

Here at This Table

Janèt Sullivan Whitaker
and Max Whitaker

INTRO *Andante* (♩. = ca. 56)

Keyboard *mp*

B♭ B♭/D E♭ F Gm

Cm Dsus4 Gm E♭ Cm F B♭ E♭/B♭

REFRAIN

Soprano *f (a tempo)*

Alto

Tenor

Bass *f (a tempo)*

Come _____ and be filled here _____ at this

B♭ F B♭ B♭/D E♭ F

f (a tempo)

ta-ble. _____ Food for all who hun-ger _____ and drink for all who

B♭ E♭ D Gm Cm

thirst. Drink of his love, wine of sal -

Fsus4 F Bb Bb/D Eb F

va - tion. You shall live for - ev - er in Je - sus Christ the

Gm Cm Dsus4 Gm Eb Cm F

1, 2, 4 Lord. 3, 5 Lord.

1, 2, 4 Bb Eb/Bb Bb to Verses 1, 2, 4 3, 5 Bb Eb/Bb Bb to Verses 3, 5

Here at This Table

Final
mp

Lord. You shall live for - ev - er in

mp

Final
Gm Cm Dsus4 Gm Eb

mp

pp **Fine**

Je - sus Christ the Lord.

pp

Cm F B \flat E \flat /B \flat B \flat F7/B \flat B \flat **Fine**

pp

VERSES 1, 2, 4

mp

1. You who la - bor for jus - tice, _____ you who la - bor for
 2. You with lives full of pain, _____ you who sor - row and
 4. You, the a - ged a - mong us, _____ ho - ly, faith - ful and

Fm B \flat B \flat /D Fm

mp

Melody

Harmony

1. peace, _____ you who stead - y the plow _____ in the
 2. weep, _____ you, be - lov - ed of Christ, _____ come to
 4. wise, _____ may the wis - dom you share _____ form our

B \flat Cm Dm

D.S.

1. field _____ of the Lord, _____
 2. him, _____ come to him! _____
 4. lives _____ and our world! _____

E \flat B \flat /D Cm B \flat F B \flat /F F7 *D.S.*

VERSES 3, 5

Melody

Harmony

3. Chil - dren of ev - 'ry col-or — in ev - 'ry land,
 5. Let each wom - an and man — learn from the strang - er; —

3. you are his own, he gath - ers you gent - ly. —
 5. we're not so dif - f'rent — and so much u - nites — us. —

ff

3. Don't you grow wea - ry, for when you
5. For we are one, blest with the

F B \flat D7 Gm E \flat

ff

molto rit. *D.S.*

3. run, you run with the Lord!
5. Spir - it and the pow - er of love!

B \flat /F F F7 B \flat /F F *D.S.*

molto rit.

Here at This Table

(Guitar/Vocal)

Janèt Sullivan Whitaker
and Max Whitaker

INTRO *Andante* (♩. = ca. 56)

Capo 3: (G) (G/B) (C) (D) (Em) (Am) (Bsus4)
B♭ B♭/D E♭ F Gm Cm Dsus4

mp

(Keyboard)

REFRAIN

(Em) (C) (Am) (D) (G) (C/G) (G) (D) (G) (G/B) (C)
Gm E♭ Cm F B♭ E♭/B♭ B♭ F B♭ B♭/D E♭

f (a tempo)

Come _____ and be filled

(D) (G) (C) (B) (Em) (Am)
F B♭ E♭ D Gm Cm

here _____ at this ta - ble. _____ Food for all who hun - ger _____ and drink for

(Dsus4) (D) (G) (G/B) (C) (D) (Em)
Fsus4 F B♭ B♭/D E♭ F Gm

all who thirst. _____ Drink _____ of his love, wine _____ of sal - va - tion. _____

(Am) (Bsus4) (Em) (C) (Am) (D) 1, 2, 4 to Verses 1, 2, 4
Cm Dsus4 Gm E♭ Cm F B♭ E♭/B♭ B♭

You shall live for - ev - er _____ in Je - sus Christ the Lord. _____

3, 5 Final
(G) (C/G) (G) (Em) (Am) (Bsus4) (Em) (C)
B♭ E♭/B♭ B♭ to Verses 3, 5 Gm Cm Dsus4 Gm E♭
mp

Lord. _____ Lord. _____ You shall live for - ev - er _____ in

(Am) (D) (G) (C/G) (G) (D7/G) (G)
Cm F B♭ E♭/B♭ B♭ F7/B♭ B♭

pp *Fine*

Je - sus Christ the Lord. _____

VERSES 1, 2, 4

(Dm) Fm *mp* (G) B \flat (G/B) B \flat /D (Dm) Fm

1. You who la - bor for jus - tice, _____ you who la - bor for
 2. You with lives full of pain, _____ you who sor - row and
 4. You, the a - ged a - mong us, _____ ho - ly, faith - ful and

(G) B \flat (Am) Cm (Bm) Dm

1. peace, _____ you who stead - y the plow _____ in the
 2. weep, _____ you, be - lov - ed of Christ, _____ come to
 4. wise, _____ may the wis - dom you share _____ form our

(C) E \flat (G/B) B \flat /D (Am) Cm (G) B \flat (D) F (G/D) B \flat /F (D7) F7 *D.S.*

1. field _____ of the Lord, _____
 2. him, _____ come to him!
 4. lives _____ and our world!

VERSES 3, 5

(D) F (C) E \flat (G) B \flat

3. Chil - dren of ev - 'ry col - or _____ in ev - 'ry land,
 5. Let each wom - an and man _____ learn from the strang - er; _____

(D) F (C) E \flat (G) B \flat

3. you are his own, _____ he gath - ers you gent - ly. _____
 5. we're not so dif - f'rent _____ and so much u - nites _____ us. _____

(D) F (G) B \flat (B7) D7 (Em) Gm (C) E \flat *ff*

3. Don't you grow wea - ry, _____ for when you
 5. For we are one, _____ blest with the

(G/D) B \flat /F (D) F (D7) F7 (G/D) B \flat /F (D) F *molto rit.* *D.S.*

3. run, _____ 7 you run with the Lord! _____
 5. Spir - it _____ and the pow - er of love! _____

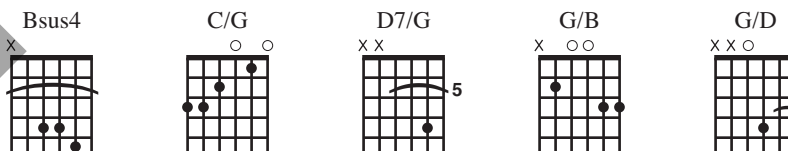
Performance Notes

As much as a I love to use percussion, I have found that adding rhythmic instruments tends to drive this piece faster and louder by the minute, rendering it perhaps more bombastic than is absolutely necessary. I feel that it speaks most profoundly when kept to a processional-walking pace. There should be a somewhat expansive *ritenuto/crescendo* coming out of the verses, which invites everyone back into the refrain. The connecting measure between the refrain and the beginning of verses 1, 2 and 4 should *decrecendo*, while those leading into verse 3 and 5 should *crescendo* dramatically. It's a long song, so it helps to use some *rubato* and dynamic variation to keep it moving forward. Accompanied simply by piano (and perhaps bass, playing the chord changes on beats 1 and 4) the emphasis remains on the voices, and keeps it from growing so clangorous as to obscure the meaning of the text.

People often ask me about Max Whitaker, the person with whom I share writing credit for this song. Max is my son, and the writing credit explanation has come to be dubbed The French Toast Story. Here is the abridged version:

The refrain for the song was sung spontaneously by Max (then 6 years old) on his way to the breakfast table. His original text was decidedly secular: "Eat and be filled/come and have French toast/warm with melted butter/and powdered sugar, too..." Then he stopped! I so wanted him to go on, but by then he was too embarrassed—and hungry. The moment was gone. But later that morning, I added a consequence to his melodic antecedent, words to make it a Eucharistic refrain, and verses. The choir was introduced to it the following Thursday evening, and the rest of the assembly the weekend after that. Since then it has been translated into Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese by various communities in our Oakland diocese, and it seems to have found its way into a number of our large liturgical celebrations. I like the fact that "Here at this Table" was born in an ordinary family moment, at our family breakfast table. It can be a cluttered and crowded place, this table, and a myriad of life-events unfold here without much to-do. But isn't it also here that all the really important things happen? Not unlike the table of the Lord, around which we gather to be filled, and to become ourselves the living Body of Christ.

—Janet Sullivan Whitaker



Assembly Edition

HERE AT THIS TABLE

Janet Sullivan Whitaker
and Max Whitaker

REFRAIN

Come _____ and be filled here _____ at this ta-ble. _____

Food for all who hun-ger _____ and drink for all who thirst. _____

Drink _____ of his love, wine _____ of sal - va - tion. _____

You shall live for - ev - er _____ in Je - sus Christ the _____

Lord. _____

1-5 to Verses Final

ev - er _____ in Je - sus Christ the Lord. _____

Fine

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HERE AT THIS TABLE (Continued)

VERSES 1, 2, 4

1. You who la - bor for jus - tice, _____ you who la - bor for
2. You with lives full of pain, _____ you who sor - row and
4. You, the a - ged a - mong us, _____ ho - ly, faith - ful and

1. peace, you who stead - y the plow _____ in the
2. weep, you, be - lov - ed of Christ, _____ come to
4. wise, may the wis - dom you share _____ form our
to Refrain

1. field _____ of the Lord,
2. him, _____ come to him!
4. lives _____ and our world!

VERSES 3, 5

3. Chil - dren of ev - 'ry col - or _____ in ev - 'ry land,
5. Let each wom - an and man _____ learn from the strang - er; —

3. you are his own, he gath - ers you gent - ly. _____
5. we're not so dif - f'rent _____ and so much u - nites _____ us. _____

3. Don't you grow wea - ry, _____ for when you
5. For we are one, _____ blest with the
to Refrain

3. run, _____ you run with the Lord!
5. Spir - it _____ and the pow - er of love!

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