

Opening Hymn

Wareham L.M.

Melody by W. Knapp (1698-1768)

DESCANT

The first system of musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is a single melodic line in treble clef, starting with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature. The middle and bottom staves are accompaniment parts, with the middle staff in treble clef and the bottom staff in bass clef. Both accompaniment parts feature chords and moving lines that support the melody.

The second system of musical notation continues the descant with three staves. The top staff continues the single melodic line. The middle and bottom staves continue the accompaniment with similar harmonic and rhythmic patterns as the first system.

The third system of musical notation concludes the descant with three staves. The top staff ends with a double bar line. The middle and bottom staves also conclude with a double bar line, marking the end of the piece.

Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
there they behold thy mercy-seat;
where'er they seek thee thou art found,
and every place is hallowed ground.

Harmony

For thou, within no walls confined,
inhabitest the humble mind;
such ever bring thee when they come,
and, going, take thee to their home.

Harmony

Dear Shepherd of thy chosen few,
thy former mercies here renew;
here to our waiting hearts proclaim
the sweetness of thy saving name.

Harmony

Here may we prove the pow'r of prayer
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,
to teach our faint desires to rise,
and bring all heaven before our eyes.

Harmony

Lord, we are few, but thou art near;
nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear:
O rend the heav'ns, come quickly down,
and make a thousand hearts thine own.

Unison + Descant

William Cowper (1731-1800)