

753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis

1 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 2 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 4 Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It

there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
 is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in

there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, and
 there is dark-ness, on-ly light, and
 giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in

where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy.
 dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.

3 O, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek so

much to be con-soled as to con-sole, to be

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Though popular opinion credits this prayer to Francis of Assisi, the earliest known printing was in a French religious magazine in 1912. Yet that gentle saint's spirit seems evident in these words, a quality that has spurred many paraphrases and musical settings such as this one.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff contains the lyrics "un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be" with guitar chords G, Em, F#m, and Bm. The second staff contains the lyrics "loved as to love with all my soul." with guitar chords E, E7, A, E, A, and A7. The score ends with a double bar line. The text "to Stanza 4" is written below the second staff.

un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be
loved as to love with all my soul.

to Stanza 4

Lord, When I Came into This Life 691

1 Lord, when I came in - to this life you
 2 With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as
 3 In all the ten - sions of my life, be -
 4 So help me in my un - be - lief and

called me by my name; to - day I come, com -
 mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with
 tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it
 let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed

mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
 all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.
 give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.
 on the earth, my sights set high on you.

Written for the confirmation of the author's son, this text of self-dedication also voices our recurring individual need to recommit ourselves in less formal ways. The familiar shape note tune enhances a sense of finding our place among God's people from all times and places.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1976

MUSIC: American folk melody; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

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LAND OF REST

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(alternate harmonization, 545)