

HOW CAN WE BE SILENT?

Words and Music by
Michael Mahler

Folk rock hymn with a Celtic feel ♩ = ca. 84

Capo 3: (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (A) (Bm) (F#m7)
B \flat C Dm B \flat C Dm B \flat C Dm B \flat C Dm Am 7

§ Verses

5 mel. harm.

1. How can we be si- lent when we know our God_ is near, Bring- ing
2. How can we be si- lent when our God has con - quered death, Stretch- ing
3. How can we be si- lent when we turn our eyes_ a - way And ig -
4. How can we be si- lent, not give praise with all_ our hearts, For Christ
5. How can we be si- lent when our souls are filled with awe At the

(Bm) (E) (Bm)
Dm G Dm

Notes

This folksy hymn is accompanied well by guitar and percussion. If these are available, the piano part can be simplified. Percussion will help carry the Coda, in which the written piano part is very sparse. If no percussion is available, feel free to alter the piano part to help everybody stay together in time. The verses are packed with words, and will give singers a workout in breath support to get through them. Try to pick a tempo that balances the need to get through the lines in a single breath with enough space to let the message of the text come through.

A part for C Instrument can be found on page 6.

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7

light to those in dark-ness, to the worth-less, end-less worth? —
 out his arms to suf-fer so that we might have new life? —
 nore the poor and brok-en who lie bleed-ing in the street? —
 Je-sus is our Sav-ior and com-pas-sion is our king? —
 beau-ty of cre-a-tion and the mer-cy of our Lord? —

(E) (Bm/D) (G) (F#7SUS4) (F#)
 G Dm/F Bb A7SUS4 A

9

How can we be si-lent when we are the voice of Christ, Speak-ing
 How can we be si-lent when we've seen that Je-sus rose, And will
 How can we be si-lent when we're called to heal-and serve In the
 How can we be si-lent when God gave us life- to be Vi-brant
 How can we be si-lent when we yearn to sing-new songs? In our

(Bm) (E) (Bm)
 Dm G Dm

11

jus-tice to the na-tions, breath-ing love to all the earth? —
 come a-gain in glo-ry, end-ing suf-fer-ing and strife? —
 im-age of Lord Je-sus, who has stooped to wash our feet? —
 in-stru-ments of wor-ship, made to laugh and dance and sing? —
 hearts a fire is burn-ing and it will not be ig-nored! —

(E) (Bm/D) (G) (F#7SUS4) (F#)
 G Dm/F Bb A7SUS4 A