INDEX

Bold face *listings may also be used as free harmonizations for congregational singing. Many of the introductions can be shortened by following the directives within those settings.*

AURELIA 7
Samuel S. Wesley (1810–1876)

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN 31
Swedish folk tune, 14th century

BRADBURY 30
William B. Bradbury (1816–1868)

BROTHER JAMES' AIR 6
J. L. Macbeth Bain (c. 1840–1925)

BUNESSAN 8
Gaelic melody

CORONATION 9
Oliver Holden (1765–1844)

CWM RHONDDA 9
John Hughes (1873–1932)

DARWALL'S 148TH 7
John Darwall (1731–1789)

DIADEMATA 10
George J. Elvey (1816–1893)

DUKE STREET 10
Attributed to John Hatton (? –1793)

EASTER HYMN 11
Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

FOUNDATION 12
Early American melody

HOLY MANNA 12
Southern Harmony, 1835

HYFRYDOL 13
Rowland H. Prichard (1811–1887)

IN BABILONE 24
Dutch folk melody, 18th century

IN DULCI JUBILO 14
German carol, 14th century

ITALIAN HYMN 15
Felice de Giardini (1716–1796)

LAAST UNS ERFREUEN 16
Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

LAUDES DOMINI 15
Joseph Barnby (1838–1896)

LOBE DEN HERREN 17
Ernewerten Gesangbuch, Stralsund, 1665

MARION 5
Arthur H. Messiter (1834–1916)

MARYTON 30
H. Percy Smith (1825–1898)

MCKEE 18
African-American spiritual, adapted by Harry T. Burleigh (1866–1949)

MIT FREUDEN ZART 25
Trente quatre pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551

NETTLETON 26
J. Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music,* Part II, 1813
NICAEA 18
John B. Dykes (1823–1876)
NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT 19
Johann Crüger (1598–1662)
OLD HUNDREDTH 21
Louis Bourgeois (c. 1510–1561)
ROYAL OAK 20
English melody, 17th century
SACRED SONG 32
Dale Wood (1934–)
ST. ANNE 22
William Croft (1678–1727)
ST. COLUMBA 28
Irish melody
ST. CHRISTOPHER 27
Frederick C. Maker (1844–1927)
ST. DENIO 22
Welsh folk tune
SLANE 21
Irish folk tune
TERRA PATRIS 29
Franklin L. Sheppard (1852–1930)
THE ASH GROVE 23
Welsh folk tune

FOREWORD

Hymn playing should never become a routine and commonplace thing. A conscientious organist must continually inspire the congregation and not allow the singing to become monotonous and prosaic.

Introducing a familiar hymn by merely playing a full stanza of the hymnal version is rather uninventive. When many stanzas of that same harmonization follow, the mood becomes especially wearisome.

Well-known hymns can be made to sparkle when introduced with fresh, creative organ intonations. Colorful harmonies add spice and generate vitality. Rhythmic drive or the tension of a pedal point will generate enthusiastic attention from the singers as they prepare to unite in song.

When carefully prepared and competently performed, the organ introductions in this collection will enhance one of the most thrilling experiences of Christian worship—the hearty singing of congregational hymns.

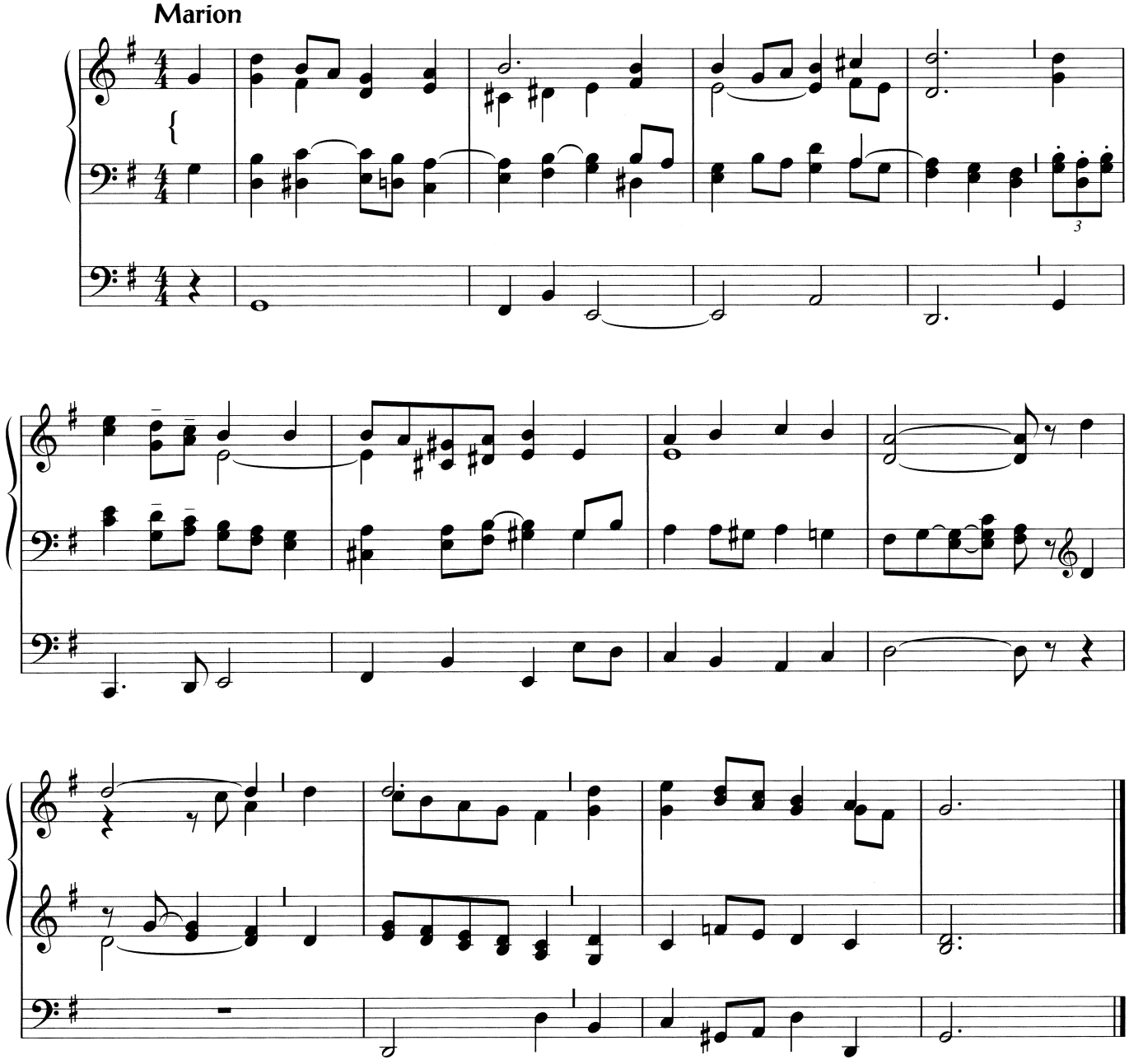
Dale Wood
The Sea Ranch, California
Spring ✠ 1997

Festive Hymn Introductions for Organ

by

Dale Wood

Marion



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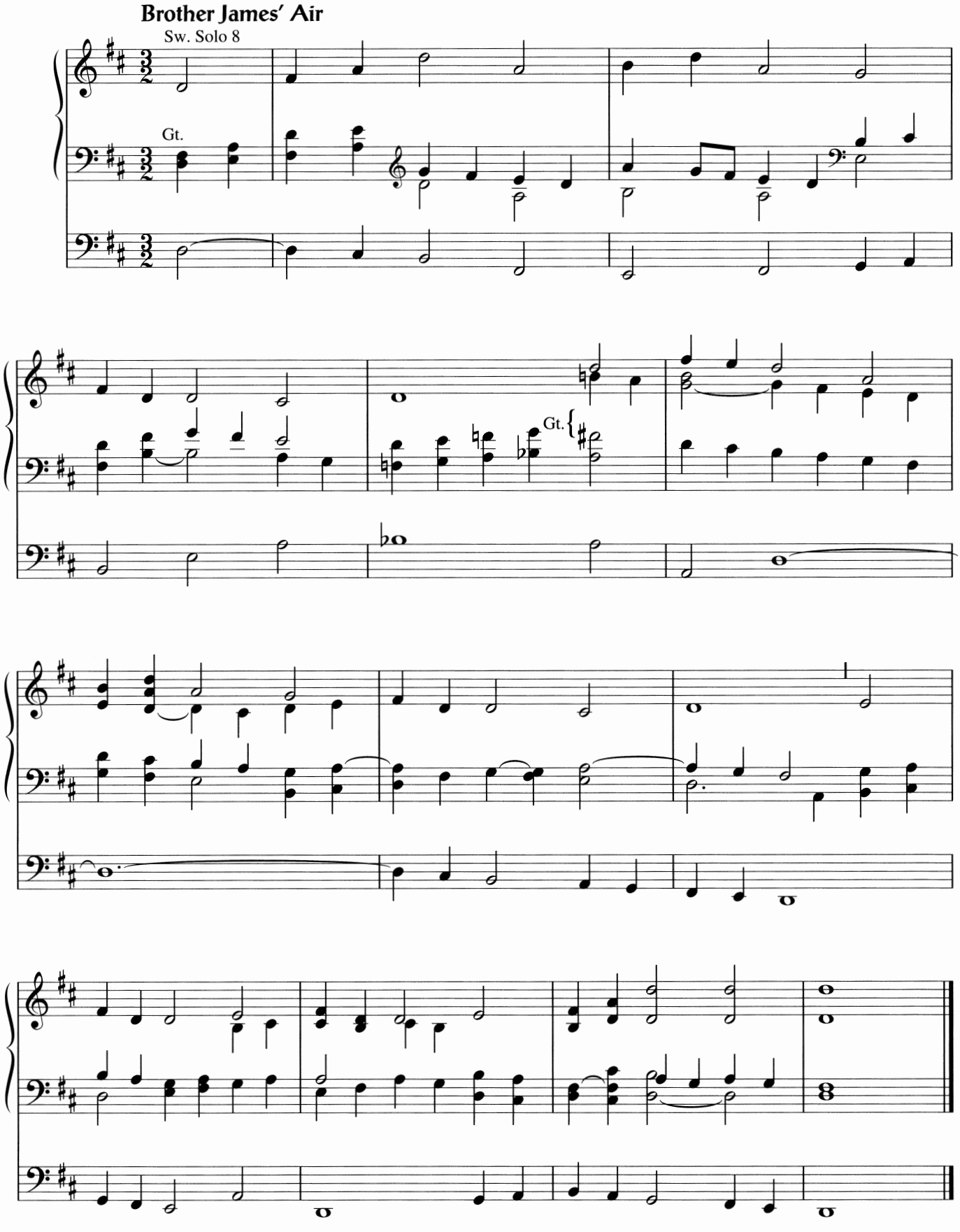
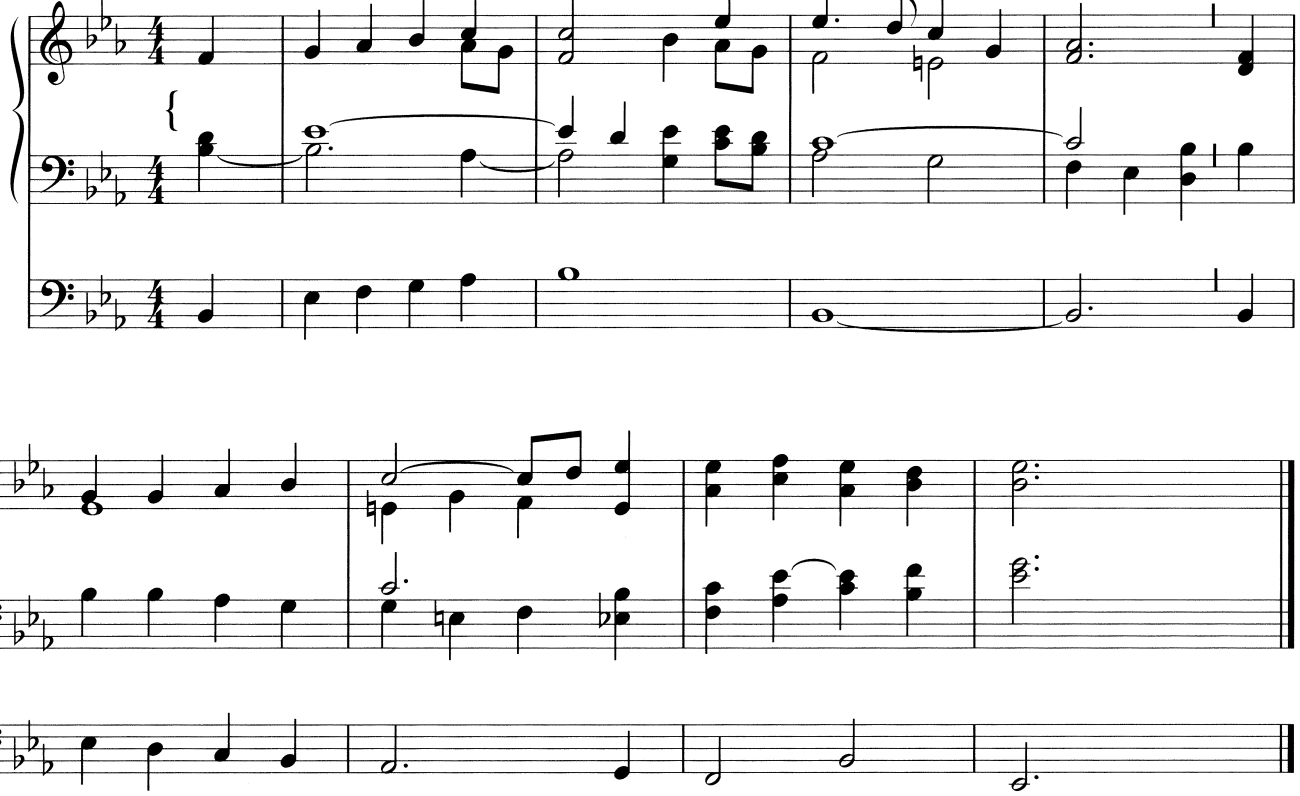
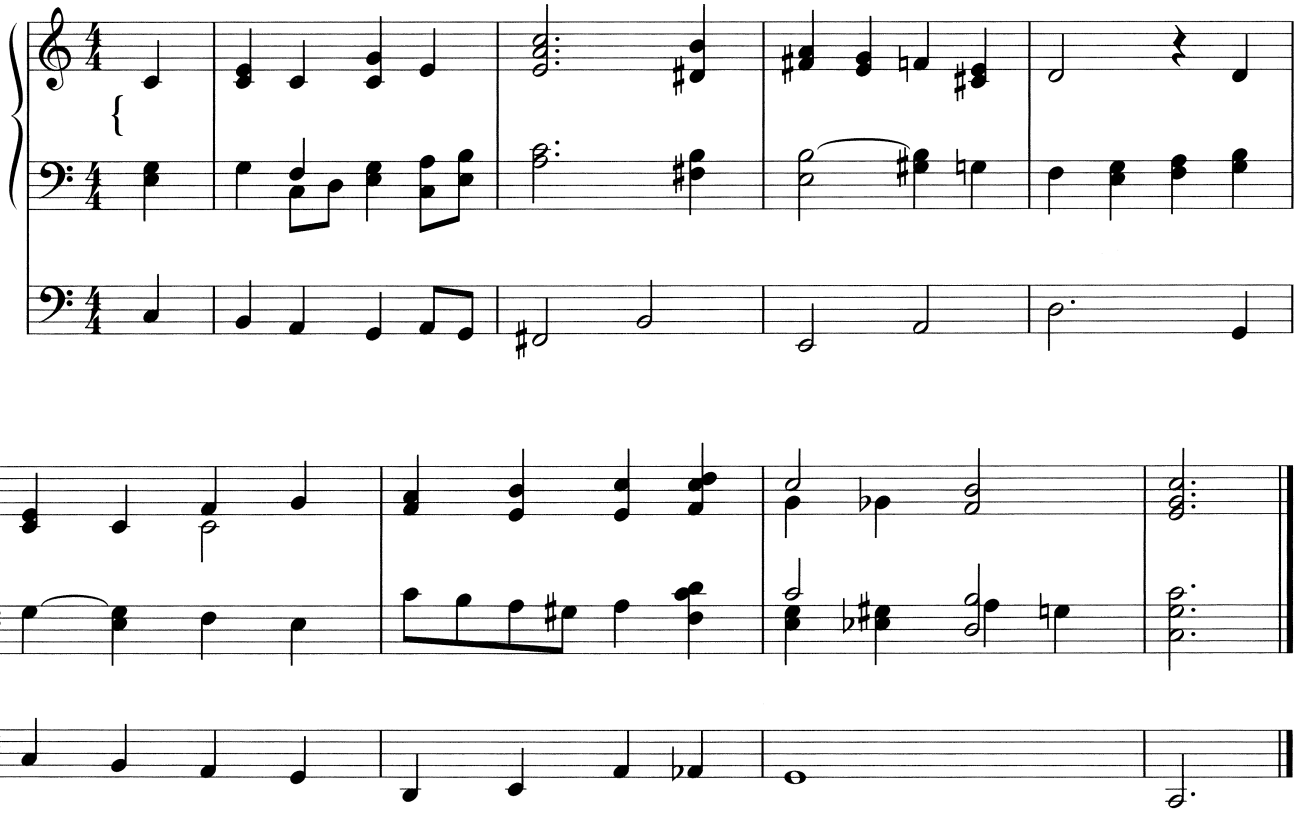

Brother James' Air
Sw. Solo 8
Gt.
Gt.

Aurelia



Darwall's 148th