

Draw Near in Faith

for Jim Brunet on the occasion of his First Communion

Christopher Walker

OPTIONAL INTRO *Peacefully* (♩ = ca. 88)

Keyboard *pp*

[Organ: no Ped.]

mp

p

[Ped.]

*Soprano *p*

Alto

Draw near, draw near and be - lieve in the bod - y of our Lord, our

Tenor

Bass *p*

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*Keyboard may double choral parts as desired.

Lord Je - sus Christ, which was giv - en for you, — giv - en for you.

Draw near, draw near and re - ceive Christ's blood, shed for

you, Christ's blood, shed for you. Draw near, draw near.

WELCOME

You, O Lord, You Are Close

Based on Psalms 119:145-152;
31:2-6; 145:1, 8, 17, 18

Christopher Walker

***OSTINATO REFRAIN** (♩ = ca. 74)

Chords: Dm G/B C Am D G

Soprano Alto
You, O Lord, you are close: your ways are truth.

Tenor Bass

VERSES 1-3 (Psalm 119)

Cantor

1. I will call with my heart. Hear me, Lord.
2. I will rise before dawn. I cry for help.
3. In your love, hear my voice. Give me life.

Chords: Dm Bb F Am G/B Dm Esus4 E A

You, O Lord, you are close: with me for - ev - er.

1. I will keep your com-ands. Hear me, and save me.
2. And I watch through the night. pon-der-ing your prom - ise.
3. For I know that your word is firm for - ev - er.

*Keyboard may double choral parts as desired.

OSTINATO REFRAIN

Dm G/B C Am D G

You, O Lord, you are close: your ways are truth.

VERSES 4-7 (Psalm 31)

4. I take ref - uge in you, let me nev - er be a - shamed.

5. Be a ref - uge for me, a strong - hold to save me.

6. Re - lease me, O Lord, from snares they have hid - den,

7. In - to you I com - mend my spir - it.

Dm Bb F Am G/B Dm Esus4 E A

You, O Lord, are close: with me for - ev - er.

4. In your jus - tice, set me free, hear me, and save me.

5. You are my rock, my strong hold. Lead me and guide me.

6. for you, O Lord, you are my ref - uge.

7. It is you, O Lord, who will re - deem me.

OSTINATO REFRAIN

Dm G/B C Am D G

You, O Lord, you are close: your ways are truth.

VERSES 8-10 (Psalm 145)

8. I bless you each day; I praise your name,

9. You are gra - cious and kind, a - bound - ing in love.

10. You are just in your ways, ho - ly in all your works,

Dm Bb F Am G/B Dm Esus4 E A

You, O Lord, you are close: with me for - ev - er.

8. great and high-ly to be pra great-ness un - search - a - ble.

9. Good to all is the L full of com - pas - sion.

10. close to all who call on yo who call from their hearts. _____

Composer Notes

Draw Near in Faith

This short communion anthem may be sung as the priest and eucharistic ministers receive communion before distribution to the people. The introduction is optional, and the piece may be sung unaccompanied. Keyboard may double the choral parts as desired; on organ, play with manuals only. A solo instrument may play the melody.

You, O Lord, You Are Close

This prayerful chorus is written in the style of a Taizé mantra. Sing during services of meditation, during Lent, reconciliation services, as a meditation after communion, as a prelude to mass, or any time of reflection – especially as a call to prayer.

As the song begins, repeat the *ostinato* refrain until the assembly is comfortable singing it on their own, with the support of the choral organ and harmony. The cantor then sings the verses while the assembly continues to sing the refrain, which should be repeated between verses as on the recording. You might like to begin or end by humming the refrain. Solo instruments may play instead of, or alternating with, the cantor. Verses from Psalms 119, 31, and 145 are provided. Feel free to add your own verses.

—*Christopher Walker*

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Assembly Edition

YOU, O LORD, YOU ARE CLOSE

Christopher Walker

Ostinato Refrain

The musical notation is for an Ostinato Refrain in 4/4 time, G major. It consists of two staves. The first staff has the lyrics 'You, O Lord, you are close: your ways are truth.' The second staff has the lyrics 'You, O Lord, you are close: with me for - ev - er.' The melody is a simple, repetitive eighth-note pattern.

Text: Based on Psalms 119:145-152; 31:2-6; 145:1, 8, 17, 18. Text and music © 2000, 2008, Christopher Walker.
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SAMPLE