

Blessed Be the Lord

for Cath McGhee

Based on Psalm 113 and Psalm 117

Ken Canedo

***INTRO** *Gently* (♩ = ca. 63) **REFRAIN**

Soprano *rit.* *a tempo*
Bless-ed be the Lord, our

Alto *rit.* *a tempo*

Tenor Bass *rit.* *a tempo*

Keyboard *rit.* *a tempo*
Ebadd9 Absus2 Cm7/F F Bbadd9 Cm7

God. Bless-ed be the Lord, our God.

Bless - ed be the Lord Bless - ed be the

Dbmaj7 Cm7 Bbmaj9 F Dbmaj7 F

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*If using the Horn or Solo Instrument part (pages 6 and 7), continue through the Refrain as an Intro.

rit. *a tempo*

Bless-ed be the Lord, bless-ed be the Lord, our God.

rit. *a tempo*

Lord. Bless-ed be the Lord, our God.

rit. *a tempo*

Gm Dm Gbmaj7 Bb Cm7

1-6 *to Verse* **Final**

1. $\frac{1}{2}$
 2. From the
 3. $\frac{1}{2}$
 4. $\frac{1}{2}$ God
 5. $\frac{1}{2}$
 6. $\frac{1}{2}$ For

1-6 *to Verse* **Final**

Dbmaj7 Fadd9 Db Cm7 Bb

rit.

VERSES

Cantor or Sopranos

1. (♩) Praise, O ser - vants of the Lord; praise the
 2. (From the) ris - ing of the sun to its set - ting shall the
 3. (♩) High a - bove the earth is the Lord, and his
 4. (♩ God) rais - es up the poor from their sor - row, and pro -
 5. (♩) Glo - ri - fy the Lord, all you na - tions. May the
 6. (♩ For) ev - er is God love to his peo - ple, and his

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Gm Dm

1. name of God Most High.
 2. name of God praised.
 3. glo - ry lights sky.
 4. vides a lov - ing home.
 5. peo - ple praise our God.
 6. faith - ful - ness en - dures.

rit. D.S.

rit. D.S.

rit. D.S.

E♭ A♭ F

rit.

Blessed Be the Lord

for Cath McGhee
(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on Psalm 113 and Psalm 117

Ken Canedo

***INTRO** *Gently* (♩ = ca. 63)

Capo 1: (Dadd9) (Gsus2) (Bm7) (E) (F) (A d9) (Bm7) (Cmaj7) (Bm7)
 Ebadd9 Absus2 Cm7 F B d9 Cm7 Dbmaj7 Cm7

REFRAIN

Bless-ed be the Lord, our God. _____

Bless-ed be the Lord, our God. _____ Bless-ed be the Lord, bless-ed be the Lord, our

God. _____

1-6 (A) (Bm7) (Cmaj7) (add9) Verses (Cmaj7) (Bm7) (A)
 Bb Cm7 Dbmaj7 add9 Dbmaj7 Cm7 Bb

a tempo *rit.* *Fine*

From the

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

VERSES

(F#m) (C#m)
 Gm Dm

1. (♯) Praise, O ser- vants of the Lord;
 2. (From the) ris - ing of sun to its set - ting _____
 3. (♯) High a - bove the is the Lord,
 4. (♯ God) rais - es up the poor from their sor - row, _____
 5. (♯) Glo - ri - fy the Lord, all you na - tions. _____
 6. (♯ For) ev - er is God's love to his peo - ple, _____

(D) (G) (E)
 Eb Ab F *rit.* *D.S.*

1. praise the name of God Most High.
 2. shall the name of God be praised.
 3. and his glo - ry lights the sky.
 4. and pro - vides a lov - ing home.
 5. May the peo - ple praise our God.
 6. and his faith - ful - ness en - dures.

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Blessed Be the Lord

for Cath McGhee

HORN in F

Ken Canedo

INTRO *Gently* (♩ = ca. 63)

rit. *a tempo* *a tempo*

REFRAIN 8 VERSE 1 4 REFRAIN 8 VERSE 2 4

REFRAIN 8 VERSES 3, 5 *rit.*

REFRAIN *a tempo* VERSES 4, 6 3 4

FINAL REFRAIN *rit.* *a tempo*

W
A
S

SOLO INSTRUMENT in C

Ken Canedo

INTRO Gently (♩ = ca. 63)

rit. a tempo

rit. a tempo

REFRAIN 8 VERSE 1 REFRAIN 8 VERSE 2 4

REFRAIN 8 VERSES 3, 5 rit.

REFRAIN a tempo 3 4 VERSES 4, 6

FINAL REFRAIN

rit. a tempo

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Composer's Notes

This is one of my earliest composed songs and it started out as a responsorial psalm. But with today's emphasis on official verbatim text for the Liturgy of the Word, I expanded this into a Communion song. It can also be sung effectively at the preparation of the gifts and for any prayer service.

Psalm 113 sings gently of God's loving presence and creation. Psalm 117, the shortest in the psalter, functions in this song as a doxology of praise. The simple refrain is easily learned by the assembly, who will sing it from memory with no problem.

The tempo is *larghetto*, which is defined as "not quite as slow as *largo* but slower than *adagio*, around 65 beats per minute." On the recording you will hear slight rubato in the refrain at the final "blessed be the Lord, our God," and at the end of each verse.

The point is, this song is meant to be played gently, not mechanically, with a lot of breathing space. Pianists, please play with a lot of feeling. Guitarists, please use finger-picking, not strumming.

The choral echo parts should not overwhelm the refrain melody. Verses may be sung by soloists or choir. At my parish, we sometimes have the women and the men trade off on verses.

—Ken Canedo

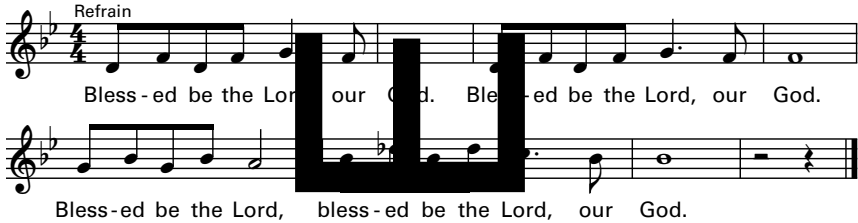
Blessed Be the Lord

Assembly Edition

BLESSED BE THE LORD

Ken Canedo

Refrain



Bless - ed be the Lord, our God. Bless - ed be the Lord, our God.
 Bless - ed be the Lord, bless - ed be the Lord, our God.

Verses

1. Praise, O ser - vants of the Lord;
2. From the ris - ing up its set - ting
3. High a - bove the earth is the Lord,
4. God rais - es up the poor from their sor - row,
5. Glo - ri - fy the Lord, all you na - tions.
6. For ev - er God's love to his peo - ple,

to Refrain

1. praise the name Most High.
2. shall the name of God be praised.
3. and his glo - ry lights the sky.
4. and pro - vides ing home.
5. May the peo - ple praise our God.
6. and his faith - fulness en - dures.

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