Foreword

One of the important responsibilities and privileges we have as church pianists is to create a worshipful environment or sacred space for worshipers during Holy Communion or the Lord’s Supper. Endless Communion was written with this goal in mind.

I have chosen 13 worship songs and hymns that prepare the heart to receive the sacraments. Some reference the act of communion in the lyrics. Some simply call us to reflect on God’s love and mercy for us. Each arrangement is about three minutes long. I’ve created short transitions and modulations between each piece where necessary. This will allow you to play through the book without stopping between selections. In some churches you may need to play for three minutes, and in others you may need as many as 15 minutes. You can start anywhere in the book and play as long as you need.

When I’m participating in this holy sacrament, I like a quiet, reflective atmosphere. My arrangements reflect that. There is nothing too flashy or dramatic about them. Dynamics are soft to medium and I’ve toned down the “sonic range” of the pieces from my usual writing so that the music enhances worship instead of drawing attention to itself. Of course any of these pieces may be used for general worship. In those cases feel free to play more loudly in the appropriate passages. However you use these piano solos, I trust that you will feel more connected to God and help to create a “sacred space” in which worshipers encounter the presence of the Holy Spirit.

—Mark Hayes

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Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Mark Hayes
Tune: ST. CHRISTOPHER
by Frederick C. Maker

Duration: 2:50

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Slowly, with freedom $J = 66-69$

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Duration: 2:50

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Optional transition to “Come, Ye Disconsolate”