

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

SACRED ARRANGEMENTS FOR PIANO

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I can't remember a time when I didn't want to play the piano. My parents began my piano lessons when I was six. I think they decided it was time for lessons when they caught me out in the backyard sitting next to an overturned washtub, banging on it with my hands and pretending to be the church pianist. There were a lot of growing pains, but it was worth it. I knew even in grade school that, whatever the Lord had planned for me, music would surely play a major part.

In God's plan, I was privileged to attend Bob Jones University, where I earned my undergraduate and graduate degrees in piano performance. Afterward, I spent many wonderful years there on the music faculty. I taught, accompanied, performed, composed, arranged, recorded, and even traveled.

Now, I'm back home in San Antonio, Texas, where I do the music in my home church. I still teach, accompany, perform, compose, arrange, record, and travel. What a joy it has been to "serve the Lord with gladness" in the field of music!

In addition to my keyboard works, God has graciously allowed me to diversify my writing to include strings, brass, woodwinds, and various choral selections. Many of these are published by SoundForth.

God bless those along the way who taught me, even put up with me, as I learned to "play skillfully with a loud noise" (Ps. 33:3). My hope and prayer is that the work God has chosen for me will bring honor and glory to His name and that those who play and listen to the music I write will find it enjoyable and edifying.

Rebecka Bonam

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I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

American Folk Tune
Arranged by Rebecca Bonam

Moderato espressivo

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, featuring a key signature of one flat (B-flat major). It is divided into four systems of music.

- System 1:** Starts with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo). The tempo is *Moderato espressivo*. The music consists of a series of chords and moving lines in both hands.
- System 2:** Begins at measure 4. It includes dynamic markings of *poco rit.* (poco ritardando), *f* (forte), and *accel.* (accelerando). A *8va* marking is present in the bass line. The tempo changes to *a tempo* at the end of the system.
- System 3:** Begins at measure 7. It includes dynamic markings of *mp* (mezzo-piano), *rit.* (ritardando), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The tempo is *a tempo*. There is a change in time signature from 4/4 to 2/4 at measure 8, and back to 4/4 at measure 10.
- System 4:** Begins at measure 11. It includes a dynamic marking of *p* (piano). The music concludes with a final chord.

15

mf *mp*

19

mf *poco a poco cresc.* *simile*

22

25

f

28

poco a poco decresc.

31

mf

Measures 31-33: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 31 has a whole rest. Measures 32-33 feature a melodic line in the treble with chords in the bass. Dynamic marking *mf*.

34

8va
ten. >
a tempo
6
6
simile

Measures 34-36: Measure 34 has a whole rest. Measure 35 has a melodic line in the treble with a *ten. >* marking. Measure 36 has a melodic line in the treble with a *simile* marking. A *8va* marking is above the treble staff. A *a tempo* marking is above the treble staff. Two *6* markings are below the treble staff. The bass line has a whole rest in measure 34 and a 2/4 time signature in measure 35.

37

8va

Measures 37-39: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measures 37-39 feature a melodic line in the treble with chords in the bass. Dynamic marking *8va*.

40

8va
cresc.
f

Measures 40-42: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measures 40-42 feature a melodic line in the treble with chords in the bass. Dynamic markings *cresc.* and *f*. A *8va* marking is above the treble staff.

43

(8va)

Measures 43-45: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measures 43-45 feature a melodic line in the treble with chords in the bass. Dynamic marking *(8va)*.

Dedicated to Virginia "Annie" Glenn

When I Can Read My Title Clear

American Melody
Arranged by Rebecca Bonam

Allegro mon al troppo

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The first system begins with a dynamic marking of *f*. The second system starts at measure 4 and includes a dynamic marking of *sub. p*. The third system starts at measure 7. The fourth system starts at measure 10 and includes a dynamic marking of *sub. f* and a *sva* (sustained) marking above the treble clef staff. The piece concludes with a final chord in the bass clef staff.

13 *(8va)*

sub. p

8va

16

f

19

non rit.

22 *simile*

simile

25

Count Your Blessings

Edwin O. Excell
Arranged by Rebecca Bonam

Allegro moderato

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The first system starts with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The second system begins at measure 4 and features a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano). The third system begins at measure 7 and features a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The fourth system begins at measure 10. The music is characterized by a steady, rhythmic accompaniment with various chordal textures and melodic lines in both hands.

13

16

19 *a tempo*

mf

3 3 3 3 *simile*

22

f

25 *a tempo*

poco rit. \rightrightarrows *mp* *mf*

28

Musical notation for measures 28-30. Treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass line has a few notes, including a sharp sign.

31

Musical notation for measures 31-33. Treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The melody continues with eighth and sixteenth notes. A dynamic marking *f* is present. The bass line has a few notes.

34

Musical notation for measures 34-36. Treble clef with a key signature of one flat. Measure 34 has a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 35 has a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 36 has a triplet of eighth notes. Dynamic markings include *rit.*, *p*, and *poco a poco accel. e cresc.*. The bass line has a few notes.

37

Musical notation for measures 37-39. Treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The melody features chords and eighth notes. A dynamic marking *mf* is present. The bass line has a few notes.

40

Musical notation for measures 40-42. Treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The melody features chords and eighth notes. The bass line has a few notes.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther
Arranged by Rebecca Bonam

Un poco allegro

f

3

6

mf

9

legato

mp

8va

13

sub. *f*

8^{va}

17

Andante

p

21

pp

25

mp

p

29

un poco misterioso

pp

sfz

8^{va}

I Am a Poor, Wayfaring Stranger

American Folk Song
Arranged by Rebecca Bonam

Con semplice

p

con pedale

4

7

a tempo

poco rit.

mp

3

3

3

9

p

pp

8^{va}

12

poco rit.

16

a tempo
mp
p
rit.

17

a tempo
mp
mf

20

mf
8va

23

cresc.
f rit.
molto cresc.

26

8^{va} 6

3 9 6 6

3 9 6 6

This system contains measures 26 and 27. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower in bass clef. Measure 26 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. Measure 27 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. A dashed line labeled '8^{va}' spans the first measure of measure 27. Fingerings '3', '9', and '6' are indicated for various notes.

27

8^{va} 6

3 6 6 6

3 6

3 6

This system contains measures 27 and 28. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower in bass clef. Measure 27 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. Measure 28 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. A dashed line labeled '8^{va}' spans the first measure of measure 28. Fingerings '3', '6', and '5' are indicated for various notes.

28

8^{va} 5

8^{va}

This system contains measures 28 and 29. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower in bass clef. Measure 28 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. Measure 29 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. A dashed line labeled '8^{va}' spans the first measure of measure 29. Fingerings '5' and '8^{va}' are indicated for various notes.

29

6 6 3

6

This system contains measures 29 and 30. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower in bass clef. Measure 29 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. Measure 30 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. Fingerings '6', '6', and '3' are indicated for various notes.

30

8^{va} 5

8^{va}

This system contains measures 30 and 31. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower in bass clef. Measure 30 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. Measure 31 features a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass. A dashed line labeled '8^{va}' spans the first measure of measure 31. Fingerings '5' and '8^{va}' are indicated for various notes.

Angels We Have Heard on High

French Carol
Arranged by Rebecca Bonam

Allegro

mp *quasi detache* *f*

5

mp *mf*

9

mp

13

17

Musical score for measures 17-20. The right hand features chords and a melodic line, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

21

Musical score for measures 21-24. The right hand continues with chords and a melodic line, and the left hand maintains the eighth-note accompaniment.

25

Musical score for measures 25-28. The right hand has chords and a melodic line, and the left hand continues with the eighth-note accompaniment.

29

Musical score for measures 29-32. The right hand starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and then softens to mezzo-piano (*mp*). The left hand continues with the eighth-note accompaniment.

33

con delicatezza

Musical score for measures 33-36. The right hand has chords, and the left hand has a melodic line with a trill (*tr*) in the final measure. Dynamics include piano (*p*) and mezzo-piano (*mp*).

37

tr

p

tr

41

tr

un poco legato

45

tr

49

53

tr

p

How Firm a Foundation

Traditional American
Arranged by Rebecca Bonam

Spiritoso

Primo *f non legato*

Spiritoso

Secondo *mf*

4

P.

S. *non legato*

7

P.

S.

10

P.

S.

f

8va

13

P.

S.

mf

16

P.

f

S.

mf

19

P.

S.

8va

22

P.

S.

un poco legato

Detailed description: This page of a musical score contains three systems of music. The first system (measures 16-18) features a piano (P.) part with two staves in treble clef and a string (S.) part with two staves in bass clef. The piano part begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The string part begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second system (measures 19-21) continues the piano and string parts. The piano part has a dynamic of mezzo-forte. The string part includes a section marked *8va* (octave) with a dashed line. The third system (measures 22-24) shows the piano part with rests and the string part with a dynamic marking of *un poco legato*.

25

P.

S.

rit.

mp

28

P.

S.

molto legato

f

31

P.

S.