

Christopher Alexander

Welcome
to the Table

SSA and Piano

Also available in: SATB, SAB, TTB, and Unison/Two-Part

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

A calling to the communion table is resembled within this choral work. Its ballad feel retains a lilting meter, while the lyrical melodic treatment makes this work accessible to choirs of all sizes. The choral texture expands the dramatic nature, creating a powerful and emphatic welcome to all who dine with the Lord.

*This is the feast of heavenly wine,
And God invites to sup;
The juices of the living Vine
Were press'd to fill the cup.*

*Oh! bless the Saviour, ye that eat,
With royal dainties fed;
Not heaven affords a costlier treat,
For Jesus in the bread.*

*The meek the lost He calls to them;
Ye trembling souls, appear!
The righteous in their own esteem
Have no acceptance here.*

*Approach, ye poor, nor dare refuse
The banquet spread for you;
Dear Saviour, this is welcome news,
Then I may venture too.*

*If guilt and sin afford a plea,
And may obtain a place,
Surely the Lord will welcome me,
And I shall see his face.*

— William Cowper (1731-1800)

About the Composer



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications, Hal Leonard, and Excelcia Music Publishing.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2023, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAfME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

SSA and Piano

Words by
WILLIAM COWPER (1731-1800). alt.

Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Larghetto con poco moto (♩ = c. 60-64)

SOPRANO I
SOPRANO II

ALTO

Larghetto con poco moto (♩ = c. 60-64)

PIANO

mp

Pedal harmonically

5

mf

9

mp

Also available in: SATB, SAB, TTB, and Unison/Two-Part

Welcome to the Table (USA)

13 *mp unis.*

This is the feast of heav-en - ly wine, And God has made them blessed, The

The first system shows two vocal staves with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a treble and bass clef staff with chords and moving lines.

13

The piano accompaniment for measures 13-16, showing the treble and bass clef staves with chords and moving lines.

17

ho - ly blood of the liv - ing vine In - to the cup was pressed, Oh!

The second system shows two vocal staves with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with chords and moving lines.

17

The piano accompaniment for measures 17-20, showing the treble and bass clef staves with chords and moving lines.

21

bless the Sa - vior, ye that eat, With roy - al dain - ties fed; Not

The third system shows two vocal staves with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with chords and moving lines.

21

The piano accompaniment for measures 21-24, showing the treble and bass clef staves with chords and moving lines.

25

heav - en af - fords a cost - li - er treat, For Je - sus is the

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs. The lyrics are: "heav - en af - fords a cost - li - er treat, For Je - sus is the".

25

This system shows the piano accompaniment for the first system, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with chords and melodic lines.

28

bread, for Je - sus is the

This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs. The lyrics are: "bread, for Je - sus is the".

28

This system shows the piano accompaniment for the second system, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with chords and melodic lines.

31

bread. The

mf

This system contains the third two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs. The lyrics are: "bread. The". The dynamic marking *mf* is present at the end of the system.

31

This system shows the piano accompaniment for the third system, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with chords and melodic lines.