

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 Bbadd9 Cm7 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.

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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 F Bb Cm7

1-6 *to Verses* **Final** *rit.*

1.
 2. From the
 3.
 4. God
 5.
 6. For

1-6 *to Verses* **Final** *rit.*

Dbmaj7 Fadd9 Dbmaj7 Cm7 Bb

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's love to his peo - ple, and his

Alto

Oo

Tenor

Bass

Gm Dm

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

rit. *D.S.*

Alto

Tenor

Bass

rit. *D.S.*

E♭ A♭ F *D.S.*

rit.

Blessed Be the Lord

for Cath McGhee
(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on Psalm 113 and Psalm 117

Ken Canedo

***INTRO** Gently (♩ = ca. 63)

REFRAIN

Capo 1: (Dadd9) (Gsus2) (Bm7/E) (E) (Aadd9) (Bm7) (Cmaj7) (Bm7)
Ebadd9 Absus2 Cm7/F F Bbadd9 Cm7 Dbmaj7 Cm7

Bless-ed be the Lord, our God. _____

(Aadd9) (Bm7) (Cmaj7) (E) (F#m) (C#m) (Fmaj7) (E)
Bbadd9 Cm7 Dbmaj7 F Gm Dm Gbmaj7 F

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

God. _____

1-6 (Cmaj7) (Eadd9) Final (Cmaj7) (Bm7) (A)
Dbmaj7 Fadd9 Dbmaj7 Cm7 Bb

to Verses

Fine

1. ♯
2. From the
3. ♯
4. ♯ God
5. ♯
6. ♯ For

VERSES

1. (♯) Praise, O ser-vants of the Lord;
2. (From the) ris-ing of the sun to 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 is God's love to his peo-ple, _____

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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HORN in F

Ken Canedo

INTRO *Gently* (♩ = ca. 63)

rit. *a tempo*

rit. *a tempo*

REFRAIN 8 VERSE 1 4 REFRAIN 8 VERSE 2 4

REFRAIN 8 VERSES 3, 5 *rit.*

REFRAIN *a tempo* 3 4 VERSES 4, 6

FINAL REFRAIN

rit. *a tempo* *rit.*

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SOLO INSTRUMENT in C

Ken Canedo

INTRO Gently ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 63$)

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with an 'INTRO' section marked 'Gently' and a tempo of approximately 63 beats per minute. The tempo is marked 'rit.' (ritardando) for the first two measures and 'a tempo' for the remainder of the intro. The score then consists of two verses, each 4 measures long, and a refrain, each 8 measures long. The first refrain is marked 'rit.' for the first two measures and 'a tempo' for the rest. The second refrain is marked 'rit.' for the final two measures. The score concludes with a 'FINAL REFRAIN' section, which is 8 measures long and marked 'rit.' for the first two measures and 'a tempo' for the rest. The score is marked with a large 'PREVIEW' watermark.

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Composer 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 in 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 of the sun to 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 is God's love to his peo - ple,

to Refrain



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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