

SPIRIT OF GOD, ABIDE WITH ME

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

TRADITIONAL HYMNS

Arranged by
PHILIP KERN

Moderato con rubato (♩ = ca. 96)

ACCOMP. *mp*

The piano accompaniment for the first system is in 4/4 time. The right hand features a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords: G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3.

5 SOPRANO & ALTO Unison *mp*

*Spir - it of God de - scend up - on my

The vocal line for Soprano and Alto Unison begins at measure 5. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The piano accompaniment continues with chords: G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3.

8

heart; wean it from earth, through

The vocal line continues at measure 8. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The piano accompaniment continues with chords: G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3, G4-B3.

* Hymn tune *MORECAMBE*; melody by Frederick Cook Atkinson (1841-1897); words by George Croly (1780-1860).

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11 13 *cresc.*

all its puls - es move. Stoop to my

14

weak - ness might - y as Thou art,

17 *f* *rit. e dim.*
unis.

and make me love Thee as I ought to love.

f *rit. e dim.*

21 **TENOR & BASS Unison**
mf a tempo

*A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven -

a tempo
mf

24

tide; the dark - ness deep - ens;

27

S.

A.

T.

B.

Lord, with me a - bide!

29

When oth - er

30

help ers fail and com - forts flee,

33 *cresc.* *f*

Help of the help - less, O a - bide with *unis.*

cresc. *f*

36 37

me. *mf*

Spir - it of God, de -

mf

38 *mf unis.*

Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my

scend up - on my heart; wean it from

42

heart; wean it from earth, through
earth, through all its puls - es move.

45

all its puls - es move. 47 *cresc.* Might - y as Thou
Stoop to my weak - ness might - y as Thou

cresc.

48

art, and make me love Thee as I

f

51 *cresc.* *ff*

ought. to love. A - bide

cresc. *ff*

cresc. *ff*

54

with me!

dim.

57 59

mp (ALTO) Help of the help - less, O a -

mp unis.

mp

61 *dim.* Spir - it of God, de -
(SOP.) *p* *rit.*

bide with me, de -
dim. *p*

65
scend up - on my heart!

The image shows a musical score for a soprano and piano. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system (measures 61-64) features a soprano line with lyrics 'Spir - it of God, de - bide with me, de -' and a piano accompaniment. The second system (measures 65-68) features a soprano line with lyrics 'scend up - on my heart!' and a piano accompaniment. The score includes dynamic markings such as *dim.* and *p*, and performance instructions like *(SOP.)* and *rit.*. A large red watermark 'Preview Only! Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Spirit of God, Abide with Me is a medley of two beloved traditional hymns that is appropriate for Pentecost, early Lent, or the general church year. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Psalms 20, 57, and 104: 24-34, John 14: 8-17, 25-27, and Acts 2: 1-21. One basic homiletical theme is The Healing Spirit.

In rehearsal, strive for fluid 4-measure phrases with sensitive text declamation and a basic feeling of two pulses per measure. Rehearse m. 37-56 on a neutral syllable such as “noo” without accompaniment to improve ensemble balance and intonation.

Philip Kern is a composer, arranger, and pianist currently residing in Cincinnati. Frequently involved in professional musical theatre productions, he earned a B.A. in music education from Marian College in Indianapolis and a master’s degree in fine arts (musical theatre) from New York University.