

THE CHURCH

Take Us As We Are, O God 312

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (A)
 F B^b F B^b F C

1 Take us as we are, O God, and claim us as your own. As
 2 Bless us for your ser - vice, Lord; no pow - er we de - vise will
 3 Break us o - pen to dis - close how bro - ken - ness can heal, wher -
 4 Give us to the world you love as light and salt and yeast, that

(Em) (Am) (Em) (D) (G)
 Gm Cm Gm F B^b

once you chose to tell your love in hu - man flesh and bone, so
 ev - er give us strength e - nough or make us tru - ly wise, yet
 ev - er bro - ken loaves suf - fice to give a crowd a meal and
 we may nour - ish in your name the last, the lost, the least, un -

(D) (Bm) (Em) 1-3 4
 F Dm Gm (Asus)(A) (A)
 Csus C C

let our lives be used to make your sav - ing pur - pose known.
 by your prom - ise we can know the peace your grace sup - plies.
 graves break o - pen to re - lease new life from death's dread seal.
 til at length you call us all to your un - end - ing feast.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This Lord's Supper text is organized around the fourfold liturgical shape traced by Dom Gregory Dix in *The Shape of the Liturgy*: take, bless, break, give. It considers how the phrase "Body of Christ," used for sacramental bread, can also be applied to the baptized people of God.

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Jesus Loves Me!

1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
 2 Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,

Lit - tle ones to him be-long. They are weak, but he is strong.
 tak - ing chil-dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Few songs of faith have supported people from cradle to grave like this one. The great theologian Karl Barth said that its opening two lines were a summary of all that he had learned. The composer formed the refrain from those lines when creating this universally used tune.

GATHERING

408 There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are
know him in his full - ness and be - lieve; you're the

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to prof - it when you say, "I am

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to walk with Je - sus all the way."

This gospel hymn grew out of this African American author and composer's intense experience of prayer with her interracial choir in Los Angeles one Sunday morning before worship. She recalled that sense of "a sweet, sweet Spirit" when she sat down at her piano the next day.

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-

last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
 last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

Refrain

lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. Lean-ing, Lean-ing on Je-sus,
 lean-ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on
 Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): "Underneath are the everlasting arms." Their joint effort has proved very popular.