

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

Hymn Setting for Double Quartet and Rhythm Section

Gabriel Musella, ASCAP

Commissioned by the Spring High School Saxophone Ensemble, Jason Smith, director

Lovingly dedicated to Donna Ullrich, Principal, Spring High School

Premiered at the 67th Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois

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PUBLICATIONS

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Program Notes

Joseph Scriven endured more than his fair share of tragedy during his life in the 19th century. His misfortunes included the following events: a fiancé who drowned on the day before the wedding, a second fiancé who succumbed to pneumonia, and the death of his mother who passed away without him at her side.

Born and educated in Ireland, Scriven moved to Port Hope, Ontario after the death of his first fiancé, and it was here where he penned the words to "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" as a letter to comfort his ailing mother back in Ireland. This simple hymn has resonated with many and stood the test of time. A testament to its popularity is the diversity of the numerous recording artists who have put out their own version. From Ella Fitzgerald to Dolly Parton and Alan Jackson to Aaron Neville, a web search of this hymn will yield a surprising assortment of musicians who have found the hymn flexible enough to work in a variety of musical settings.

When I asked Professor Brad Leali of The University of North Texas to join us for our performance at Midwest, I told him of the idea to use two quartets and a rhythm section to close our concert. I remembered that the Texas Tech Jazz Ensemble performed at TMEA with a gospel choir, and I loved it! I asked him for a hymn and he later got back with me, "How about 'What a Friend We Have in Jesus?'"

Little did I know that the fall of 2013 would bring its own set of tragic circumstances to Spring High School and the Spring community. In helping us cope with the after math, our principal, Donna Ullrich, has been everything one wants in a leader: courageous, decisive, compassionate, and full of integrity. This is dedicated with much love and admiration to her. It was commissioned by the Spring High School Saxophone Quartet and director Jason Smith in commemoration of their selection to perform at the 67th annual Midwest Clinic in Chicago in December 2013. – GM

Score

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

Commissioned by the Spring High School Saxophone Ensemble, Jason Smith, director
Lovingly dedicated to Donna Ullrich, Principal, Spring High School

arr. Gabriel Musella
ASCAP

19th Century Hymn ♩ = 72
(as little vibrato as possible)

Soprano Sax (1) *mf*

Alto Sax (1) *mf*

Tenor Sax (1) *mf*

Bari Sax (1) *mf*

Sopranino Sax (2)

Alto Sax (2)

Tenor Sax (2)

Bari Sax (2)

Bass Guitar

Drum Set

A R&B Groove

11

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

11

Bass

11

D. S.

mf B $\flat$ G7/F

mf soulful ad lib

p

mf

p

mf D $\flat$ B $\flat$ 7/A $\flat$

mf heavy back beat

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18

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Bass

18

D. S.

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Chord progression for Bass line (measures 18-23):

Measure	Chord
18	G $\flat$ 7
19	E $\flat$ 7/B $\flat$
20	D $\flat$ /A $\flat$
21	B $\flat$ m7
22	E $\flat$ 7
23	A $\flat$ 6
24	A $\flat$ 7
25	D $\flat$
26	Fm7
27	G $\flat$
28	E $\flat$ 7/G
29	D $\flat$ /A $\flat$
30	A $\flat$

24

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Bass

24

D. S.

Chords: Eb/Bb, Bb, F, F7/C, Bb, Bb/F, Eb, Bb, Fsus, F, Bb, Gsus/D, Gb/Db, Db, Ab, Ab7/Eb, Db, Db/Ab, Gb, Db, Absus, Ab, Db, Bbsus/F

24

24

Southern Gospel ♩ = 134
(light swing) ♩ = $\frac{3}{4}$

B

30

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

f

f

f

slightly detached

f

Sno. Sx.

E♭ *C7/E* *F^{sus}* *F* *E♭/B♭* *B♭*

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

30

G♭ *E♭7/G* *A♭sus* *A♭* *G♭/D♭* *D♭*

Bass

30

tambourine - ad lib revival style

D. S.

36

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

36

Bass

36

D. S.

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42

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

42

Bass

42

D. S.

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C Up Tempo Gospel (swing) ♩ = 152

S. Sx. *mf*

A. Sx. *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx. *mf*

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx. *f* D6 *ad lib solo* D+7#9 G9 D6 D9 A7 Ab7/C

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

49 Bass *mf* F6 F+7#9 Bb9 F6 F9 C7 B7/Eb

49 D. S. *mf*

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57

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Bass

D. S.

sub. *p*

f

sub. *p*

f

sub. *p*

f

sub. *p*

f

D6 D+7#9 G9 D6 A9 A♭6 E° D6

F6 F+7#9 B♭9 F6 C9 B6 G° F6

sub. *p*

sub. *p*

What A Friend We Have in Jesus - Score - 9

D

The image shows a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It is a two-staff piece in 2/4 time. The melody is written on the upper staff, and the accompaniment is on the lower staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/4. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, then a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand. The score includes a large, diagonal watermark that reads "RBC Publications Preview Only".

E

S. Sx. *f*

A. Sx. *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx. *mf*

Sno. Sx. *mf* D6 C9 G9 D6 A11

A. Sx. *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

B. Sx. *mf*

73 Bass *mf*

73 D. S. *mf*

84

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

84

Bass

84

D. S.

E6 B11 Bb6 E6

G

S. Sax.
 A. Sax.
 T. Sax.
 B. Sax.
 Sno. Sax.
 A. Sax.
 T. Sax.
 B. Sax.
 Bass
 D. S.

This musical score is for the song "The Sound of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel. It includes vocal parts for Soprano (S. Sx.), Alto (A. Sx.), Tenor (T. Sx.), and Bass (B. Sx.), as well as instrumental parts for Snare (Sno. Sx.), Bass, and Drums (D. S.). The score begins at measure 95, which contains a rehearsal mark labeled "H". The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The vocal parts enter at measure 95 with the lyrics "Hello darkness, my old friend." The instrumental parts include a snare drum pattern and a bass line. The score features dynamic markings such as *pp* (pianissimo) and *p* (piano), and performance instructions like "fade out 2x" and "tambourine - ad lib revival style". A large diagonal watermark reading "RBC Publications Only" is overlaid across the center of the page.

101

S. Sx. *mf* 3

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

101

Bass

101

D. S.

106

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

106

Bass

106

D. S.

The musical score is for a large ensemble, including Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, Snare, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 106-110. The second system contains measures 111-115. The score is marked 'RBC Publications Preview Only'.

I vamp

J on cue

112

S. Sx. *f* *mf*

A. Sx. *f* *mf*

T. Sx. *f* *mf*

B. Sx. *f* *mf*

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx. *f* G6 C#/A# D9 G6 C#/A# D9 G6

T. Sx. *f*

B. Sx. *f*

112

Bass

112

D. S.

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120

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Bass

D. S.

C#/A# D9 G6

C#/A# D9 G6

C#/A# D9 G6

mf

C#/A# D9 G6

mf

mf

120

120

128

S. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Sno. Sx.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

Bass

D. S.

128

128

What A Friend We Have in Jesus - Score - 21

The musical score is for the hymn 'What A Friend We Have in Jesus'. It features a SATB vocal ensemble, Snare (Sno. Sx.), Alto (A. Sx.), Tenor (T. Sx.), Bass (B. Sx.), and Double Bass (D. S.). The score is divided into two systems, each starting at measure 128. The vocal parts have rests for the first four measures of each system. The Snare part plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts have rests for the first four measures. The Double Bass part plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The score includes dynamic markings such as *fp* (fortissimo piano) and *f* (fortissimo). A large 'RBC Preview Only' watermark is overlaid on the score.

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