



# Open Up the Doors

The Musical Ministry  
of  
Fletcher Clark

## A Folk Mass



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In the 1960’s, the spirit of Vatican II ushered in wide-ranging changes in the traditional Roman Catholic mass which rippled through many Protestant faiths as well. The role and nature of music in churches changed, as did tastes and trends in American popular music. The push to make the church more ‘relevant’ and ‘accessible’ coincided then with the rise of ‘folk music’ in the United States. The rich traditions of American gospel music and Negro spirituals blended with the Anglican-influenced nineteenth century congregational hymns of the Shakers and others to become the foundation for the emergence of the ‘folk mass’.

The **Music for the Liturgy** consists of adapted musical settings for the Episcopal Holy Eucharist: Rite Two. The **Music for the Service** consists of original songs for Processional, Gradual/Sequence, Offertory, Communion, and Recessional. They are presented here both in ‘leadsheet’ form (melody/lyric/guitar chords for use in service sheets) and in ‘hymnal’ form (voiced for organ/choir). *(For songbook layout, the sequence of the versions varies.)*

Many modern Episcopal churches offer ‘folk mass’ services, which colloquially refers not so much to the genre as to the instrumentation: choirs, organs, pianos and classical string and wind ensembles are replaced by guitars, mandolins, banjos, fiddles, percussion, drums, electric instruments, saxes, etc. Thus the distinctions among ‘folk mass’, ‘jazz mass’, ‘praise music’, ‘modern gospel’, ‘faith music’, and ‘contemporary Christian’ have become somewhat arbitrary.

### Music for the Liturgy

Kyrie Eleison .....	4, 5
Gloria .....	6-7, 8
The Apostles’ Creed .....	9, 10
Doxology .....	11, 12
Sanctus .....	13, 14-15
The Lord’s Prayer .....	16-17, 18

### Music for the Service

<b>Processional:</b>	Shall We Come to Emmanuel.....	20-21, 22
	Come All to the House of God! .....	23, 24
<b>Gradual:</b>	He Gave His Son.....	25, 26
	Breath of God. ....	27, 28-29
<b>Offertory:</b>	Every Sinner Has a Future .....	30-31, 32
	Fishes & Loaves .....	34-35, 36
<b>Communion:</b>	Bread of the World, In Mercy Broken. ....	37, 38
	My Flesh Is Food Indeed .....	39, 40-41
<b>Recessional:</b>	Open Up the Doors.....	42-43, 44
	More Will Be Revealed. ....	45, 46-47

# Kyrie Eleison

Expressively (♩ = 96)

setting by Fletcher Clark

F Dm Gm C Am7 D7 Gm C Am Dm

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e -

Gm C Asus A A<sup>b</sup> Fm B<sup>b</sup>m E<sup>b</sup> Cm F7 B<sup>b</sup>m E<sup>b</sup>

le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.

Cm Fm B<sup>b</sup>m E<sup>b</sup> C<sup>sus</sup> C7 F Am7 B<sup>b</sup> C

Chris - te e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Am7 Dm Gm C Am Dm G<sup>tr.</sup> C F

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

# Kyrie Eleison

Expressively (♩ = 96)

setting by Fletcher Clark

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e -

le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.

Chris - te e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

*rit.*



*Shall We Come to Emmanuel* (2015) As the date neared for the first presentation of my complete 'folk mass', what was missing was a truly appropriate Processional for the traditional entrance of clergy, lay ministers and acolytes. Something of a simple march with an upbeat theme and lyric. My solution was to use the double *entendre* of 'Emmanuel', being both the name of my church in Lockhart and the familiar sobriquet for the Lord Jesus Christ.



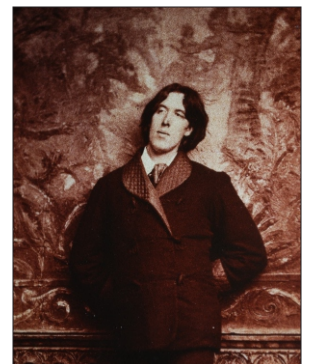
*Come All to the House of God!* (2018) Originally, I had written a brisk recessional in cut time with the title, *Go Forth in the Name of God*. It was famously said by Papa Joseph Haydn: "Bad composers borrow; good composers steal." I have often followed this sage advice as the practice of many composers and songwriters. It is not really "stealing", however – merely "re-purposing", in the modern parlance. In this instance, the title and lyric were altered to adapt the hymn as be a processional march in simple common time.

*He Gave His Son* (2013) Songwriters often write by assignment or commission. When we needed an Easter hymn, Lenten studies and observances had prepared me to value my blessings. Both constrained and equipped by our senses in our dimension-bound corporeal reality, God has given us all we need to cope with this world and to prepare us for the pure existence of spirit. I wanted to celebrate this honestly, simply following the commission I had been given. It pleases me that Fr. Tom particularly likes this hymn.



*Breath of God* (2018) We don't get to choose the moments when or where inspiration prompts us. It can happen to me while riding my motorcycle, doing the dishes, playing my guitar, or from a dead sleep at 4:00am. As an Alternate Delegate for our 2018 Council of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, I was raptly enjoying the Annual Address of Bishop David Reed. Feeling that familiar tap on the shoulder, I began writing the lyrics. Leaving the word-smithing and tune-smithing until later, the hymn was completed before the Bishop concluded his remarks.

*Every Sinner Has a Future* (2010) While riding my motorcycle through the Central Texas countryside, this message was on a marquee in front of a small rural church: Every Saint has a Past, Every Sinner has a Future. I thought about the road I was on - where I had been and where I was going. I began reflecting on one's path from both perspectives - before the acceptance of God's presence and after the willingness to place His will before mine. After writing the song down, I found out sometime later the basis for the message on the marquee. English playwright Oscar Wilde had once famously written, "Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future." My Muse had me transpose the phrases, and I prefer the rhythm of this scansion.



# Shall We Come to Emmanuel

Fletcher Clark

Moderately (♩=96)

1. Shall we come to Em - man - u - el . Shall we seek God's  
 2. As we come to — pray at the al - tar, pen - i - tent on  
 3. Bless all peo - ples and all na - tions, may they come to

own good-ly grace. May our days be bles - sed with good - ness.  
 bend - ed — knee. Grant that we may know Thy di - rec - tion.  
 know Thy peace. May all come to love one an - oth - er.

May our prayers be true in this place. Shall we make our  
 Shine Thy light be that we may see. As we make our  
 May all wars and bat - tles — cease. Prince of Peace and

plea for for - give - ness. May we find that all will be well.  
 plea for com pas - sion, guide our find lips, Thy glor - y to tell.  
 Lord of Re - demp - tion, save us all from our earth - ly hell.

13

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff contains the melody, and the bass staff contains the accompaniment. The music is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The lyrics are: 'Blest we be by His lov-ing kind-ness, as we come to Em-man-u-el. Blest we be by Thy lov-ing kind-ness, as we come to Em-man-u-el. Blest we be by God's lov-ing kind-ness, now we come to Em-man-u-el.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Blest we be by His lov-ing kind-ness, as we come to Em-man-u-el.  
Blest we be by Thy lov-ing kind-ness, as we come to Em-man-u-el.  
Blest we be by God's lov-ing kind-ness, now we come to Em-man-u-el.

# Shall We Come to Emmanuel

Moderately (♩=96)

Fletcher Clark

1. Shall we come to Em-man-u - el. — Shall we seek God's own good-ly grace.  
 2. As we come to — pray at the al - tar, pen - i - tent on bend - ed — knee.  
 3. Bless all peo - ples and all — na-tions, may they come to know Thy — peace.

May our days be — bles - sed with good - ness. May our prayers be true in this place.  
 Grant that we may know Thy di - rec - tion. Shine Thy light that we may — see.  
 May all come to — love one an - oth - er. May all wars and bat - tles — cease.

Shall we make our plea for for - give - ness. May we find that all will be well.  
 As we make our plea for com pas sion, guide our lips, Thy glor - y to tell.  
 Prince of Peace and Lord of Re - demp - tion, save us all from our earth-ly hell.

Blest we be by — His lov - ing kind - ness, as we come to Em - man - u - el.  
 Blest we be by — Thy lov - ing kind - ness, as we come to Em - man - u - el.  
 Blest we be by — God's lov - ing kind - ness, now we come to Em - man - u - el.