

Roll Away The Stone

Tom Conry
Keyboard Accompaniment by Rick Modlin

INTRO: ($\text{♩} = 60-66$)

Keyboard

VERSES: Cantor

Descant

4. All who thirst shall taste the wa - ter,

Melody

1. They have been say - ing
2. They have been say - ing
3. They have been say - ing
4. They have been say - ing

© 1993, 1994, TEAM publications. Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

4. all the blind shall find their way, all _____ the death that

1. all our plans are emp - ty. They have been
 2. no one will re - mem - ber. They have been
 3. no one hears the sing - ing. They have been
 4. "All of us are dy - ing." They have been

4. now sur-rounds us, falls a - part as if to say: Roll, _____

1. say - ing "Where is their God now?"
 2. say - ing pow - er rules the world.
 3. say - ing all our strength is gone.
 4. say - ing "All of us are dead."

cresc.

REFRAIN:

(Descant)

oh, roll a-way the stone.

(Cantor)

Roll a-way the stone, see the glo-ry of God.

mf

This system contains three staves. The top staff is a descant for the vocal line, starting with a half note G4 and a whole note G4. The middle staff is the cantor's part, starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter rest, and finally a triplet of quarter notes G4, A4, and B4. The bottom staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a half note G3 and a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4, then a quarter rest, and finally a triplet of quarter notes G3, A3, and B3. The piano part is marked *mf*.

Oh, roll a-way the stone.

Roll a-way the stone.

cresc.

This system contains three staves. The top staff is the vocal line, starting with a half note G4 and a whole note G4. The middle staff is the cantor's part, starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter rest, and finally a quarter note G4. The bottom staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a half note G3 and a half note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4, then a quarter rest, and finally a triplet of quarter notes G3, A3, and B3. The piano part is marked *cresc.*

Descant
Roll, _____ oh, _____ roll a-way the stone. _____

Soprano/Melody
Roll a-way the stone, see the glo-ry of God. _____

Alto
Roll a-way, roll a-way, see the glo-ry of God. _____

Tenor
Roll a-way the stone, oh, see the glo-ry of _____

Bass
Roll a-way, roll a-way, roll a-way, roll the

The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) in G major. The right hand features a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure. The left hand provides harmonic support with chords and a simple bass line.

Oh, roll a-way the stone. **1-3** to Verses

Roll a-way the stone. **1-3** to Verses

Roll a-way the stone.

God. Roll a-way the stone.

stone. Roll, roll a-way the stone.

decresc. **1-3** to Verses

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems. The first system is a vocal line with lyrics 'Oh, roll a-way the stone.' and a first ending bracket labeled '1-3' leading to 'to Verses'. The second system is another vocal line with lyrics 'Roll a-way the stone.' and a similar first ending. The third system is a vocal line with lyrics 'Roll a-way the stone.'. The fourth system contains two vocal lines: the upper line has lyrics 'God. Roll a-way the stone.' and the lower line has lyrics 'stone. Roll, roll a-way the stone.'. The fifth system is the piano accompaniment, featuring a treble and bass clef. The right hand has a melodic line with a first ending bracket labeled '1-3' and a 'decresc.' marking. The left hand provides harmonic support with chords and a bass line.

The musical score consists of five vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. Each vocal staff begins with the lyrics "stone." and ends with "stone." in the final measure. The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The score is divided into two main sections: a first section marked "4-5" and a second section marked "Final". The first section concludes with a "D.S." (Da Capo) instruction, and the second section concludes with a "Final" instruction. The piece ends with a "Fine" marking. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "Preview" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Roll Away The Stone

(Guitar/Vocal)

Tom Conry

INTRO: (♩ = 60-66)

BmaddG Cmaj9

VERSES: Cantor

BmaddG

Cadd9

Melody

1. They have been say - ing all our plans are emp - ty.
2. They have been say - ing no one will re - mem - ber.
3. They have been say - ing no one hears the sing - ing.
4. They have been say - ing "All of us are dy - ing."

Descant

4. All who thirst shall taste the wa - ter, all the blind shall find their way, all —

BmaddG

Cadd9

C6

1. They have been say - ing "Where is their God now?"
2. They have been say - ing pow - er rules the world.
3. They have been say - ing all our strength is gone.
4. They have been say - ing "All of us are dead."

Descant

4. — the death that now sur - rounds us, falls a - part as if to say: Roll, —

REFRAIN:

G D C Em D Dsus4 G C Dsus4

Cantor:

Roll a - way the stone, see the glo - ry of God. — Roll a - way the stone.

Descant

oh, — roll a - way the stone. Oh, roll a - way the stone.

%
G
Gsus4
G
D
C
Em
D

Melody/All

Roll a-way — the stone, see the glo-ry of God.

Descant

Roll, _____ oh, _____ roll a-way the stone. Oh,

Alto

Roll a-way, roll a-way, see the glo-ry of God. _____

Tenor

Roll a-way the stone, oh, see the glo-ry of God.

Bass

Roll a-way, roll a-way, roll a-way, roll the stone.

<p>G C</p> <p>1-3 Dsus4</p>	<p>to Verses</p>	<p>4-5 Dsus4</p>	<p>D.S.</p>	<p>Final Dsus4</p>	<p>Fine</p>
---------------------------------	------------------	----------------------	-------------	------------------------	-------------

Roll a-way the stone. stone. stone.

<p>1-3</p>	<p>to Verses</p>	<p>4-5</p>	<p>D.S.</p>	<p>Final</p>	<p>Fine</p>
------------	------------------	------------	-------------	--------------	-------------

roll a-way the stone. stone. stone.

Roll a-way the stone. stone. stone.

Roll a-way the stone. stone. stone.

Roll, roll a-way the stone. stone. stone.

Performance Notes

Roll Away The Stone is taken from the story of The Raising of Lazarus (John 11:1–45), which is the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A. (The Third Scrutiny in the catechumenate.)

The song sets up a contrast between the Verses (sung by a Cantor or a Schola or a section) and a Refrain done by the entire Assembly with the Choir providing a big harmonization. The Verses are challenges — what “they have been saying” about us (Ezekiel). The Assembly gets to answer in the words of Jesus, “Roll away the stone.”

So: the guitarists *pick* the Verses and *strum* the Refrains. On the recording from *The Fire Within The Night* (Editions 9896, 9897), one guitarist played capoed on the 8th fret (it was recorded in F minor; if you’re playing in E minor, you’d place the capo on the 7th fret) and played in A minor. The other guitarist played without a capo.

Make sure to establish the melody of the Refrain before allowing the Choir to begin all the counter-melodies in the harmonization. Note that the full harmonization (with the soprano descant) only occurs after Verse 4. If you’ve got a couple of sopranos who can nail the high A, then go for it. If not, let it go by; the harmony works just fine without it.

The Descant against Verse 4 can be sung by one soprano or a small section, but the Verse itself ought to continue to dominate rather than the Descant.

— T.C.

Assembly Edition

ROLL AWAY THE STONE

Tom Conry

VERSES: Cantor



1. They have been say- ing all our plans are emp - ty.
2. They have been say- ing no one will re - mem - ber.
3. They have been say- ing no one hears the sing - ing.
4. They have been say- ing "All of us are dy - ing."



1. They have been say- ing "Where is their God now?"
2. They have been say- ing pow - er rules the world.
3. They have been say- ing all our strength is gone.
4. They have been say- ing "All of us are dead."

REFRAIN: Cantor, All repeat



Roll a - way the stone, see the glo - ry of



God. Roll a - way the stone.

Fine

© 1993, TEAM publications. Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

For reprint permissions, please visit OneLicense.net or contact us at 1-800-663-1501.