Foreword

If you are a church pianist like me, you have probably experienced “empty sanctuary syndrome.” That’s where you start to play a postlude and before you are even halfway through the piece, you look up to find that everyone is already gone and you are playing to an empty house! All kidding aside, choosing a postlude can be difficult at times because we are playing “going out” or “exit” music. Should it be stately or lively, peaceful or joyful? Whatever you choose, I hope you will find some new favorites in “Perfect Postludes.”

I have chosen well-known hymns and lively spirituals. Each piece grabs your attention from the very first measure as if to say, “Go forth in joy!” I’ve included two new compositions, Noble March and Joyful Day that are perfect for processing or recessing. All the compositions are on the short side, with a few just over three minutes and many less than that. I hope you’ll find all the pieces useable at any time during worship, not just as “going forth” music.

How wonderful that we, as church pianists, get to send our congregants on their way with a spirit of joy and praise!

Mark Hayes

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Jesus Shall Reign

Mark Hayes

Tune: DUKE STREET

by John Warrington Hatton (1710-1793)

Moderately \( \frac{\text{\textbullet}}{\text{\textbullet}} \) = ca. 120

Duration: 3:15

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Reflectively, slower $\frac{\mathbf{j}}{\mathbf{= \text{ca. 108}}}$
I’m Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing

Mark Hayes
Traditional spiritual

Moderate swing tempo \( \frac{4}{4} = \text{ca. 116} \) \( \frac{3}{4} = \text{ca. 172} \)

Duration: 2:30

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Joyful Day

Mark Hayes

Spirited \( \text{♩} \text{=} \text{ca. 96} \)

Duration: 2:45

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Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Mark Hayes
Tune: EASTER HYMN
Lyra Davidica, 1708

Moderately fast  $= \text{ca. 100}$

Duration: 3:15

Moderately  $= \text{ca. 92}$

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O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Mark Hayes
Tune: AZMON
by Carl G. Gläser (1784-1829)

Moderately $d = \text{ca. 84}$

Duration: 2:30
I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Mark Hayes
Traditional spiritual

Moderately, with a steady rhythmic feel \( \frac{4}{4} \) = ca. 104

Duration: 2:40
To God Be the Glory

Mark Hayes
Tune: TO GOD BE THE GLORY
by William H. Doane (1832-1915)

Spirited ($ \dot{=} \text{ca. 116}$)

Duration: 2:30
Majestically \( \frac{1}{4} = \text{ca. 84} \)

Duration: 2:35
Lead On, O King Eternal

Mark Hayes
Tune: LANCASHIRE
by Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)

Stately \( \downarrow = \text{ca. 92} \)

Duration: 3:00
They’ll Know We Are Christians

Mark Hayes
Tune: ST. BRENDAN’S
by Peter Scholtes (1938-2009)

Spirited  \( \frac{d}{=} \) ca. 69

Duration: 2:25