God’s Holy Gifts

INTRO  Adagio (\( \frac{4}{4} \) = ca. 69)

Keyboard

REFRAIN

Soprano

Alto

Baritone

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Edition 20690-Z
God’s Holy Gifts

Know in your heart that he died for you.

Final

Fine

God’s Holy Gifts

Edition #20690
VERSES

1. May the Body of Christ be food for our souls and
2. May the Blood of the Lord protect us from harm and
3. As the grain of this bread was gathered as one, may
4. As the cup that we share is emptied for all, may
5. When we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we

1. bring us to everlasting life.
2. mark us as God's beloved ones.
3. we who believe be bound by love.
4. we offer up our lives in love.
5. hold in our memory Christ the Lord.

God's Holy Gifts
God’s Holy Gifts

(Guitar/Vocal)

Dan Schutte

INTRO  Adagio (q = ca. 69)

(Keyboard)

REFRAIN

God’s holy gifts for God’s holy people; come now to share the banquet of Christ. Feed on his love with faith and thanksgiving. Know in your heart that he died for you.

VERSES

1. May the Body of Christ be food for our souls and bring us to ever-lasting life.
2. May the Blood of the Lord protect us from harm and mark us as God’s beloved ones.
3. As the grain of this bread was gathered as one, may we who believe be bound by love.
4. As the cup that we share is united for all, may we offer up our lives in love.
5. When we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we hold in our memory Christ the Lord.

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God’s Holy Gifts

VIOLIN I

INTRO  Adagio (q = ca. 69)  REFRAIN  VERSES 1, 3  REFRAIN

VERSES 2, 4  REFRAIN

VERSE 5  REFRAIN

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VIOLIN II

INTRO  Adagio (q = ca. 69)  REFRAIN  VERSES 1, 3  REFRAIN

VERSES 2, 4  REFRAIN

VERSE 5  REFRAIN

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God’s Holy Gifts

CELO

INTRO  Adagio (q = ca. 69)

REFRAIN

VERSES 1, 3

VERSES 2, 4

VERSE 5

REFRAIN

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Assembly Edition

GOD'S HOLY GIFTS

Dan Schutte

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Refrain

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God's holy gifts for God's holy people; come now to share the banquet of Christ. Feed on his love with faith and thanks-giving.

œ œ œ œ

Know in your heart that he died for you.

Verses

œ œ œ œ

1. May the Body of Christ be food for our souls
2. May the Blood of the Lord protect us from harm
3. As the grain of this bread was gathered as one,
4. As the cup that we share is emptied for all,
5. When we eat of this bread and drink of this cup,

œ œ œ œ

1. and bring us to everlasting life.
2. and mark us as God's beloved ones.
3. may we who believe be bound by love.
4. may we offer up our lives in love.
5. we hold in our memory Christ the Lord.

Composer’s Notes

Dating back to the fourth century, eastern liturgies have proclaimed, “sancta sanctis” (holy things for holy people), to invite people to approach the Communion table. This beautiful prayer was the source of inspiration for this eucharistic hymn. The verses present references to the bread and wine that become for us the Body and Blood of Christ.

God’s Holy Gifts works very well when accompanied by piano, organ or guitar, allowing for a wonderful flexibility. A soloist, choir, or congregation can sing the verses. In the refrain, each unit of two measures is a phrase. Give the singers time to breathe by pulling back, just a moment, on the tempo at the end of each phrase. Otherwise, singers will feel rushed.

The theme, along with the repeated refrain, makes this piece perfect for the Communion procession, especially on a feast like Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). It would also fit well at other celebrations like Communion services outside of Mass and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

— Dan Schutte

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