

**Isaiah 55: 6**

*Seek the Lord while He may be found;  
Call upon Him while He is near.*

**John 19: 27**

*Standing near the cross of Jesus were His mother,  
and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.*

**Draw Me Near the Cross** is an inspired pairing of two traditional gospel hymns, *Near the Cross* and *Draw Me Nearer*. Both hymns are by William Doane and Fanny Crosby, and their texts share the theme of Jesus' suffering and death on the cross for our salvation. However, *Near the Cross* appears in 6/8 meter in its original form, and *Draw Me Nearer* in 4/4. Ms. Drennan has beautifully adapted both to 3/4 meter in this remarkable hymn medley, providing a continuously flowing gospel tapestry.

Suitable for performance throughout the year, **Draw Me Near the Cross** may be especially appropriate for Ash Wednesday, Lent and Holy Week. Suggested corresponding scripture readings include Psalm 145: 18-21, Isaiah 55: 6-7, John 19: 17-27, Hebrews 4: 14-16 & 10: 19-22, and the other gospel accounts of Jesus' crucifixion (Matthew 27: 32-56, Mark 15: 21-41 and Luke 23: 26-49). Perform this highly expressive anthem with some freedom of movement and legato phrasing.

**Fanny Crosby** was a blind American poet who wrote more than 8,000 gospel hymn texts in her long life. **William H. Doane** was a successful businessman and was active in his Baptist church music program in Cincinnati, Ohio. A close friend of Crosby's, he partnered with her in setting many of her hymn texts, including *More Love to Thee*, *Take the Name of Jesus with You*, *Rescue the Perishing* and both of the transportive hymns in this medley.

**Patti Drennan** is Choral Director at Norman High School in Norman, Oklahoma. Active in the music program at Norman First Baptist Church, she also sings with the Oklahoma Singing Churchwomen and frequently records as a studio musician. Voted "Teacher of the Year" in 1994 at West Mid-High School, Drennan earned a B.M.E. at Oklahoma State University and an M.M.E. at the University of Oklahoma.

# DRAW ME NEAR THE CROSS

(Near the Cross and Draw Me Nearer)

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied\*

Words by  
**FANNY CROSBY** (1820-1915)

Music by **WILLIAM H. DOANE** (1832-1915)  
Arranged by **PATTI DRENNAN** (ASCAP)

Flowing, with some freedom (♩ = ca. 84-88)

ACCOMP.

The first system of the piano accompaniment is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It features a flowing melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The dynamic marking is *mp* (mezzo-piano).

The second system of the piano accompaniment continues the melody. It includes a *rit.* (ritardando) marking and ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

9 **SOPRANO**  
*a tempo*

**ALTO**

**TENOR**

**BASS**

**NEAR THE CROSS**  
*mp*

Je - sus, keep me

*a tempo*

The third system contains the vocal staves for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The lyrics are "Je - sus, keep me". The piano accompaniment below is marked *a tempo*. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

\* Also available for S.A.B. or 2-part mixed voices, No. 19922.

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13

near the cross: there a pre - cious

19

*mf*

foun - tain, free to all, a

21

heal - ing stream, flows from Cal - vary's

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27

25 *cresc.* *f*  
moun - tain. In the cross,

*cresc.* *f*

29  
in the cross, be my glo - ry

*divisi*

35

33 *mf*  
ev - er, till my rap - tured

*mf*

37

*mp*

soul shall find rest be - yond the

*mp*

41

43

riv - er.

46

*mp*

I am

51 DRAW ME NEARER

thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, and it

55 told Thy love to me: but I

59 long to rise in the arms of faith and be

63

clo - er drawn to Thee. Draw me

67

near - er, near - er blessed Lord, to the

near - er, near - er,

71

cross where Thou hast died; Draw me

died, hast died;

75

near - er, near - er bless-ed Lord,

79

*mp*

*cresc. poco a poco*

to Thy bleed - ing side, Thy bleed ing side, Thy

*mp*

*cresc. poco a poco*

84

*mf*

*mf*

pre - cious bleed - ing side.



88 UNISON VOICES  
*rit.*

90 *a tempo*  
*mf*

Near the cross I'll

watch and wait, hop - ing

trust - ing ev - er, till I reach the

gold - en strand just be - yond the

106

104 S.  
A. riv - er. In the cross,  
T. *f*  
B.

*f*

108  
in the cross, be my glo - ry

*rit.*

114

112  
ev er, — till my rap - tured

*rit.*

116 *mf*

soul shall find rest be - yond the

120 *rit.* 122 *a tempo* *rit.* **Slower, freely**

riv - er.

125 *mp* *rit.*

I will find rest.

