

**Speed:** Notice the three different speeds. (1) The introduction and the portion after the last Refrain are quarter note = 114, but are **recitative** in style. (2) The Refrain is quarter note = 92, a broad, hymnlike tempo. (3) The verses are faster, quarter note = 108, and more **recitative** in feel, though strict in tempo (up to the **poco rit.** of measure nine.) Attention to these tempo changes will greatly help the piece.

**Liturgical Use:** ‘The Christ of God’ brings both elements of the mystery of Jesus into play: his kingship, and his role as suffering servant. Thus, the piece is perfect for Christ the King, on the one hand, and Passion Sunday or Holy Thursday, on the other. The cantor challenges the congregation to hear the fullness of Christ’s life, and the congregation responds with a statement of that fullness.

A liturgy can effectively begin with the bold challenge “who do you say I am.” The content of the liturgy then unfolds out of that question. The piece is meant to end with the same question, so as not to put too neat a closure to the issue. Of course, in special circumstances, it is possible to sing the Refrain again after the final question “who do you say I am?”

**Feel and Mood:** The contrasts between Refrain and verses are what make this piece work. There is a certain starkness about the verses, especially with the dissonance of the accompaniment. This prepares for the full, hymnlike quality of the Refrain. The cantor should declaim the introduction and verses.

**High Points:** Each time the Refrain returns it is fuller than the previous time. The second verse is slightly more insistent than the first.

**Performers:** Piano (with electric bass) or organ can easily accompany ‘The Christ of God’. Keyboard and guitar(s) can play together, especially if the strums marked in the guitar part are used. Guitar(s) alone, with electric bass, can also serve as accompaniment, though in this case the character of the verses changes somewhat. Here again, the strum noted in the music will help immensely.

**Degree of Difficulty:** Refrain, easy. Verses, medium difficulty.

# The Christ of God

Based on Luke 9:20-24; Rev. 22:13

JOHN FOLEY, S.J.

### INTRODUCTION

Dramatically (♩ = 114)



CANTOR:

*mf* And who do you say I am? Who do you say I

G 023010 Em/C Em A sus4 A sus2 A

am? I am?

CONGREGATION: *mf* louder each time

S./A.: *mf* louder each time

T./B.: *mf* louder each time

### REFRAIN

Broadly (♩ = 92)

D G D G

You are the Christ of God, the lamb of God,

You are the Christ of God, the lamb of God,

Em A D G Am7 C G D

Al - pha\_ and O - me - ga, the Ho - ly\_ One.

Al - pha\_ and O - me - ga, the Ho - ly Ho - ly One.

Ho - ly

11111  
x2 3 4

B7(b9)

Em

x02300

A sus2

A

xx0130

D sus2

D

You are the lamb who is, who was and who will be, for -

You are the lamb who is, who was and who will be, be, for -

will be,

G Em A D

xx0030

D sus 2/4

1.

D

ev - er, A - men.

ev - er, A - men. A - men.

A - men.

VERSES

Faster (♩ = 108)

(one rolling strum on each chord)

CANTOR:



C

Dm sus4

F

Em

A

E



1. The ser- vant of God must suf- fer much, \_\_\_\_\_ be re- ject- ed; \_\_\_\_\_  
2. If an- y of you would save your life, \_\_\_\_\_ take your own cross, \_\_\_\_\_



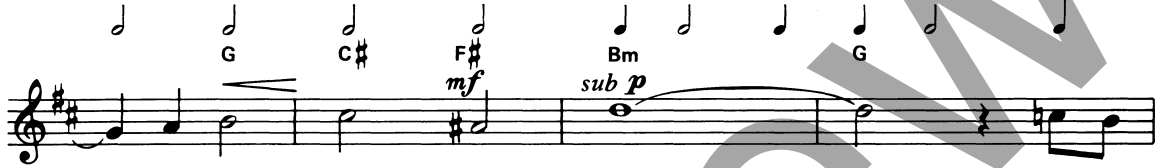
G

C#

F#

Bm

G

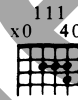


\_\_\_\_\_ and yes! must be killed; \_\_\_\_\_ and be  
\_\_\_\_\_ and come, fol- low me; \_\_\_\_\_ and be



Am

Em+C



A sus4

to Refrain



raised on the third \_\_\_\_\_ day. \_\_\_\_\_  
raised on the last \_\_\_\_\_ day. \_\_\_\_\_

AFTER  
LAST  
REFRAIN:  
(single strum  
each chord)



D sus2



D sus4



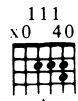
\_\_\_\_\_ And who do you say I am? Who do you say I



G

Em+C

Em



A sus4

A

rit. molto

D



am? I \_\_\_\_\_ am?

*p*

# The Christ of God

(Guitar/Vocal)

JOHN FOLEY, S.J.

Dramatically (♩ = 114)

**INTRODUCTION**

(one strum each chord)

xx0130

Dsus2 >mf

xx0134

Dsus4

CANTOR: And who do you say I am? Who do you say I

am? I \_\_\_\_\_ am?

**REFRAIN**

Broadly (♩ = 92)

O You are the Christ of God, the lamb of God,

Al - pha and O - me - ga, the Ho - ly One.

You are the lamb who is, who was and who will be, for -

ev - er, A - men.

VERSES

Faster (♩ = 108)

(one rolling strum each chord)

CANTOR: *mp*

C D sus2 F Em A E

1. The ser-vant of God must suf-fer much, \_\_\_\_\_ be re-ject-ed; \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. If an-y of you would save your life, \_\_\_\_\_ take your own cross, \_\_\_\_\_

11111 111111  
 x 333 342

3

G C# F# Bm G

*mf* *sub.p*

\_\_\_\_\_ and yes! must be killed; \_\_\_\_\_ and be  
 \_\_\_\_\_ and come, fol-low me; \_\_\_\_\_ and be

023010 111  
 x0 40

Am Em + C Em A sus4 A

*to Refrain*

raised on the third \_\_\_\_\_ day. \_\_\_\_\_  
 raised on the last \_\_\_\_\_ day. \_\_\_\_\_

AFTER LAST REFRAIN:

(single strum each chord)

xx0130 xx0134

D sus2 D sus4

\_\_\_\_\_ And who do you say I am? Who do you say I

023010 111  
 x0 40

Em / C Em A sus4 A D

*rit. molto*

am? I \_\_\_\_\_ am?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ *p*

# The Christ of God

Based on Luke 9:20-24; Rev. 22:13

JOHN FOLEY, S.J.

Dramatically (♩ = 114)  
*mf*

O you are the Christ of  
God, the lamb of God.  
Al - pha and O - meg - a, the ho - ly  
one. You are the lamb who is, who  
was and who will be, for - ev -  
er, A - men.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a tempo marking of 'Dramatically' with a quarter note equal to 114 beats per minute. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words underlined. The piece concludes with a double bar line.