

# Table of Contents

<b><i>Suggestions for Use</i></b> .....	6
---	---

## ***Advent and Christmas***

Advent I: Prepare the Way .....	10
Advent II: A Voice Cries Out .....	12
Advent III: Wait for the Lord .....	14
Advent IV: Annunciations .....	16
Christmas I: The Birth of Christ .....	18
Christmas II: The Word of God in Flesh .....	20
Christmas III: The Holy Family .....	22
Christmas IV: The Epiphany .....	24
Christmas V: The Baptism of the Lord .....	26
Christmas VI: The Presentation of the Lord .....	28

## ***Days of Discipleship***

Days of Discipleship: The Call .....	32
Days of Discipleship: Behold the Lamb of God .....	34
Days of Discipleship: The Spirit Is upon Me .....	36
Days of Discipleship: Blessed Are You .....	38
Days of Discipleship: Signs and Wonders .....	40
Days of Discipleship: Come unto Me .....	42
Days of Discipleship: In Times of Trial .....	44
Days of Discipleship: Be Forgiven, Be Healed .....	46

## ***Lent and Holy Week***

Ash Wednesday: Return to the Gospel .....	50
Lent I: Trial and Temptation .....	52
Lent II: From Temptation to Transfiguration .....	54

Lent III: Living Waters of Grace .....	56
Lent IV: Light for Our Eyes .....	58
Lent V: The Resurrection and the Life .....	60
Palm Sunday: Blessed Is He .....	62
Holy Week: The Lord's Supper, The Lord's Passion .....	64

### ***Easter***

Easter Day: Christ Triumphant over Death .....	68
Easter II: Blessed Are They Who Believe .....	70
Easter III: Worthy Is the Lamb .....	72
Easter IV: The Shepherd Is Risen .....	74
Easter V: All Things New in Christ .....	76
Easter VI: Christ Who Sends the Spirit .....	78
The Ascension of the Lord: At the Right Hand of God .....	80
Easter VII: The Spirit and the Bride .....	82
Pentecost: Come, Holy Spirit .....	84

### ***Days of Proclamation***

Days of Proclamation: Live in Faith .....	88
Days of Proclamation: Live in Hope .....	90
Days of Proclamation: Live in Love .....	92
Days of Proclamation: Bread of Life, Blessing Cup .....	94
Days of Proclamation: Forgive as We Forgive .....	96
Days of Proclamation: Hearts Filled with Gratitude .....	98
Days of Proclamation: In the Sight of the Angels .....	100

Days of Proclamation: The Way, the Truth, the Life .....	102
Days of Proclamation: Praise the Trinity .....	104
Days of Proclamation: The Mother of God .....	106
Days of Proclamation: The Cloud of Witnesses .....	108
Days of Proclamation: Christ Will Come Again .....	110
 <b><i>Ministry Occasions</i></b>	
Ministry Occasions: A First Rehearsal .....	114
Ministry Occasions: A Final Rehearsal .....	116
Ministry Occasions: Welcoming a New Music Minister .....	118
Ministry Occasions: Departure of a Music Minister .....	120
Ministry Occasions: Death of a Music Minister .....	122
Ministry Occasions: Ecumenical Gatherings of Musicians .....	124
Ministry Occasions: Before a Concert, Tour, or Recording .....	126
Ministry Occasions: St. Cecilia, Patron of Musicians .....	128
 <b><i>Scripture Index</i></b> .....	 130

## Suggestions for using *In Holy Harmony*

The prayers in this book first appeared in the more extensive *Blessed Are the Music-Makers: Warm-ups for the Musician's Spirit* (WLP 017254). This smaller resource is meant for either group or individual prayer by music ministers for rehearsals, music planning sessions, prior to worship, or at any musical gathering.

The prayers follow the rhythm of the liturgical calendar and the broad themes of the *Lectionary*. The seasons of Advent, Nativity, Lent, and Easter, which have a consistent number of Sundays or celebrations from year to year, have prayers for all the seasonal Sundays and feasts. The remaining “Days of Discipleship” and “Days of Proclamation” are for the other Sundays of the year. The prayers for “Days of Discipleship” are intended for those Sundays between the close of the Christmas season and the beginning of Lent, when the Gospels focus on the call of the disciples and various aspects of the early public ministry of Jesus. “Days of Proclamation” are for the Sundays following Pentecost, as we hear various scriptures about the church, born of the Holy Spirit, living out its mission in world.

Prayers for special music ministry occasions and feasts are provided as well.

For every entry, there are two prayers—one lengthier, one briefer—to accommodate a variety of pastoral situations. Along with the prayers you will find a short scripture passage related to the theme of those particular prayers.

All of the prayers, of course, are suitable for individual reflection and meditation.

These are but a few suggestions for using this book. Imaginative adaptation by those engaged in the creative ministry of making music is highly encouraged.



## *Ministry Occasions*

### **A First Rehearsal**

**L**ord our God,  
you are the source of all music,  
the source of every gift and talent we have.

May we consecrate our lives to you,  
fulfilling the command of Christ  
to teach all nations.

Let every sound we make  
be dedicated to leading souls to you,  
causing us to look to that day  
when we join around your throne  
in a glorious eternal psalm,  
giving you praise  
forever and ever.

**Amen.**

**G**od of beauty and joy,  
you graced Miriam's Exodus canticle;  
you guided David's hand upon the harp.

Grace us and guide us now.  
Fill us with your praise,  
you who live and reign  
forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom  
you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms,  
hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to  
God.*

*(Colossians 3:16)*

## *Ministry Occasions*

### **A Final Rehearsal**

**L**ord our God,  
in your name we have gathered  
to give you praise.

We thank you for the music  
we have made for your glory.

Continue to bless us as we go our separate ways.  
Hold us in your care;  
make us true disciples of Christ.  
Keep your Spirit alive in our hearts.

May your song always be on our lips  
until that day we are united again,  
one in voice,  
one in the timeless canticle of heaven,  
forever and ever.

**Amen.**

**D**ivine Maker of all music,  
we have praised you  
in your temple.

May we now join with all that has life and breath,  
with every nation on earth,  
to sustain the song of your loving-kindness,  
our one God,  
forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*Keep on doing what you have learned and received and  
heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with  
you.*

*(Philippians 4:9)*

## *Ministry Occasions*

### **Welcoming a New Music Minister**

*(All extend hands in blessing, or lay hands on the new music minister.)*

Bless [N.] our sister/brother  
with strength and hope,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

Let us all grow in faith, hope, love,  
and unity with her/him,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

May the blessing of almighty God,  
Father, Son, ✠ and Holy Spirit,  
remain with us, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*A sign of peace may be exchanged.*