

CBTF Hymn Commissions

2007 - 2013

O God Most Holy
God Speaks to Me Today
Love Came Down at Christmas
Gentle Mary Laid Her Child
This Joyful Eastertide
My God, I Love Thee



CBTF Hymn Commissions

The Cliff Brenneman Trust Fund for the Conservation of Church Music is a fund established in March 2005 in memory of Cliff Brenneman who passed away after an eleven-month battle with cancer. Music was always very important to Cliff, particularly four-part a cappella church music. This trust fund was established to carry on Cliff's dream of quality music in the Conservative Anabaptist church by encouraging widespread music appreciation and composition.

The goal of the trust fund is to disburse funds to encourage and assist Conservative Anabaptist musicians and composers in developing their gifts. In order to maximize the benefits of this trust fund, benefit concerts are held annually. The Mennonite Memorial Choir, made up of members from various Conservative Anabaptist congregations, presents a service of sacred music at which a commissioned piece by an Anabaptist composer is premiered.

2013 marks the sixth season of the Mennonite Memorial Choir and six hymns have been commissioned since 2007:

O God Most Holy – Wendell Glick (2007)

God Speaks to Me Today – Lyle Stutzman (2008)

Love Came Down at Christmas – Douglas Byler (2009)

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child – Lloyd Kauffman (2010)

This Joyful Eastertide – James Martin (2012)

My God, I Love Thee - Wendell Glick (2013)

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O God Most Holy, God Most High

1. The az - ure skies all glow with light; The blaz - ing sun shines
 2. The lad - en dew has left its sheen Up - on the fields of
 3. The pur - ple night-shades show a - far The spar - kling of the
 4. We praise the Fa - ther's love which gave His Son be-loved our

forth in might: O God most ho - ly, God most high-- Our Sun and
 em -'rald green: O God most ho - ly, God most high-- Our Fount of
 ev'-ning star-- O God most ho - ly, God most high-- In all Thy
 souls to save And sent his Spir - it in our hearts With ev - 'ry

Shield, to us draw nigh! The cho - rus of the wak - ing
 life, to us draw nigh! The moun - tain peak and for - est
 great - ness, now draw nigh! Through sum - mer, win - ter, spring and
 gift that grace im - parts! Al - might - y Fa - ther, gra - cious

birds Voic - es its prais - es with-out words: O God most ho - ly,
 flow'r Re - veal Thy wis - dom and Thy pow'r-- O God most ho - ly,
 fall Thy throne en - dur - eth o - ver all: O God most ho - ly,
 Son And Ho - ly Spir - it-Three in One! Our God, most ho - ly

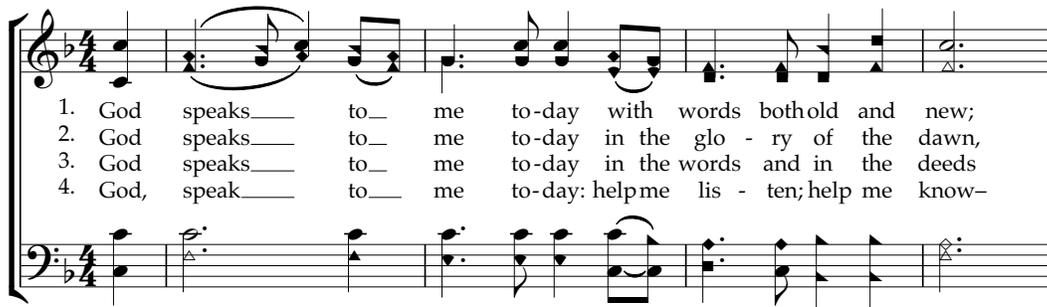
God most high-- Our Strength and Song, to us draw nigh!
 God most high-- Cre - a - tor blest, to us draw nigh!
 God most high-- E - ter - nal King, to us draw nigh!
 and most high-- In sov - 'reign grace to us draw nigh!

WORDS: John Peter Bodner, 2005
 MUSIC: Wendell David Glick, 2013

SLANESVILLE
 L.M.D.

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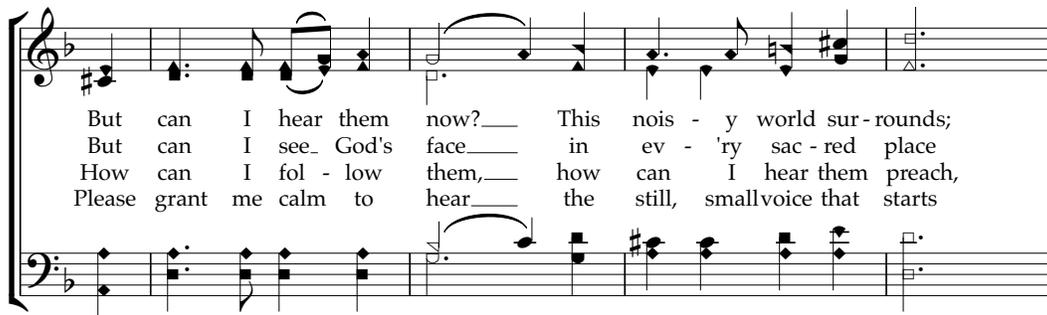
God Speaks to Me Today



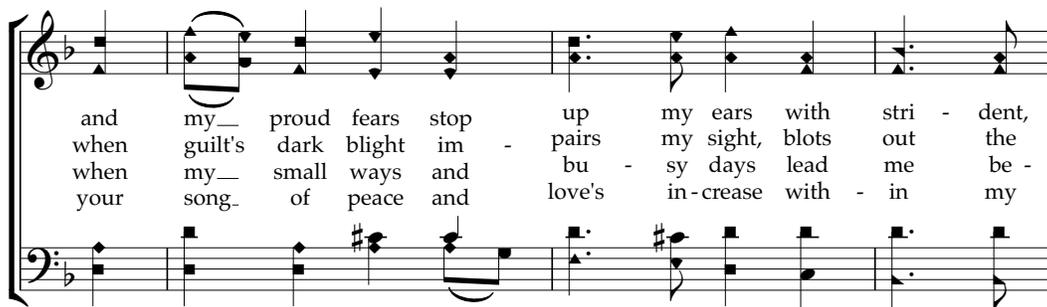
1. God speaks to me to-day with words both old and new;
2. God speaks to me to-day in the glory of the dawn,
3. God speaks to me to-day in the words and in the deeds
4. God, speak to me to-day: help me listen; help me know-



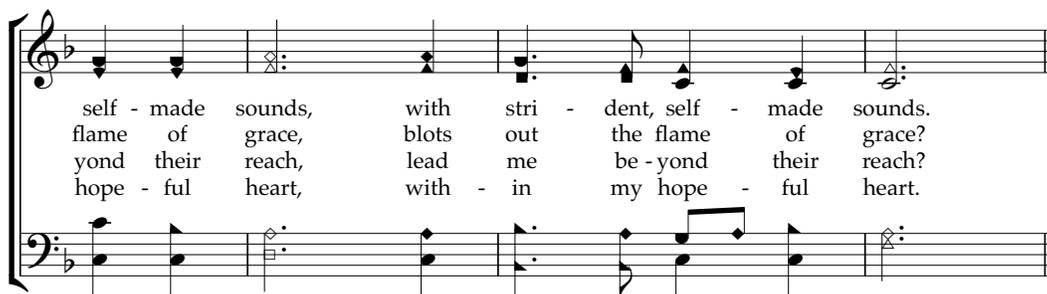
Three thousand years of words to hear: The good, the wise, the true.
In ocean's might and soft star-light, In crystal dew soon gone.
Of those who give thro' the lives they live, Who heal and teach and feed.
Through walls of sound, thro' my night pro-found- The way for me to go.



But can I hear them now? This noisy world surrounds;
But can I see God's face in every sacred place
How can I follow them, how can I hear them preach,
Please grant me calm to hear the still, small voice that starts



and my proud fears stop up my ears with strident,
when guilt's dark blight impairs my sight, blots out the
when my small ways and busy days lead me be-
your song of peace and love's increase within my



self-made sounds, with strident, self-made sounds.
flame of grace, blots out the flame of grace?
yond their reach, lead me beyond their reach?
hope-ful heart, with-in my hope-ful heart.

WORDS: Henrick C. Strandkov, 2007
MUSIC: Lyle Stutzman, 2008

Love Came Down at Christmas

slowly and lightly

1. Love came down at Christ - mas, Love_ all love - ly, love di-vine;
2. Wor - ship we the God - head, Love_ in - car - nate, love di-vine;
3. Love shall be our to - ken, Love_ be yours and love be mine,

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in 6/8 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

Love was born at Christ - mas, Star and an - gels gave_ the sign.
Wor - ship we our Je - sus: But where-with for sa - cred sign?
Love to God and all_ men, Love_ for plea and gift_ and sign.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line from the first system. It also features a treble and bass staff in 6/8 time with a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

WORDS: Christina Rossetti, 1885

MUSIC: Douglas A. Byler, 2009

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Gentle Mary Laid Her Child



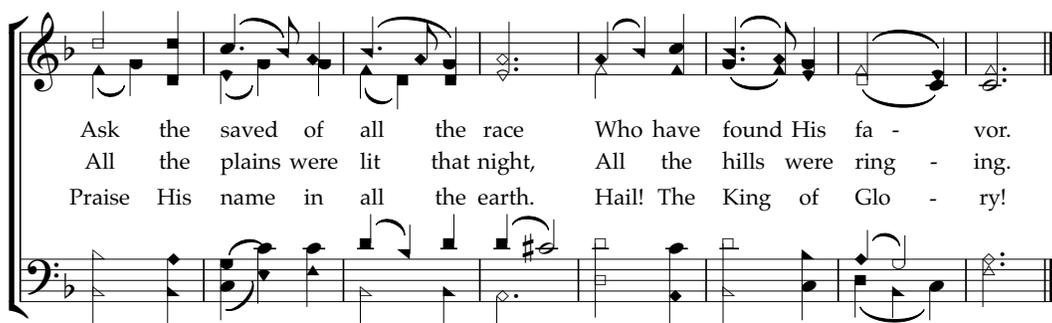
1. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child Low - ly in a man - ger.
2. An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise men sought and found Him.
3. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child Low - ly in a man - ger.



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a stran - ger.
Hea - ven's star shone bright - ly forth, Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed, But no more a stran - ger.



Such a Babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - iour?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an gels sing - ing.
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry.



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth. Hail! The King of Glo - ry!

WORDS: Joseph S. Cook, 1919
MUSIC: Lloyd Kauffman, 2010

LINWOOD
7.6.7.6.D.

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This Joyful Eastertide

1. This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide A - way with sin and sor - row!
2. Death's flood has lost its chill Since Je - sus crossed the riv - er;
3. My flesh in hope shall rest And for a sea - son slum - ber

My love, the Cru - ci - fied Has sprung to life this mor - row:
Lov - er of souls, from ill My pass - ing soul de - liv - er:
Till trump from east to west Shall wake the dead in num - ber:

Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst His three-day pris - on, Our faith had been in

vain: But now has Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en!

WORDS: George R. Woodward, 1902
MUSIC: James S. Martin, 2012

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My God, I Love Thee

1. My God, I love Thee! not be - cause I hope for Heav'n there - by,
2. And griefs and tor - ments num - ber - less, and sweat of a - go - ny;
3. Not with the hope of gain - ing aught, not seek - ing a re - ward;

Nor yet be - cause, if I love not, I must for - ev - er die.
Yea, death it - self; and all for me who was Thine en - e - my.
But as Thy - self hast lov - ed me, O ev - er lov - ing Lord!

Thou, O my Je - sus, Thou didst me u - pon the cross em - brace;
Then why, O bles - sed Je - sus Christ, should I not love Thee well?
So would I love Thee, dear - est Lord, and in Thy praise will sing,

For me didst bear the nails and spear, and man - i - fold dis grace,
Not for the sake of win - ning Heav'n, nor a - ny fear of hell;
Be - cause Thou art my lov - ing God, and my e - ter - nal King.

WORDS: 17th-century Latin; tr. Edward Caswall, 1849
MUSIC: Wendell David Glick, 2013

CAASIANILA
C.M.D.

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