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Composer's Note

I am pleased to offer these three songs that singers and church musicians will find useful for a variety of occasions. All three can be used to expand the repertoire of attractive and practical solos for wedding ceremonies; the creative musician will find many other opportunities to sing them at other special times as well. Each is provided with both organ and piano (or keyboard) accompaniments for the convenience of the accompanist. Keys and vocal ranges were chosen to accommodate a variety of voice types and skill levels.

An Old Irish Blessing: The beloved traditional Irish prayer can be sung at weddings, funerals, farewells, and many other services. In measures 32 and 33, the singer may choose either the high or the low part. The song is also available for Unison Choir and Keyboard, MSM-50-8913.

O God of Love: This beautiful text by William Vaughan Jenkins text is appropriate for weddings, wedding anniversary celebrations, and renewal of wedding vows ceremonies.

The Peace of Christ: Marilyn Biery's text is inspired by Colossians 3:12-17, and is useful at weddings, funerals, and any other time when a song of blessing is needed. This piece is also available for SATB, Keyboard, and C Instrument, MSM-50-6065.

James Biery

For Marilyn
O God of Love
 Medium Voice and Organ

William Vaughan Jenkins

James Biery

Unhurried (♩ = ca. 66)

rit. *a tempo*
mp

Voice

Organ

mp rit. *a tempo*

5

God of love, to thee we bow, And pray for these be - fore thee now, That,

5

Text: William Vaughan Jenkins, 1868-1920, *alt.* (PD).

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9

close-ly knit in ho-ly vow, They may in thee be one, They

13 *rit.* *a tempo*

may in thee be one.

rit. *a tempo*

17 *mf*

What-ev-er comes to be their share Of quick-'ning joy or

mf

For Shannon McDonough
An Old Irish Blessing
 Medium Voice and Organ

Traditional Irish

James Biery

Easily (♩ = ca. 80)

Organ

The organ introduction consists of three measures in 4/4 time. The right hand plays chords and moving lines, while the left hand plays a steady bass line. The tempo is marked 'Easily' with a quarter note equal to approximately 80 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked 'p' (piano).

4

May the road rise up to meet you, May the

The first line of the blessing is marked with a '4' above the staff. The vocal line begins with a rest for four measures, then enters with the lyrics 'May the road rise up to meet you, May the'. The organ accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

7

wind be al-ways at your back, May the sun shine warm— up -

The second line of the blessing is marked with a '7' above the staff. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'wind be al-ways at your back, May the sun shine warm— up -'. The organ accompaniment continues with harmonic support.

Also available for Unison Choir and Keyboard, MSM-50-8913.

Text: a traditional Irish blessing (PD).

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10 on your face, and rain fall soft up - on your fields, and

13 *rit.* *a tempo*
rain fall soft up - on your fields.

17 *mp*
May the road rise up to meet you, May the

For Joy Killough Scheib

The Peace of Christ

Medium Voice and Organ

Marilyn Biery

James Biery

Gently (♩ = ca. 96)

p

Voice

1. May peace from Christ come

Organ

p

Man.

4

dwell in you, May love from God en - vel - op you And bind you close in

8

har - mo - ny, True meek - ness and hu - mil - i - ty.

poco rit. *a tempo*

poco rit. *a tempo*

Also available for SATB, Keyboard, and C Instrument, MSM-50-6065.

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12 (♩ = ♩) (♩ = ♩) rit. *a tempo mp*

2. For *a tempo mp*

Ped.

16 you are called God's cho - sen ones, God's ho - ly and be -

16

19 lov - ed ones. Be clothed a - new in love - li - ness, Com -

19

22 *poco rit.* *a tempo*

pas - sion, pa - tience, gen - tle - ness.

22 *poco rit.* *a tempo*

Man.