Sunflowers and thistles

Music Edition

Music Setting by Roo Stewart for The United Reformed Church 2021

1. We're facing a danger

A song for the Covid-19 crisis.

My first response to 'social distancing' and 'lockdown' and how God fits into the pandemic picture.

John Campbell

'TO GOD BE THE GLORY' W. Howard Doane



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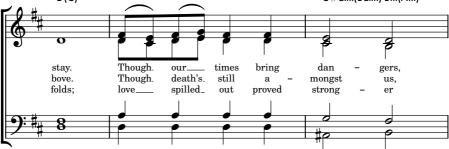
2. Though Easter victory

An Easter Sunday song to an Easter Sunday tune, but taking the Covid situation into account.

John Campbell

'MACCABEUS' G F Handel







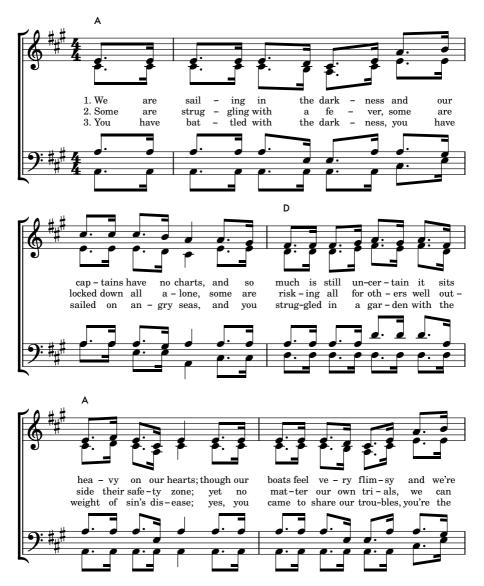
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3. We are sailing in the darkness

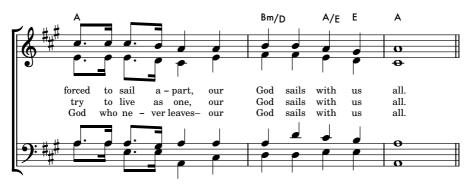
"We are sailing in the darkness" is a quotation from Thomas Traumann, a Brazilian commentator on the Covid-19 crisis, cited on The Guardian website, 17 April 2020.

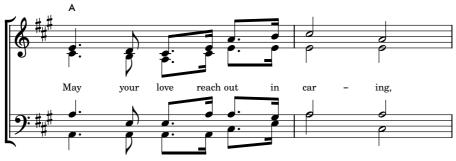
John Campbell

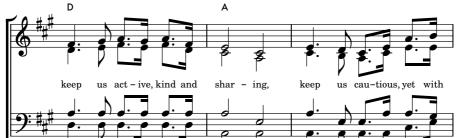
'BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC' attrib. William Steffe

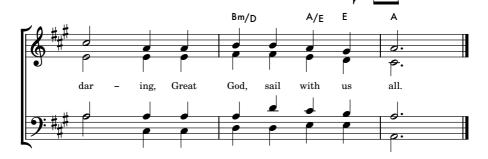


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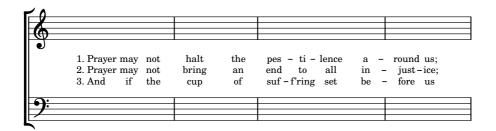
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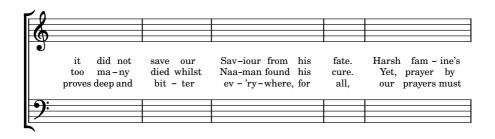
4. Prayer may not halt the pestilence

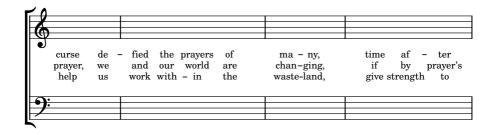
Worried by a Christian colleague who said of Covid-19, 'We'll be safe, we're protected by prayer!', I tried in this song to talk of what I believe prayer does and does not do.

John Campbell

'FINLANDIA' Jean Sibelius



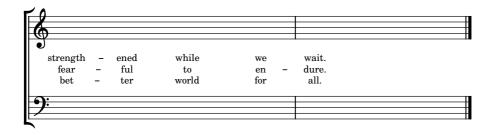




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time, ex pow'r our rise up	8 8	hurt. care; fall;	Yet, if we if we reach that help and	pray, out, care	ano em ano

share life's with pain Je - sus, we will be changed and pow'red by prayer kind – li – ness prayer, in ac – tion, then hope may help the and shar-ing, may build a new а



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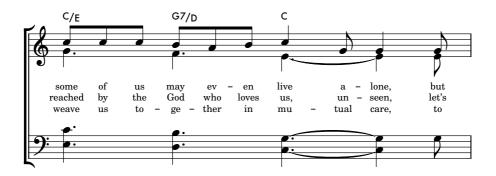
5. Zoom, Zoom, Zoom!

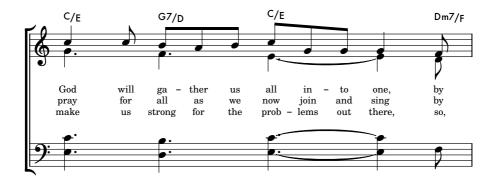
In no time at all, after lockdown, we found our worship services were on Zoom. Here is a wee song to start a Zoom worship service.

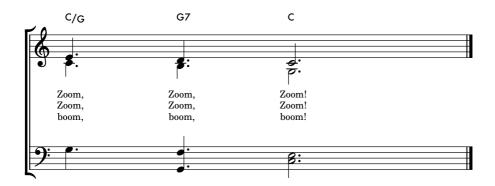
John Campbell

'THREE BLIND MICE' Thomas Ravenscroft, arr. Roo Stewart









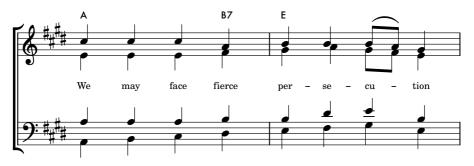
6. Hard-pressed and surrounded

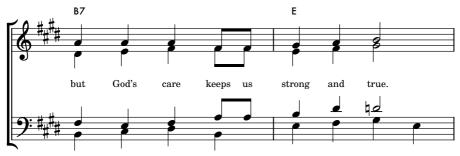
Based on 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 NIV – Paul says 'We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.' That seemed to speak to the way many of us were feeling in April to May 2020, and since.

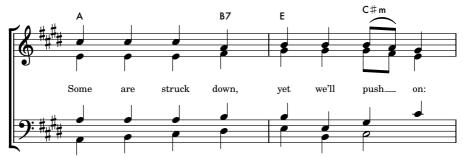
John Campbell

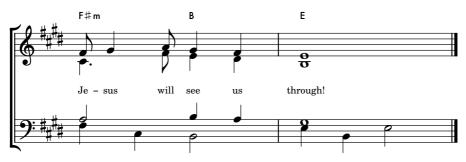
'IN THE NAME OF JESUS' Composer unknown, arr. Roo Stewart







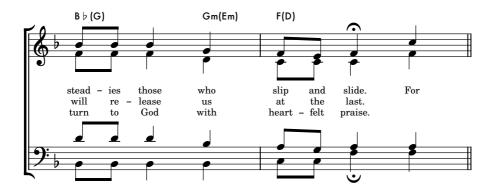


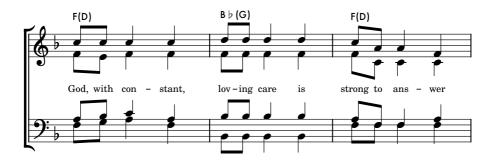


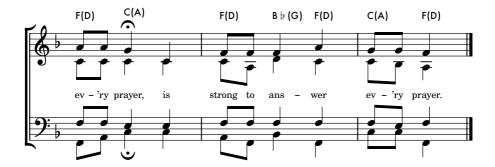
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8. Great giver of courage

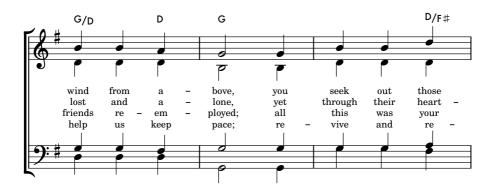
A song for Pentecost in challenging times.

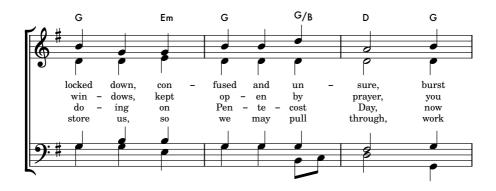
John Campbell

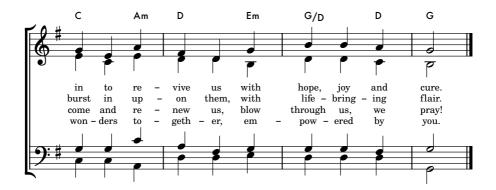
'ST DENIO' Trad. Welsh



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9. The pain and the outrage

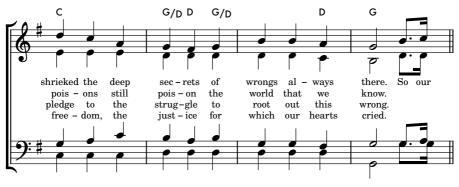
For George Floyd. A first response to the shocking news of this public death.

John Campbell

'TO GOD BE THE GLORY' W. Howard Doane



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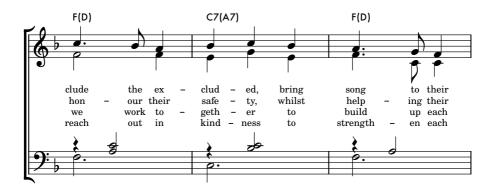


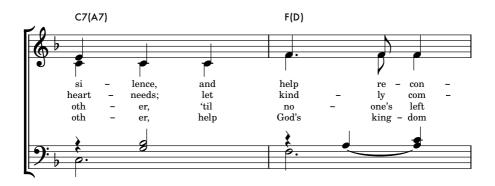
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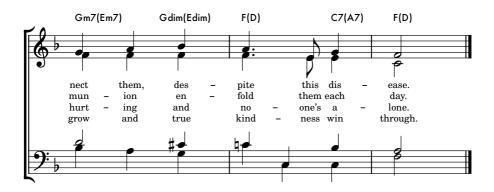
10. Reach out

We were looking at Jesus' strong emotions in response to this locked-down or locked-out leper. Mark 1:40-45









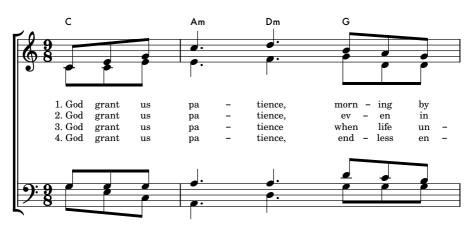
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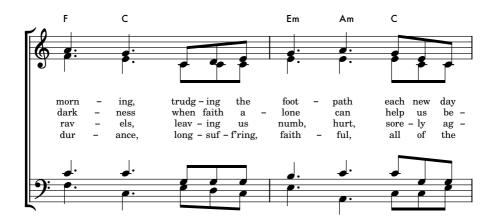
11. God, grant us patience

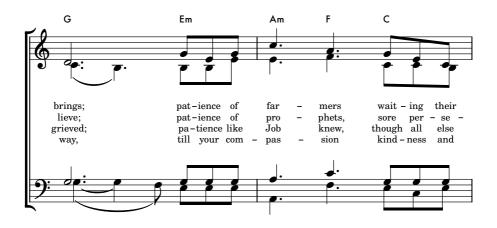
We asked a visiting Zoom preacher (John Proctor) to tell us about patience. Using a passage from James 5.7-11, he gave us a fabulous sermon and I wrote this song to sing (although I had to write it before I heard the sermon!).

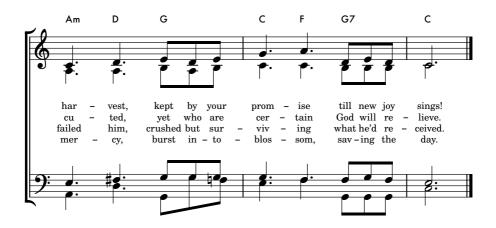
John Campbell

'BUNESSAN' Trad. Scottish, arr. Roo Stewart







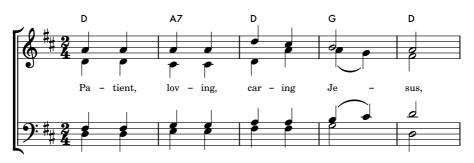


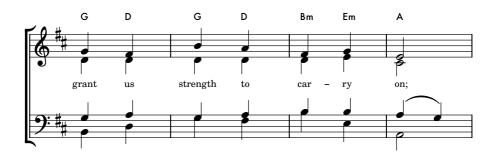
12. Patient, loving, caring Jesus

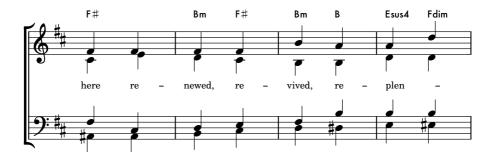
A sung response we've used every month after sharing our Covid-time Zoom Communion.

John Campbell

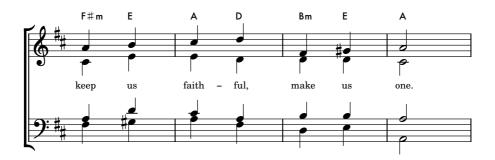
'LAUDA ANIMA' John Goss

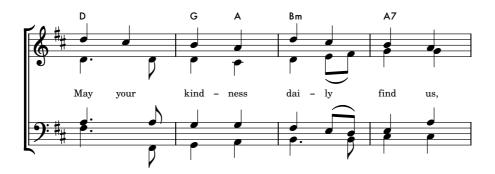


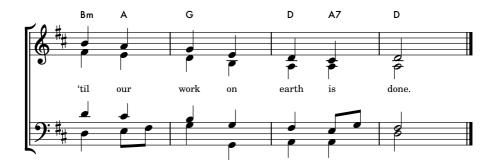




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13. The 'owner' of the fig tree

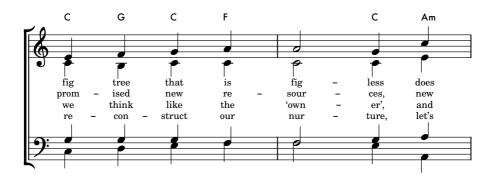
As part of a Zoom Bible study, we looked at this simple tale about a figless fig tree in Luke 13.6-9. Our explorations, lit by the Black Lives Matter movement and news of unequal effects of Covid-19 in BAME communities, led us to see here (as we'd never seen before) a powerful investigation of competing explanations of fruitlessness, that richly echoed modern-day attitudes to the black experience in the UK. Jesus does not go with the 'owners'.

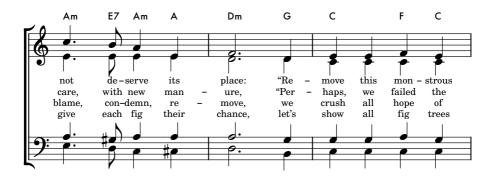
John Campbell

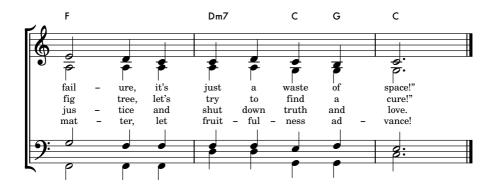
'AURELIA' Samuel S Wesley



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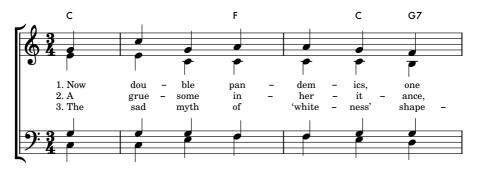
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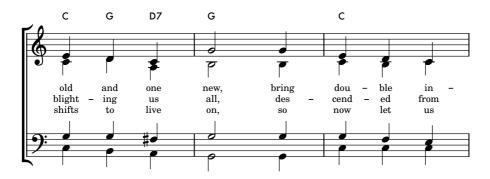
14. Now double pandemics

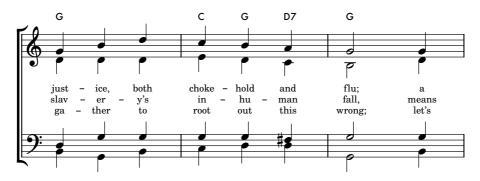
Patricia Williams in an article in The Guardian: 'As we watch, two great tragedies unfold and intertwine: the toll of coronavirus, and the toll of extrajudicial deaths at the hands of state actors. One maps on to the other in a double helix of grief and despair.'

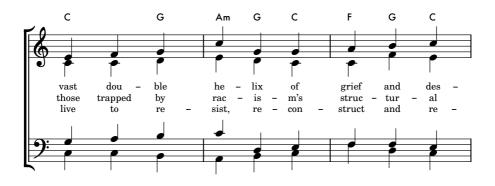
John Campbell

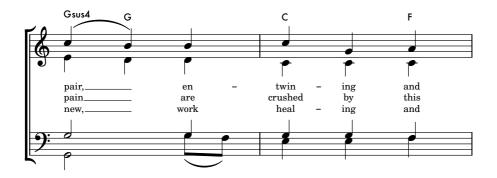
'MONTGOMERY' attrib. Samuel Jarvis

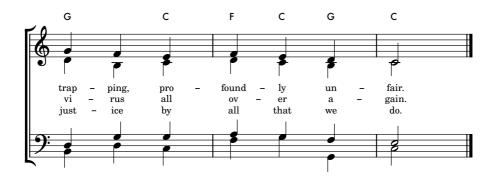












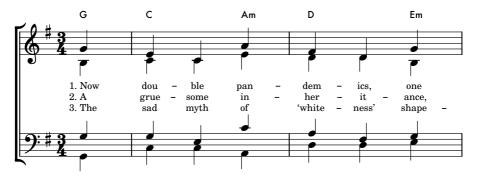
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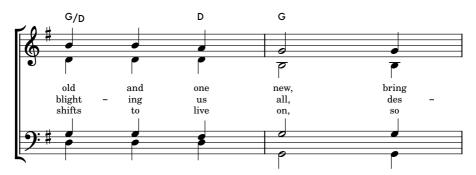
14a. Now double pandemics

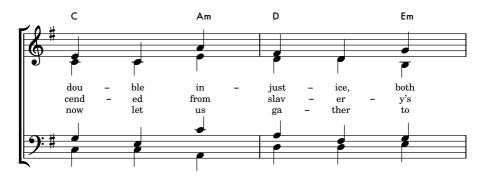
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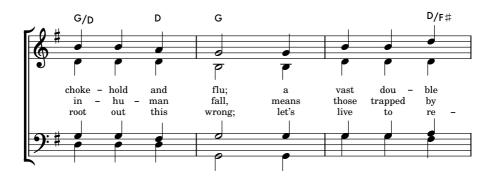
John Campbell

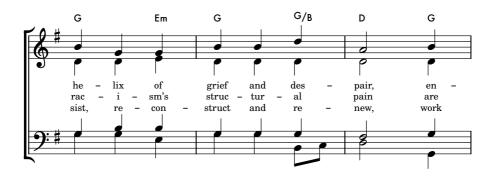
'ST DENIO' Trad. Welsh

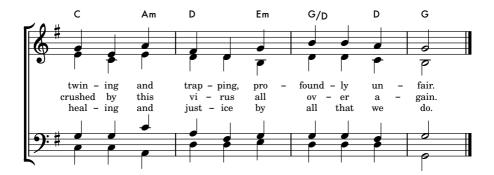












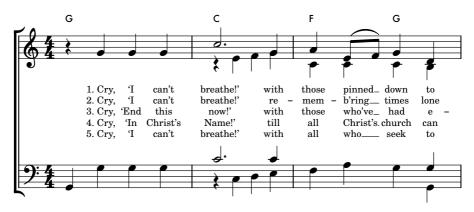
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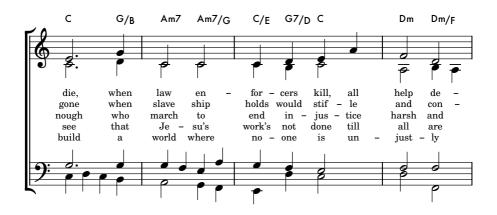
15. Cry, 'I can't breathe!'

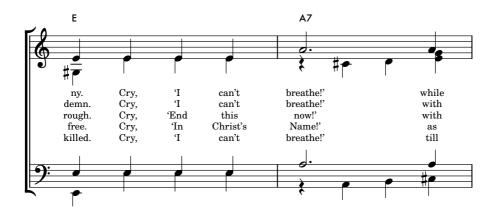
The words of George Floyd (and others who died pinned down by police) have become a rallying cry for much wider issues of injustice. This song seeks to invite Christians to share the cry and join the struggle.

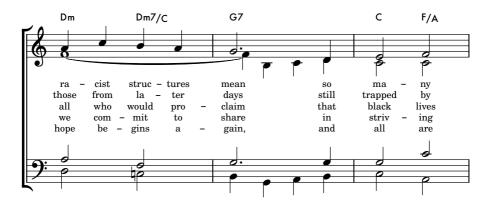
John Campbell

'WOODLANDS' William Greatorex











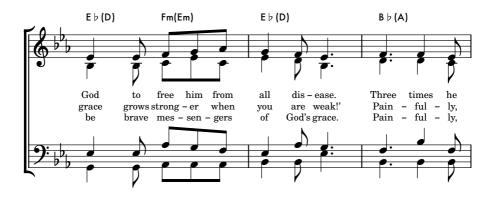
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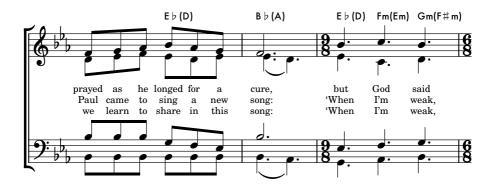
16. A thorn, a thorn, a thorn in the flesh

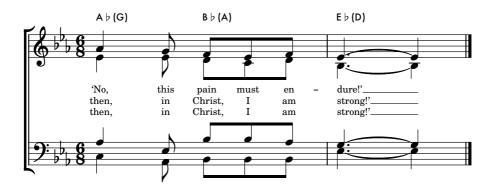
Paul didn't have Covid-19 to contend with, but something of his wrestlingwith unremoved difficulties speaks to many now as they struggle with pandemics old and new. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10



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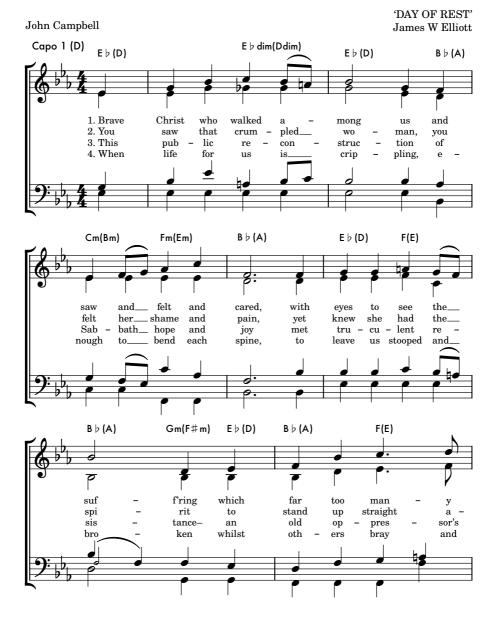




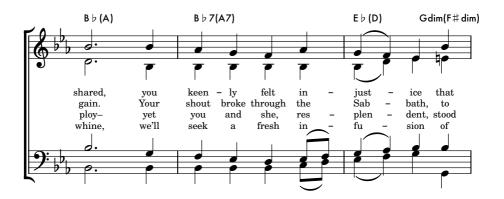
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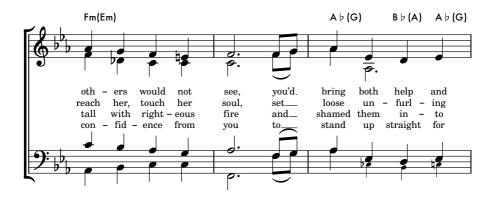
17. Brave Christ who walked among us

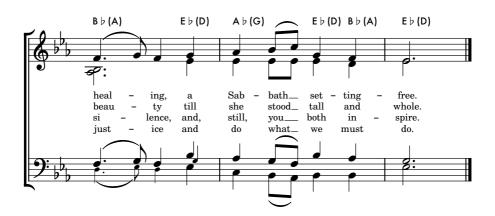
A visiting Zoom preacher chose to speak on the simple yet powerful story of the woman bent double in Luke 13.10-17. I wrote this song about it for our worship.



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18. Nehemiah hurt inside

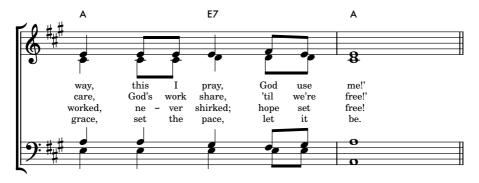
Our world is looking about as devastated as the Jerusalem Nehemiah visited. Can we find encouragement for creative action from his story? Nehemiah 1-3

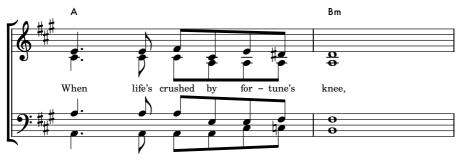
John Campbell

'CLOSER WALK' Trad. North American

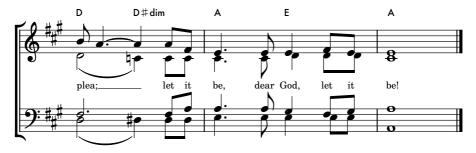


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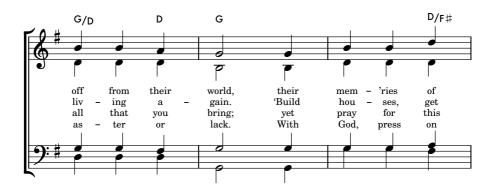
19. In exile, defeated

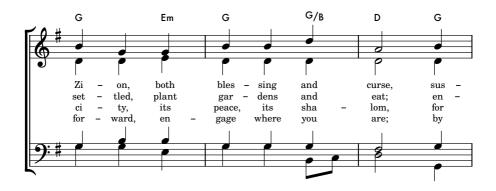
Looking for Scripture stories that speak to a sudden irreversible change in circumstances to help speak to our Covid-19 infected world, we turned to Jeremiah's letter to the exiles in Babylon in Jeremiah 29:1-9.

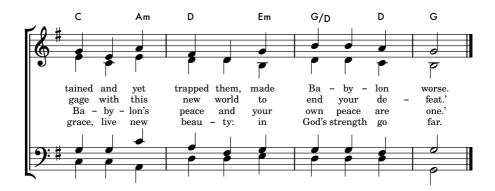
John Campbell

'ST DENIO' Trad. Welsh









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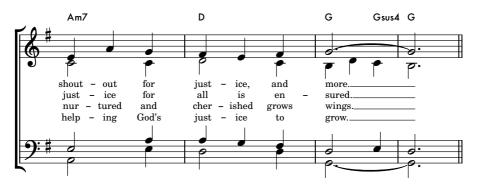
20. A bouquet of sunflowers and thistles

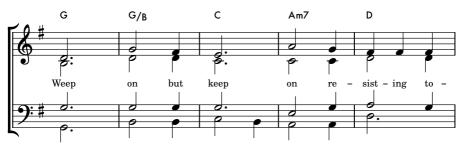
In August 2020, there was a Black Lives Matter demonstration outside Tottenham police station. Passing along the High Road after this peaceful protestwas over, I saw a bouquet of sunflowers and thistles propped against the fence. It seemed deeply symbolic, so I wrote this song.

John Campbell

'MY BONNIE LIES OVER THE OCEAN' Trad. Scottish, arr. Roo Stewart











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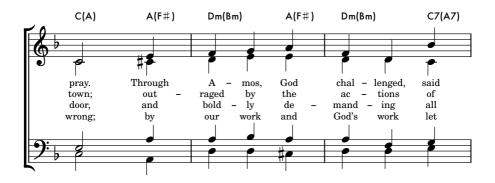
21. No justice? No peace!

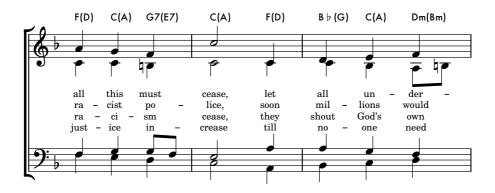
As the Black Lives Matter movement has spread across the world, the cry 'No justice? No peace!' has rung out in city after city. It took me back to God's outrage shared by Amos. Here is the resulting song inspired by Amos 5:21-24.

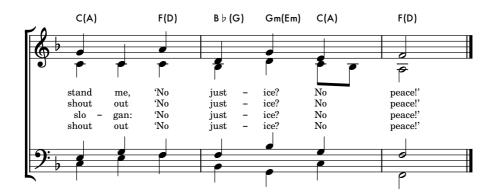


'HANOVER' William Croft









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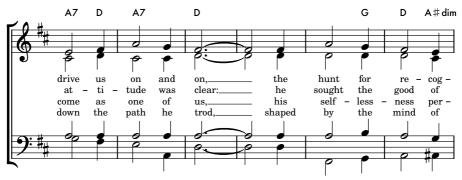
22. The engines of ambition

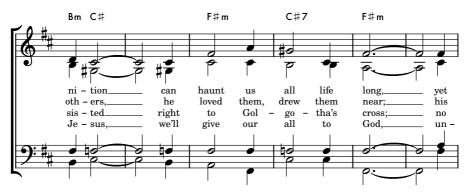
Philippians 2:1-11

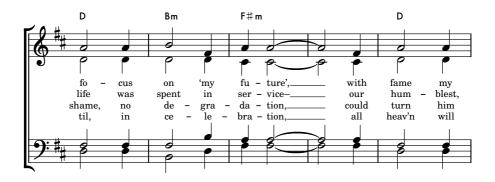
John Campbell

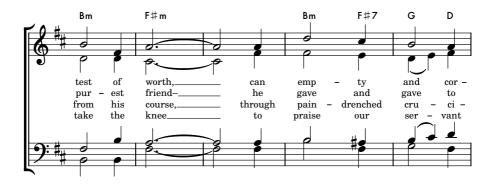
'PENLAN' David Jenkins

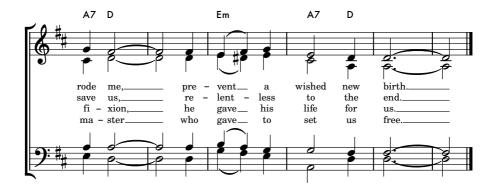










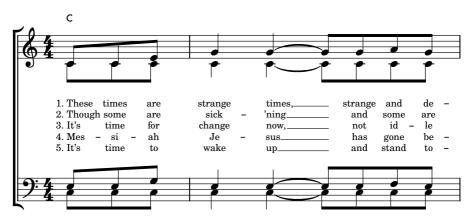


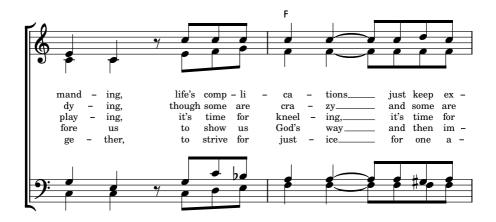
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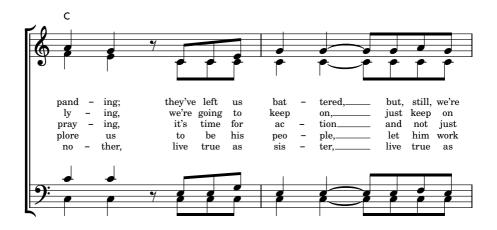
23. We holdin' on

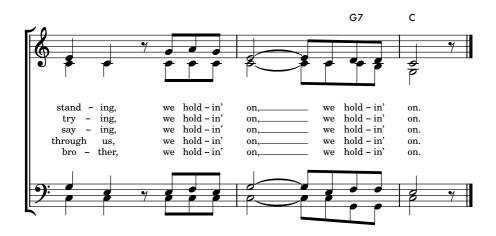
John Campbell

'ASSAM' Trad. Indian





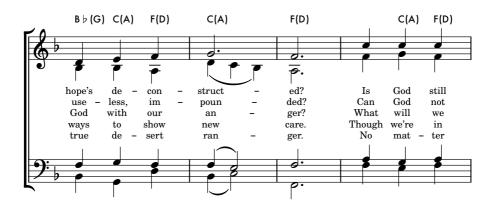


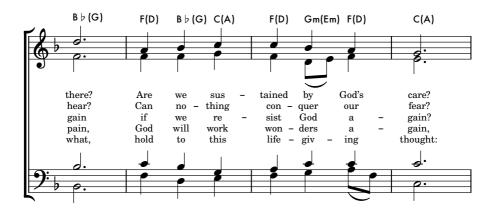


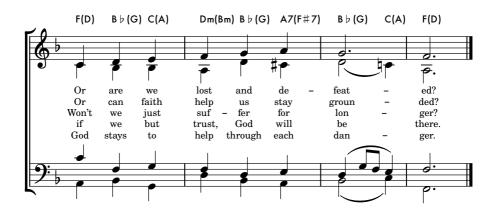
24. When all we know

John Campbell Composer unknown Capo 3 (D) F(D) Dm(Bm) C(A) F(D) Dm(Bm) $Am(F \ddagger m) B \flat (G) F(D)$ e 1. When all ed, de we know is up end 2. Should like we iles sit \mathbf{si} lent, de ex -3. Should from we like Jo _ nah just run the 4. Ra – ther. like Phil ip, left stood in the 5. Though we're con fused and lone like that а B ♭ (G) C(A) F(D) C(A) F(D) 6 d Ð. stroyed and dis rupt ed, foun pressed and dumb ded, un want ed dan ger? mid dle of no where, Α fri can stran ger, ð 0 Dm(Bm) C(A) F(D) Dm(Bm) Am(F♯m) B♭(G) F(D) how do we cope, when our world and our and leav ing our harps our hopes hang ing And. when de ni al won't work, turn on we can trust God has some won der ful God's love can track us and find us. а

'LOBE DEN HERREN'







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25. Psalm 91 re-treaded

John Campbell

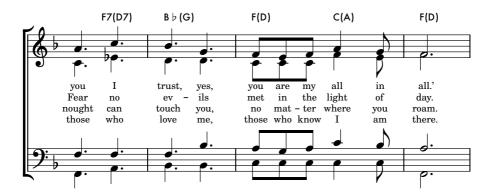
Capo 3 (D) F(D) B ♭ (G) F(D) 1. Who - so for God er goes to our pro tec - tion, ev 2. Do not fear the un-leashed in the night hours. ter-rors 3. But be cause you take God as sa - viour and re - fuge, 4. Bv God's grace, you'll li - ons and ad - ders, 0 - ver-come Dm(Bm) G(E) C(A) 0 ø. God's ve falls, keep ing close, where sha dow ry Do not fear the ar - rows that fly by day. God dwel-ling place, house home, ma - king your and fierce con-quer with faith filled pray'r. op ро _ nents F(D) B (G) F(D) may sure - ly, 'You re - fuge and fort - ress. say, are my Do pes - ti - lence stalk - ing not fear the the dark - ness. there's vil that can in - trude and des troy no you, е pro-tect and God ίI will de ver says, al - ways li

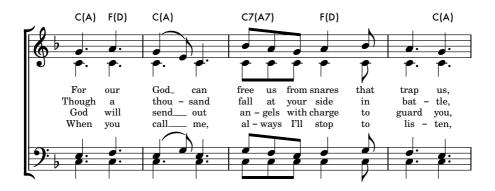
'JOYFUL SONG'

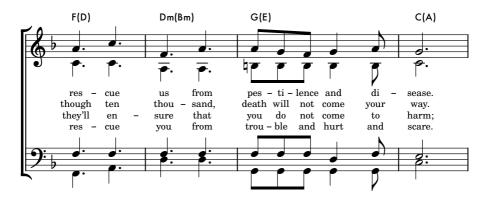
Chester G Allen



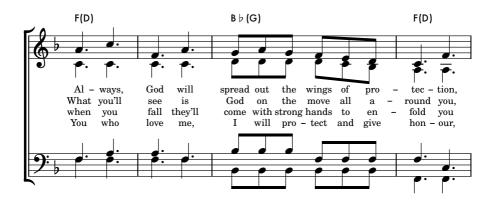
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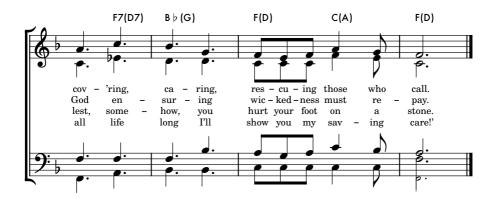






continued overleaf





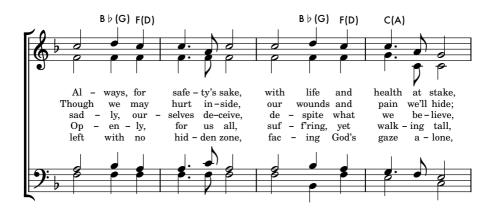
You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

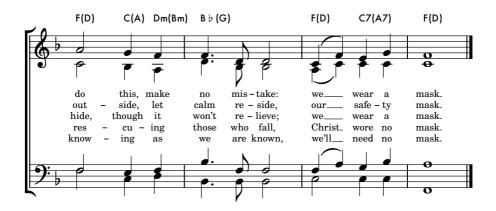
Psalm 91:1-2, NRSV

26. Whilst Covid struts

A response for Covid times to Paul Laurence Dunbar's poem, 'We wear the mask'.





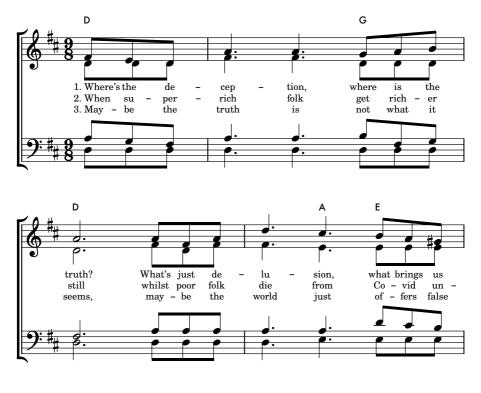


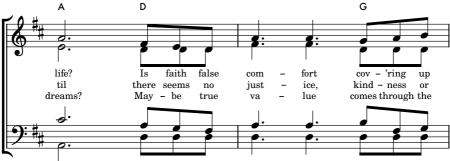
27. Where's the deception?

Musings on Psalm 73.

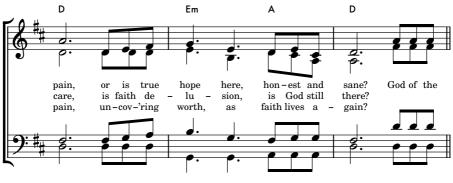
John Campbell

'ASSURANCE' Phoebe Palmer Knapp

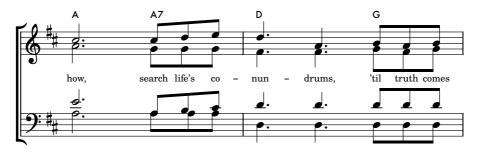


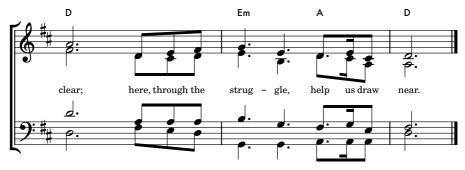


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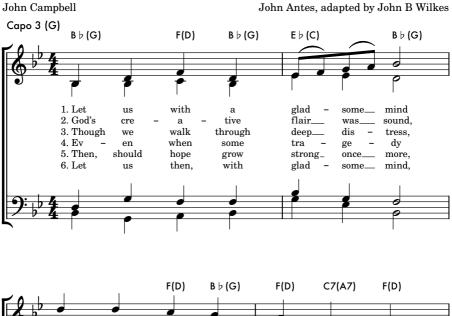


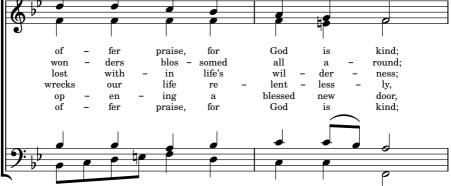
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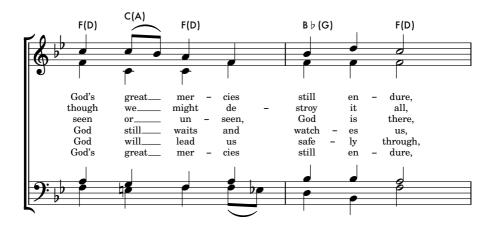
28. Responding to Psalm 136

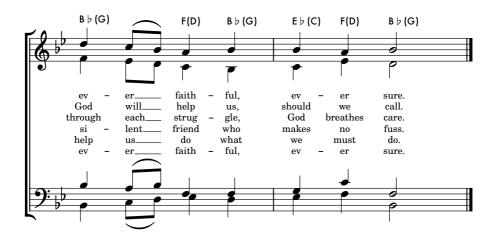
Responding to Psalm 136 in a time of uncertainty

'MONKLAND'









29. So strangely together

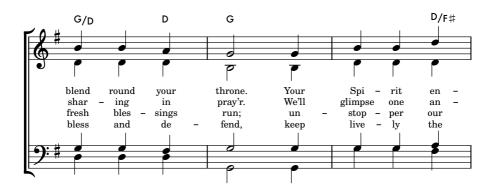
A song for online worship in lockdown.

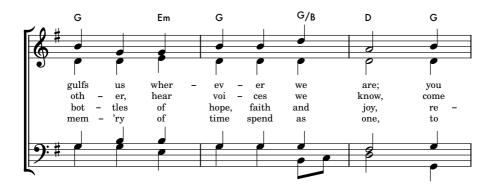


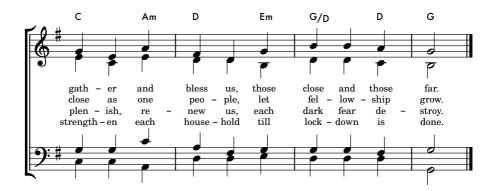
'ST DENIO' Trad. Welsh



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30. What if Jesus

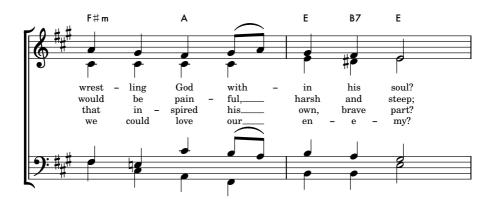
I was asked to introduce a Bible Study on Jesus' use of Jonah. I found an amazing book by David Benjamin Blower called 'Sympathy for Jonah'. This song was a result.

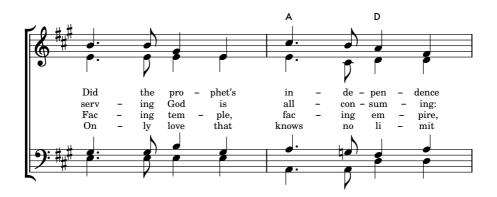
John Campbell

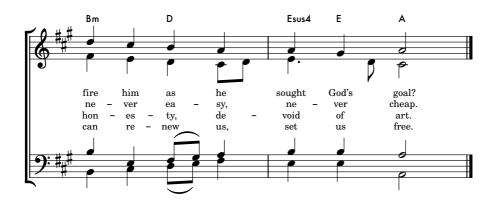
'REGENT SQUARE' Henry Thomas Smart



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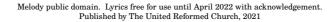
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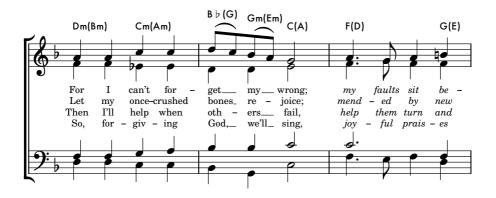
31. Gracious God, show mercy now

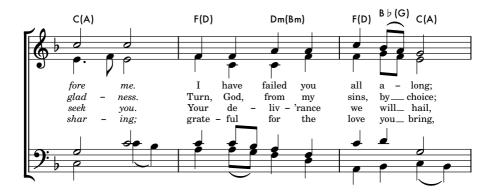
A sort of re-mix of Psalm 51:1-17. When we get back to shared singing, this may be sung antiphonally.

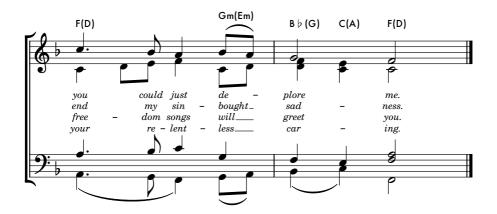


If singing antiphonally, one group should sing the words in regular type and the other group the words in italics.







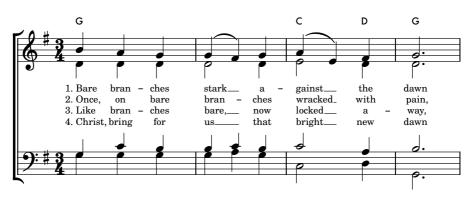


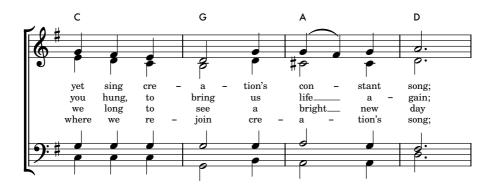
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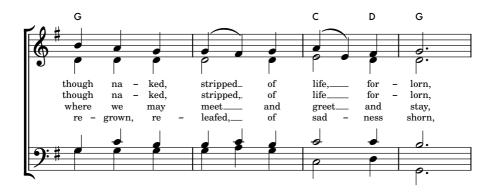
32. Bare branches stark

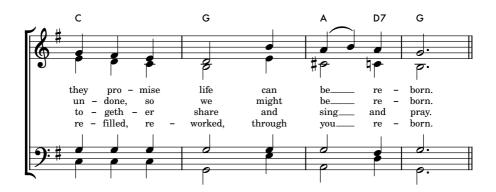
John Campbell

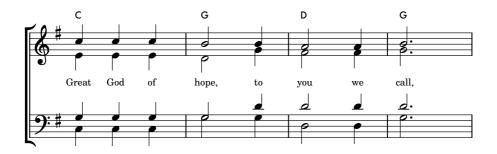
'ST CATHERINE' Henri F Hemy & J G Walton

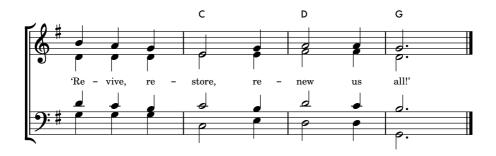










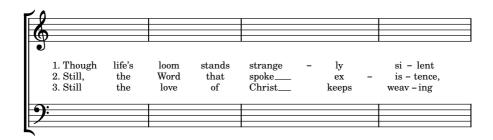


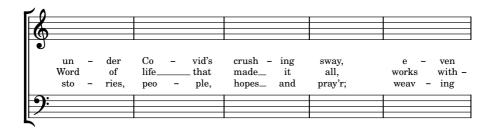
33. Though life's loom stands

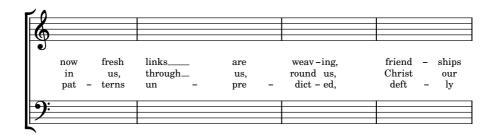
A friend asked me to preach at her induction (on Zoom) to a new ministry post. She chose these readings: John 1:1-14 and Ephesians 3:14-20. She also chose the theme of weaving people together. This song sort-of came with the sermon.

John Campbell

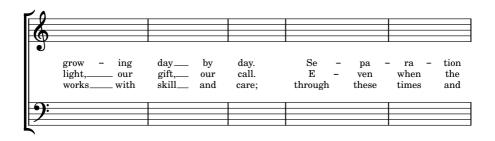
'ABBOTS LEIGH' Cyril Taylor

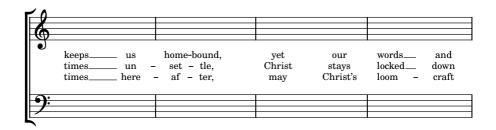


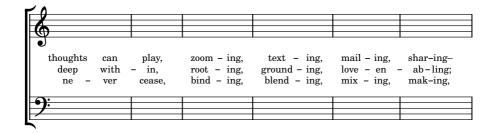


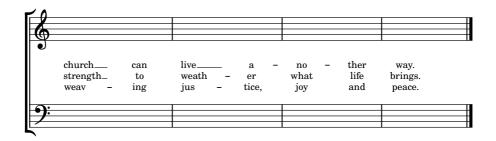


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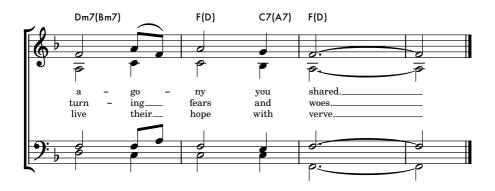
34. You felt the pain in Galilee

A Covid-time prayer song.





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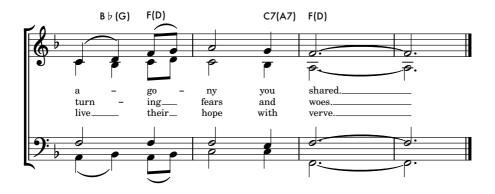
- 4. Inspire the minds now striving hard to find vaccine and cure; let science serve, let passion drive, till worldwide help is sure.
- Today, Lord, sit in ICUs, beside each lonely bed; sit unprotected, human, close, for us, be there instead.
- And linger daily, through the grief, with all who mourn and weep; for jagged hurts and missed farewells, let healing streams run deep.
- Brave Christ of dark Gethsemane, we know you understand; though hurts, though fears, though pains surround, hold each within your hand.

34a. You felt the pain in Galilee

A Covid-time prayer song.



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- 4. Inspire the minds now striving hard to find vaccine and cure; let science serve, let passion drive, till worldwide help is sure.
- Today, Lord, sit in ICUs, beside each lonely bed; sit unprotected, human, close, for us, be there instead.
- And linger daily, through the grief, with all who mourn and weep; for jagged hurts and missed farewells, let healing streams run deep.
- Brave Christ of dark Gethsemane, we know you understand; though hurts, though fears, though pains surround, hold each within your hand.

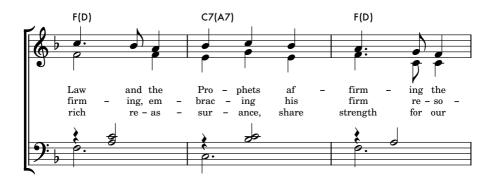
35. A mystical moment

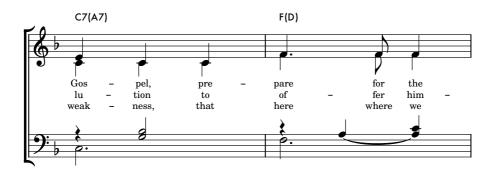
Mark 9:2-12













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36. Both shut away and shielding

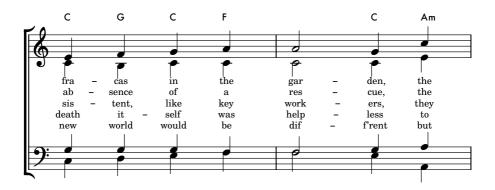
Mark 14-16

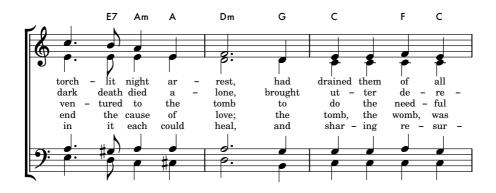
John Campbell

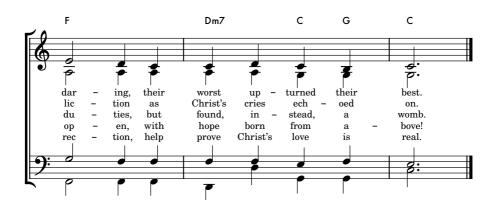
'AURELIA' Samuel S Wesley



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37. O God, who longs to make us whole

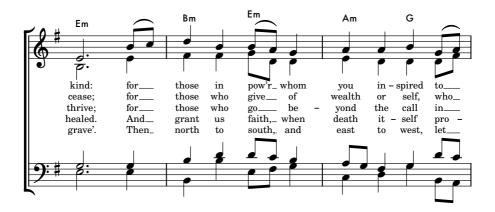
A hymn celebrating the founding and work of the NHS. Written in 1998 for a special service in Leicester Cathedral, celebrating the NHS 50th anniversary. The third verse was added in 2021 to recognise the efforts and courage of people other than NHS staff during the pandemic.

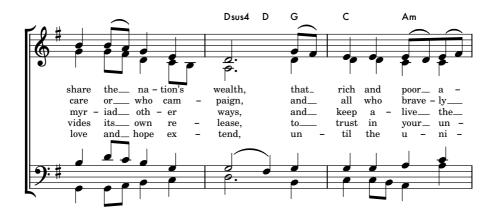
Michael Forster

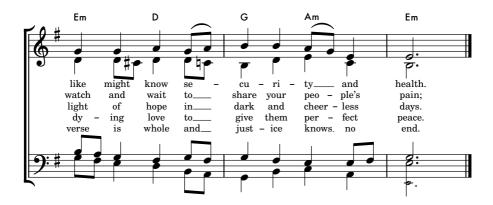
'KINGSFOLD' Trad. English



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