

Composer Notes

John Becker's "Litany of the Saints" has earned a solid place in the repertoire of the Catholic liturgical world. The simple but highly memorable tune has been sung and enjoyed by assemblies worldwide.

In 1997 I was asked to do a project called "Songs of the Good Shepherd" for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, a Montessori-based children's religious education program. The teachers went through the lessons and said "It would be great if we had a song that taught the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2-4) and Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) to the children!" I decided to use this familiar tune so that it would be easy for the children to learn the gifts and fruits. I contacted John, and he agreed it was a good idea.

Our hope is that this new arrangement of a well-loved tune will give this Litany an even wider audience and be useful in the prayer of the Church, from Confirmation to the Easter Vigil, to Pentecost, and really any gathering for prayer that calls forth the Holy Spirit. We have added three-part harmony on the verses, SATB parts to the refrain, and a new piano accompaniment. There are also new violin parts as well as the original parts for two C instruments, adapted to fit this new format. *Come, Holy Spirit...*

—Paul Hillebrand
(with John Becker)

Litany of the Spirit

Paul Hillebrand, based on
Isaiah 11:2-4, Galatians 5:22-23

Paul Hillebrand and John D. Becker

INTRO *Gently flowing* (♩ = ca. 92)

Cantors

Lord, have mer - cy.

All

Lord, have

Keyboard

A add9

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

E/G# Dadd9/F# A/E

mer - cy. 1. Spir-it of

Lord, have mer - cy.

Dadd9 A add9/C# Bm E

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VERSES

Cantors

1. wis - dom, Spir-it of coun - sel, Spir-it of
 2. love, _____ Spir-it of joy, _____ Spir-it of

Soprano/All

Alto fill our hearts. fill our hearts.

Tenor/Bass (unis.)

A add9 E/G# D add9/F# A/E

1. for - ti - tude, Spir - it of pi - e - ty,
 2. peace, _____ Spir - it of pa - tience,

fill our hearts. fill our

D add9 A add9/C# B m

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems. The first system is for the Cantors, with two verses of lyrics. The second system is for the Soprano/Alto and Tenor/Bass (unison), with lyrics 'fill our hearts.' and 'fill our hearts.' The piano accompaniment for the first system is shown in the third system, with chords A add9, E/G#, D add9/F#, and A/E. The second system of the Cantors and Soprano/Alto parts is in the fourth system, with lyrics '1. for - ti - tude, Spir - it of pi - e - ty, 2. peace, _____ Spir - it of pa - tience,' and 'fill our hearts. fill our'. The piano accompaniment for the second system is in the fifth system, with chords D add9, A add9/C#, and B m.

3

1. Spir - it of un - der - stand - ing,
2. Spir - it of ___ kind - ness,

‡ Fear ___ of the
gen - er - os - i - ty and

hearts. fill our hearts.

E A add9 E/G#

Detailed description: This system contains the first three measures of the piece. The vocal line starts with a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) followed by a quarter note (C5) and a half note (D5). The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. The guitar chords are E, A add9, and E/G#.

1. Lord, ___ Spir - it of knowl - edge,
2. faith - ful - ness, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness,

fill our hearts. fill our

Dadd9/F# A/E Dadd9

Detailed description: This system contains the next three measures. The vocal line continues with a quarter note (E5), a quarter note (D5), and a half note (C5). The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The guitar chords are Dadd9/F#, A/E, and Dadd9.

1. Spir - it of ___ cour - age,
2. Spir - it of self - con - trol, ___

hearts. fill our hearts.

A add9/C# Cmaj7 E

REFRAIN: All

S
A
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, dwell ___ in ___

T
B
A add9 C#m7 D E

us! Come, O Ho - ly

A add9 E A add9 C#m7

Spir - it, dwell in us!

D E A add9

1 Cantors Final
2. Spir - it of

1 E Final E A add9
rit.

Litany of the Spirit

(Guitar/Vocal)

Paul Hillebrand, based on
Isaiah 11:2-4, Galatians 5:22-23

Paul Hillebrand and John D. Becker

INTRO *Gently flowing* (♩ = ca. 92)

Cantors

All

A add9 E/G# Dadd9/F#

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

A/E Dadd9 Aadd9/C# Bm E

Lord, have mer - cy. 1. Spir - it of

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

VERSES

A add9 E/G# Dadd9/F# A/E

1. wis - dom, Spir - it of coun - sel, Spir - it of
2. love, — Spir - it of joy, — Spir - it of

1, 2. fill our hearts. fill our hearts.

Dadd9 Aadd9/C# Bm

1. for - ti - tude, Spir - it of pi - e - ty,
2. peace, — Spir - it of pa - tience,

1, 2. fill our hearts. fill our

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E Aadd9 E/G#

1. Spir - it of un - der - stand - ing, Fear of the
 2. Spir - it of kind - ness, gen - er - os - i - ty and

1, 2. hearts. fill our hearts.

Dadd9/F# A/E Dadd9

1. Lord, Spir - it of knowl - edge,
 2. faith - ful - ness, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness,

1, 2. fill our hearts. fill our

Aadd9/C# Cmaj7 E

1. Spir - it of cour - age,
 2. Spir - it of self - con - trol,

1, 2. hearts. fill our hearts.

REFRAIN: All

Aadd9 C#m7 D E Aadd9 E

Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, dwell in us.

Aadd9 C#m7 D E Aadd9

Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, dwell in us.

1 Cantors E Aadd9
 2. Spir - it of rit.

Litany of the Spirit

SOLO INSTRUMENT I & II in C

Paul Hillebrand and John D. Becker

INTRO *Gently flowing* (♩ = ca. 92) 10 **VERSE 1** 16

I
II

REFRAIN

VERSE 2

REFRAIN

rit.

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Litany of the Spirit

*VIOLIN I & II

Paul Hillebrand and John D. Becker

INTRO *Gently flowing* (♩ = ca. 92) **10** **16**

VERSE 1

REFRAIN

VERSE 2

REFRAIN

Final

rit.

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*Not intended to be used together with Solo Instrument I & II.

Assembly Edition

LITANY OF THE SPIRIT

Paul Hillebrand and John D. Becker

2 Repeat each invocation immediately after the Cantor

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. (Cantor invocation: "Spirit of wisdom,")

Verses (Sing four times)

fill our hearts. (Invocation) fill our hearts.

Refrain

Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, dwell in us.

1 2, Final to Verses

Verses text: Based on Isaiah 11:2-4, Galatians 5:22-23, © 2015, Paul Hillebrand.
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