

Akwaaba! Welcome!

Ken Canedo, Vallimar Jansen, Sarah Kroger,
Ben Walther, and Greg Walton

Acc. by Ken Canedo

REFRAIN *Spirited* (♩ = ca. 113)

Cantor A - kwaa - ba! _ **All** A - kwaa - ba! _

Cantor Wel - come! _ **All** Wel - come! _ **Cantor** A - kwaa - ba! _ **All** A -

Cantor kwaa - ba! _ **All** Wel - come! _ **All** Wel - come! _ **All** A -

Chord markings: E, E/G#, A, B, B/D#, A

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Play Refrain once as Intro.
"Akwaaba" is pronounced ah-KWAH-buh

The musical score is divided into two systems. The first system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has two parts: '2 All' and 'Final All', both with the lyrics 'Wel - come! _'. The piano accompaniment has two parts: '2' and 'Final', with chords E, E/G#, A, and E. The second system includes a 'Cantor' vocal line and piano accompaniment. The Cantor part has two phrases: 'Wel - come! _' and 'Wel - come! _', ending with 'Fine'. The piano accompaniment has chords E, E/G#, A, E, E/G#, A, and E, ending with 'Fine'. A large 'Preview' watermark is overlaid on the score.

VERSES

Cantor

1. This is the place to bring down the might - y. _____
 place. The great - est are least. _____
 2. King-dom of God! Our sis - ters and broth - ers, _____
 God! No strife or di - vi - sion. _____

All

1. This is the place to
 This is the place. The
 2. King-dom of God! Our
 King-dom of God! No

A E A E

1. _____ The low - ly are lift - ed. 7
 _____ The least are the great - est. 7
 2. _____ our fa - thers and moth - ers: 7
 _____ One Spir - it, one mis - sion, one

1. bring down the might - y. The low - ly are lift - ed. _____
 great - est are least. _____
 2. sis - ters and broth - ers, The least are the great - est. _____
 strife or di - vi - sion. our fa - thers and moth - ers: _____
 One Spir - it, one mis - sion, _____

A E B E B

1. All are set free.
Heav - en - ly feast.

2. one fam - i - ly!
Bod - y of Christ.

This is the A -
King - dom of

1. — 7 All are set free.
— 7 Heav - en - ly feast.
2. — 7 one fam - i - ly!
— one Bod - y of Christ.

E A E E

Composer Notes

There are over 80 languages spoken throughout Ghana, but “Akwaaba,” a word from the Akan tribe, is the most universally accepted way to greet people who visit this enchanting African nation. When we Spirit & Song composers stepped off our plane at Accra airport, people smiled warmly as they said, “Akwaaba,” which literally means, “You are welcome!”

Catholic Relief Services hosted our remarkable journey through Ghana in 2013. As we toured the country, new friends in every village serenaded us with lively singing and dancing. We noticed that many of the songs had an enticing “call and response” structure that invited immediate participation as people took their cues from the song leader. This was also evident in their sacred music when we celebrated Sunday liturgy at Sacred Heart Cathedral in the city of Bolgatanga.

“Akwaaba! Welcome!” is a song of thanksgiving to our friends in Ghana. In ten short days, they shared so much of themselves through their stories, their friendship, and their unhesitating hospitality. We pray that our song will find a home in any multicultural community as the simple word “Akwaaba” invites the assembly into the reality of the universal Church.

—Ken Canedo, ValLimar Jansen, Sarah Kroger, Ben Walther, Greg Walton

Akwaaba! Welcome!

(Guitar/Vocal)

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Melody

E E/G# A E E/G# A E E/G# A

Cantor All **Cantor**

A - kwaa - ba! A - kwaa - ba! Wel - come!

Harmony

E E/G# A B B/D# E B B/D# A

All **Cantor** **All**

Wel - come! A - kwaa - ba! A - kwaa - ba!

1 2

E E/G# A E E/G# A E E/G# A E

Cantor **All** **Cantor** **All** **to Verses**

Wel - come! Wel - come! A - Wel - come!

Final

E E/G# A E E/G# A E E/G# A E

All **Cantor** **All** **Fine**

Wel - come! Wel - come! Wel - come!

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Assembly Edition

AKWAABA! WELCOME!

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and Greg Walton

Refrain

Cantor All Cantor

A - kwa - ba! A - kwa - ba! Wel - come!

All Cantor All

Wel - come! A - kwa - ba! A - kwa - ba!

Cantor 1 All 2 All to Verses (Fine)

Wel - come! Wel - come! Wel - come!

Verses

Cantor All Cantor

1. This is the place This is the place to bring down the
place. This is the place. The great - est are
2. King - dom of God! King - dom of God! Our sis - ters and
God! King - dom of God! No strife or di -

All Cantor

1. might - y. to bring down the might - y. The low - ly are
least. The great - est are least. The least are the
2. broth - ers, Our sis - ters and broth - ers, our fa - thers and
vi - sion. No strife or di - vi - sion. One Spir - it, one

All Cantor

1. lift - ed. The low - ly are lift - ed. All are set
great - est. The least are the great - est. Heav - en - ly
2. moth - ers: our fa - thers and moth - ers: one fam - i -
mis - sion, One Spir - it, one mis - sion, one Bod - y of

All 1, 3 Cantor 2, 4 to Refrain

1. free. All are set free. This is the
feast. Heav - en - ly feast.
2. ly! one fam - i - ly! King - dom of
Christ. one Bod - y of Christ.

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