



80877

Be with Me, Lord

Michael Joncas

Cantor, SATB

Piano, Guitar, Flute, Oboe

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VERSE 1: Cantor

p

1. You who dwell in the shel - ter of God, Most High, who a -

p

cresc......

1. bide in Al-might - y's shade, _____

cresc......

mp

1. say to the Lord: _____ "My ref - uge, my strong - hold, my

mp

cresc......

mf

1. God in whom I trust!" _____

mf

dim......

REFRAIN:

Soprano *mp*

Alto

Tenor

Bass *mp*

mp

Be with me, Lord; be with me, Lord, ___ when

mp

I am in trou - ble and need. ___

VERSE 2: Cantor

p

p

2. E - vil shall nev - er be - fall you, ___ nor af -

cresc. ----- *mp*

2. flic-tion come near to your tent. _____ Un - to his an - gels he's

cresc. ----- *mp*

cresc. ----- *mf dim.* -----

2. giv - en com-mand to guard you in all your ways. _____

cresc. ----- *mf dim.* -----

REFRAIN: All

Soprano/Melody

mp

Alto

Tenor

Bass *mp*

Be with me, Lord; be with me, Lord, when

mp

I am in trou - ble and need.

The first system of the score consists of two vocal staves (Soprano and Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in a B-flat major key signature. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. The lyrics "I am in trou - ble and need." are written under the vocal lines.

VERSE 3:

Cantor: *mp*

3. On their hands the an - gels will bear you up, lest you

S *mp*

A 3. On their hands the an - gels will bear you up, lest you

T

B *mp*

mp

The second system of the score is for Verse 3. It includes a Cantor part and four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note bass line. The lyrics for all parts are "3. On their hands the an - gels will bear you up, lest you". The dynamic marking *mp* (mezzo-piano) is indicated for the Cantor, Soprano, and Bass parts.

cresc. *mf*
3. dash your foot 'gainst a stone. _____ Li - on or vi - per might

cresc. *mf*
3. dash your foot 'gainst a stone. _____ Li - on or vi - per might

cresc. *mf*

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "3. dash your foot 'gainst a stone. _____ Li - on or vi - per might". The middle staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "3. dash your foot 'gainst a stone. _____ Li - on or vi - per might". The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. Above the first two staves, there is a dynamic marking *mf* and a crescendo hairpin *cresc.* that spans across the first two staves. Above the piano accompaniment staff, there is a dynamic marking *mf* and a crescendo hairpin *cresc.* that spans across the first two staves.

cresc. *f dim.*
3. strike_ at your life, but you will not come ___ to harm. _____

cresc. *f dim.*
3. strike_ at your life, but you will not come ___ to harm. _____

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f dim.*

The second system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "3. strike_ at your life, but you will not come ___ to harm. _____". The middle staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "3. strike_ at your life, but you will not come ___ to harm. _____". The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. Above the first two staves, there is a dynamic marking *f dim.* and a crescendo hairpin *cresc.* that spans across the first two staves. Above the piano accompaniment staff, there is a dynamic marking *f* and a crescendo hairpin *cresc.* that spans across the first two staves. Above the piano accompaniment staff, there is also a dynamic marking *f dim.* and a crescendo hairpin *cresc.* that spans across the last two staves.

REFRAIN:

mf
Be with me, Lord; be with me, Lord, when
Be with me, Lord, _____ when

mf
Be with me, Lord; be with me, Lord, when —

mf
Be — with — me:

mf

I am in trou - ble and need. _____

I am in trou - ble and need. _____

I — am — in — trou - ble and need. _____

VERSE 4:

mf

4. Cling to the Lord and he'll sure - ly de - liv - er you; he rais - es

mf

mf

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of Verse 4. The top staff is the vocal line, and the bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The vocal line begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "4. Cling to the Lord and he'll sure - ly de - liv - er you; he rais - es". The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

f

4. up all who call on his name. He will bring joy to your

f

f

Detailed description: This system contains the third and fourth staves of Verse 4. The vocal line continues with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "4. up all who call on his name. He will bring joy to your". The piano accompaniment continues with the same accompaniment pattern, maintaining the forte (*f*) dynamic.

dim. -----

4. hearts ___ and ___ bless you with peace in all ___ your days. _____

dim. -----

dim. -----

Detailed description: This system contains the fifth and sixth staves of Verse 4. The vocal line concludes with a decrescendo (*dim.*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "4. hearts ___ and ___ bless you with peace in all ___ your days. _____". The piano accompaniment also concludes with a decrescendo (*dim.*) dynamic. The system ends with a double bar line.

FINAL REFRAIN: All

mp

Be with me, Lord; be with me, Lord, when

mp

(CODA)

I am in trou - ble and need. _____

p

rit.

Performance Notes

This setting of Psalm 91 is intended to offer a contrast to my earlier setting, “On Eagle’s Wings.” It continues to be a celebration of God’s protection, but the concluding oracle appears in this setting (verse four) as a direct command to the assembly, (or in the alternate text as a confident declaration). The text of the Refrain is an adaptation of the appointed text when this psalm is used as the common responsorial psalm during Lent.

I have used this setting of Psalm 91 at wakes, funerals, and graveside services; in communal celebrations of the Anointing of the Sick; at Communal Penance services; and during Lenten Eucharistic Celebrations. It is appointed for use as the responsorial psalm of the First Sunday of Lent (Year C), and is also a common psalm for the Lenten season. In the Liturgy of the Hours, it is sung each week as the psalm at Sunday Compline.

The melodic line in the right hand of the Intro/Coda may be taken by two C wind or string instruments (preferably oboe and flute). I try to give variety to the first three verses by having them sung by different timbres of cantorial voices: female, male, or a small schola. Verse four should be sung with real strength in contrast to the more delicate earlier verses and refrain.

—*M.J.*

Be With Me, Lord (Be With Me, God)

(Optional Inclusive-Language Text)

REFRAIN:

Be with me, God; be with me, God, when I am in trouble and need.

1. You who dwell in the shelter of God, Most High,
who abide in Almighty’s shade,
say to your God: “My refuge, my stronghold,
my God in whom I trust!”
2. Evil shall never befall you,
nor affliction come near to your tent.
Unto the angels God’s given a command
to guard you in all your ways.

3. (no change)

4. You will deliver us, O God, we cling to you:
you raise us up when we call on your name.
You will bring joy to our hearts
and bless us with peace in all our days.

Be With Me, Lord

for Ron Lewinski
(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on Psalm 91:15, 1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-16

Michael Joncas

INTRO: (♩ = ca. 108)

Capo 1: (E) (A) (F#m) (B7) (C#m) (Am) (E)
F Bb Gm C7 Dm Bbm F

REFRAIN: 1st time: Cantor; Each time thereafter: All

(E) (A) (F#m) (B7) (C#m) (Am) 1 (E)
F Bb Gm C7 Dm Bbm F D.S.

p - mp - mf

Be with me, Lord; be with me, Lord, when I am in trou-ble and need. ____

2-5 Final
F to Verses (E) (E) (A) (F#m) (B7) (C#m) (Am) (E)
F F Bb Gm C7 Dm Bbm rit. F Fine

need. ____ need. ____

VERSE 1:

(E) (Am6) (E)
p F Bbm6 F

1. You who dwell in the shel-ter of God, Most High, who a-bide in Al-

(Am6) (F) (F#°)
Bbm6 Gb G°
cresc. mp

1. might - y's shade, _____ say to the Lord: ____ "My

(Em) (C) (Am) (F#°) (B7sus4) (B7)
cresc. mf dim. D.S.
Fm Db Bbm G° Csus4 C7

1. ref - uge, my strong - hold, my God in whom I trust!" ____

VERSE 2: Cantor

(E) (Am6) (E)
p F Bbm6 F

2. E - vil shall nev - er be - fall you, _____ nor af - flic - tion come

(Am6) (F) (F#°)
Bbm6 Gb G°
cresc. ----- mp

2. near to your tent. _____ Un - to his an - gels he's

(Em) (C) (Am) (F#°) (B7sus4) (B7)
Fm Db Bbm G° Csus4 C7
cresc. ----- mf dim. ----- D.S.

2. giv - en com-mand to guard you in all your ways. _____

VERSE 3:

(E) (Am6) (E)
F Bbm6 F
mp

3. On their hands the an - gels will bear you up, lest you dash your

(Am6) (F) (F#°)
Bbm6 Gb G°
cresc. ----- mf

3. foot 'gainst a stone. _____ Li - on or vi - per might

(Em) (C) (Am) (F#°) (B7sus4) (B7)
Fm Db Bbm G° C7sus4 C7
cresc. ----- f dim. ----- D.S.

3. strike _ at your life, but you will not come _ to harm. _____

VERSE 4:

(Am) (D) (Gmaj7) (C) (F)
Bbm Eb Abmaj7 Db Gb
mf

4. Cling to the Lord and he'll sure - ly de - liv - er you; he rais - es

(Dm7) (E) (E7) (Am) (D)
Eb7 F F7 Bbm Eb
cresc. ----- f

4. up all who call on his name. He will bring joy to your

(Gmaj7) (C) (Am) (F#°) (B7sus4) (B7)
Abmaj7 Db Bbm G° C7sus4 C7
dim. ----- D.S.

4. hearts and bless you with peace in all your days. _____

Be With Me, Lord

FLUTE

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Lyrical* (♩ = ca. 108)

8va ad lib.

REFRAIN:

VERSE 1:

REFRAIN:

VERSE 2:

REFRAIN:

VERSE 4:

FINAL REFRAIN:

(CODA)

8va ad lib.

Be With Me, Lord

15

OBOE

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Lyrical* (♩ = ca. 108)

8va ad lib.

p

REFRAIN:

VERSE 1:

REFRAIN:

VERSE 2:

4 (Flute) 8 *8va ad lib.*

p

cresc. -----

REFRAIN:

loco

cresc. ----- mf dim. ----- mp

VERSE 3:

REFRAIN:

8 4

8 4

VERSE 4:

FINAL REFRAIN:

8

mf

(CODA)

8va ad lib.

p rit. Fine

Assembly Edition

BE WITH ME, LORD

Michael Joncas

REFRAIN: 1st time: Cantor, All repeat; thereafter: All
 Be with me, Lord; be with me, Lord, when I am in trou-ble and need. _____

Fine VERSE 1: Cantor

1. You who dwell in the shel-ter of God, Most High, Who a-bide in Al-might - y's shade, _____ Say to the Lord: _____ "My
 1. ref - uge, my strong-hold, My God in whom I trust!" _____
 to Refrain

VERSE 2: Cantor

2. E - vil shall nev - er be - fall you, _____ Nor af - flic - tion come
 2. near to your tent. _____ Un - to his an - gels he's
 to Refrain

2. giv - en com-mand To guard you in all your ways. _____

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BE WITH ME, LORD (Continued)

VERSE 3: Cantor/Choir

3. On their hands the an - gels will bear you up, lest you dash your foot 'gainst a stone. _____ Li - on or vi - per might
 to Refrain

3. strike _____ at your life, but you will not come _____ to harm. _____

VERSE 4: Choir

4. Cling to the Lord and he'll sure - ly de - liv - er you; he rais - es
 4. up all who call on his name. He will bring joy to your
 to Refrain

4. hearts and bless you with peace in all your days. _____