid It All (*with "Amazing Grace"*)
Let Us Break Bread Together
Onward Christian Soldiers
Pass Me Not (O Gentle Savior)
Seeking a Refuge (*with "Amazing Grace"*)
There is a Balm in Gilead (*with "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*)
Trusting Jesus, That is All

Popular Song Collection

Concurrently, I researched popular songs (and a Robert Frost poem) from the late 19th-early 20th centuries that may be recognizable and familiar:

All Alone
If You Were the Only Girl (In the World) (*heard on Downton Abbey, Season 2, Episode 4*)
Let Me Call You Sweetheart (*heard on Downton Abbey, Season 3, Episode 2*)
Look for the Silver Lining
Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland (*with "I Love You Truly" and "Shine On, Harvest Moon"*)
Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening (*Robert Frost poem/music by C. Stamegna*)

I continually add to these collections and look forward to arranging more for your enjoyment.

Cathy Stamegna

Some pieces above will not appear in my catalogues outside of the USA because they are not yet in the public domain in Great Britain and Australia.