

# When I Am Weak, Then I Am Strong

Assembly, Two-part Choir, Keyboard, and Guitar

Timothy R. Smith

INTRO (♩ = ca. 112)

Keyboard

Em7 Cmaj7 Em7

Cmaj7 Em7 Cmaj7

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**Harmony**      **REFRAIN**

**Melody**  
 When I am weak,                      then I am strong.                      To Je - sus Christ -

Em                      Cmaj7                      G

— do I be - long. — Sur - ren - der all my soul and

Dsus4                      Em

song.                      When I am weak, — then I am

C                      G                      G/B                      D                      Bm7

|  |            |              |
|--|------------|--------------|
|  | <b>1-3</b> | <b>Final</b> |
|  | to Verses  |              |

strong.

|  |            |              |
|--|------------|--------------|
|  | <b>1-3</b> | <b>Final</b> |
|  | to Verses  |              |

Am7                      Em                      Em                      C

G G/B D Bm7 Am Em *Fine*

## VERSE 1

1. A - lone, I am de - fense - less in my

## VERSE 2

2. My own light be - comes dark ness, my

## VERSE 4

4. God's King - dom has been prom - ised to the

F Em7

1. fu - tile van - i - ty. Lead me, guide me, show -

2. vi - sion I be - tray. But when I look to you, -

4. spir - it of the poor whose love in hum - ble ser -

D Em Am7

1. \_\_\_ me \_\_\_ my own hu - mil - i - ty. \_\_\_ When I am *D.S.*

2. \_\_\_ Lord, \_\_\_ your light guides my way. \_\_\_ When I am *D.S.*

4. - vice \_\_\_ and hope in him are sure. \_\_\_ When I am *D.S. al fine*

Em/G F#°7 Bsus4 B *D.S.*

The first system of the score consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal lines in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff has the lyrics '1. \_\_\_ me \_\_\_ my own hu - mil - i - ty. \_\_\_ When I am' and is marked 'D.S.'. The second staff has '2. \_\_\_ Lord, \_\_\_ your light guides my way. \_\_\_ When I am' and is also marked 'D.S.'. The third staff has '4. - vice \_\_\_ and hope in him are sure. \_\_\_ When I am' and is marked 'D.S. al fine'. The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs, with chords Em/G, F#°7, Bsus4, and B indicated above the staff. The piano part ends with a 'D.S.' marking.

### VERSE 3

3. Your wis - dom is foun - da - tion, \_\_\_ the

3. rock on which \_\_\_ I stand. \_\_\_ I put my faith in you, \_\_\_

F Em7 D Em Am7

The second system of the score is for Verse 3 and consists of four staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with the lyrics '3. Your wis - dom is foun - da - tion, \_\_\_ the'. The second staff is a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs with chords F and Em7 indicated above the staff. The third staff is a vocal line in treble clef with the lyrics '3. rock on which \_\_\_ I stand. \_\_\_ I put my faith in you, \_\_\_'. The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs with chords D, Em, and Am7 indicated above the staff.

3. — Lord, — pro - tect - ed by your hand. — to Bridge

Em/G F#7 Bsus4 to Bridge

The first system of the score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. It contains the lyrics "3. — Lord, — pro - tect - ed by your hand. —" and ends with a double bar line and a "to Bridge" instruction. The piano accompaniment is in G major, with a treble and bass clef. It features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. Chord symbols Em/G, F#7, and Bsus4 are placed above the piano part. The system concludes with a "to Bridge" instruction.

**BRIDGE**

Ho - ly are the low - ly.

D/C C G Am

The bridge section begins with the vocal line in treble clef, containing the lyrics "Ho - ly are the low - ly." The piano accompaniment is in G major, with a treble and bass clef. Chord symbols D/C, C, G, and Am are placed above the piano part. The system concludes with a double bar line.

ly. Slow - ly, your

Em7 D/C C G

The second system of the bridge continues the vocal line with the lyrics "ly. Slow - ly, your". The piano accompaniment continues with the same harmonic structure. Chord symbols Em7, D/C, C, and G are placed above the piano part. The system concludes with a double bar line.

grace is e - nough for me. — to Verse 4

F Em D/A to Verse 4

The third system of the bridge concludes the vocal line with the lyrics "grace is e - nough for me. —" and a double bar line with repeat dots, followed by a "to Verse 4" instruction. The piano accompaniment continues with the same harmonic structure. Chord symbols F, Em, and D/A are placed above the piano part. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots, followed by a "to Verse 4" instruction.

# When I Am Weak, Then I Am Strong

(Guitar/Vocal)

Timothy R. Smith

INTRO (♩ = ca. 112)

Em7 Cmaj7 Em7 Cmaj7 Em7 Cmaj7

## REFRAIN

Em Cmaj7

When I am weak, then I am strong. To

G Dsus4 Em

Je - sus Christ do I be - long. Sur - ren - der all my soul and

C G G/B D Bm7 Am7

song. When I am weak, then I am strong.

1-3 Em to Verses Final Em C G G/B D Bm7 Am rit. Em Fine

## VERSE 1

F Em7

1. A - lone, I am de - fense - less in my

D Em Am7

1. fu - tile van - i - ty. Lead me, guide me, show

Em/G F#7 Bsus4 B D.S.

1. me my own hu - mil - i - ty. When I am

## VERSE 2

F Em7

2. My own light be - comes dark - ness, my

D Em Am7

2. vi - sion I be - tray. — But when I look to you, —

Em/G F#7 Bsus4 B D.S.

2. — Lord, — your light guides my way. — When I am

## VERSE 3

F Em7

3. Your wis - dom is foun - da - tion, — the

D Em Am7

3. rock on which — I stand. — I put my faith in you, —

Em/G F#7 Bsus4 to Bridge

3. — Lord, — pro - tect - ed by your hand. —

## BRIDGE

D/C C G Am Em7 D/C C

Ho - ly are the low - ly. Slow -

G F Em D/A to Verse 4

ly, your grace is e - nough for me. —

## VERSE 4

F Em7

4. God's king - dom has been prom - ised — to the

D Em Am7

4. spir - it of — the poor — whose love in hum - ble ser -

Em/G F#7 Bsus4 B D.S. al fine

4. - vice — and hope in him are sure. — When I am


When I Am Weak, Then I Am Strong

## Assembly Edition

**WHEN I AM WEAK, THEN I AM STRONG**

Timothy R. Smith

Refrain



When I am weak, then I am strong. To Je - sus Christ  
do I be-long. Sur-ren-der all my soul and  
song. When I am weak, then I am strong.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Alone, I am defenseless<br/>in my futile vanity.<br/>Lead me, guide me, show me<br/>my own humility. <b>(to Refrain)</b></p> <p>2. My own light becomes darkness,<br/>my vision I betray.<br/>But when I look to you, Lord,<br/>your light guides my way. <b>(to Refrain)</b></p> <p>3. Your wisdom is foundation,<br/>the rock on which I stand.<br/>I put my faith in you, Lord,<br/>protected by your hand. <b>(to Bridge)</b></p> | <p>Bridge</p> <p>Holy are the lowly.<br/>Slowly, your grace is<br/>enough for me. <b>(to Verse 4)</b></p> <p>4. God's kingdom has been promised<br/>to the spirit of the poor<br/>whose love in humble service<br/>and hope in him are sure. <b>(to Refrain)</b></p> |
|---|--|

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## Composer Notes

This piece can be sung with any combination of piano, guitar, and/or organ, by any combination of generations. Verses sung in the 'middle C' octave are preferred, although they can be sung an octave higher by sopranos. Try mixing these octaves among the verses. Final refrain can be repeated ad lib.

This is an anthem for all of us who seek the simplicity and strength that comes when we surrender our weaknesses to God. When I walk away, when I acknowledge my weakness, I rest it in God's hands - not in my hands. Then, in my surrender, my acknowledgement of weakness, I am free and I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

*Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

—Timothy R. Smith