

30149496
30149497 (PDF)

Prayer of St. Augustine
Three-part Choir, Piano,
Guitar, Cello, Assembly

Ken Canedo



Prayer of St. Augustine

Ken Canedo

Prayer of St. Augustine

Based on *Confessions*
Book 10, Chapter 27
St. Augustine of Hippo, 354–430
Adapt. by Ken Canedo

Ken Canedo

INTRO *Pensively* (♩ = ca. 86)

Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7 Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7

REFRAIN

Late, so late have I loved you.

Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7 Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7

beau - ty so an - cient and new;

Gm Am7 B♭ C Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7

al - ways you're near yet — far from my view.

Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7 Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7

© 2021, 2022, Ken Canedo. Published by Spirit & Song®, a division of OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

Edition 30149496

Printed in USA

to Verses **Final rit. Fine**

Hum - bly, I turn to you.

Gm Am Bbmaj7 C Dm Am7 Bbmaj7 Am7 to Verses **Final Dm rit. Fine**

VERSES

1. God, you al - ways were with me, yet from you I went a -
 2. God, you called 'til I heard you, and your ra - diance helped me

Gm Am7 Bbmaj7 C Dm Am7

1. stray, for temp - ta - tion cap - tured my rest - less
 2. see. I can breathe your fra - grance when you are

Dm Bbmaj7 C Bb F/A

1. heart but your love turned night in - to day. **D.S.**
 2. near, and you touched me, now I am free.

Gm Em7(b5) A **D.S.**

Prayer of St. Augustine

(Guitar/Choral)

Based on *Confessions*
Book 10, Chapter 27
St. Augustine of Hippo, 354-430
Adapt. by Ken Canedo

Ken Canedo

INTRO *Pensively* (♩ = ca. 86)

Capo 5: (Am) (Em7) (Fmaj7) (Em7) (Am) (Em7) (Fmaj7) (Em7)
Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7 Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7

(Pno)

REFRAIN

(Am) (Em7) (Fmaj7) (Em7) (Am) (Em7) (Fmaj7) (Em7)
Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7 Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7

Melody

Late, _____ so late _____ have I loved you, _____

Tenor (*8vb*)

Alto
Harmony

(Dm) (Em7) (F) (G) (Am) (Em7) (Fmaj7) (Em7)
Gm Am7 B♭ C Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7

beau - ty _____ so an - cient and new; _____

beau - ty _____

(Am) (Em7) (Fmaj7) (Em7) (Am) (Em7) (Fmaj7) (Em7)
Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7 Dm Am7 B♭maj7 Am7

al - ways _____ you're near _____ yet _____ far _____ from my view. _____

(Dm) Gm	(Em) Am	(Fmaj7) B♭maj7	(G) C	(Am) Dm	(Em7) Am7	(Fmaj7) B♭maj7	(Em7) Am7	Final (Am) Dm
------------	------------	-------------------	----------	------------	--------------	-------------------	--------------	---------------------

Hum - bly, _____ I turn to you. _____

to Verses *Fine*

VERSES

(Dm) Gm	(Em7) Am7	(Fmaj7) B♭maj7	(G) C	(Am) Dm	(Em7) Am7
------------	--------------	-------------------	----------	------------	--------------

1. God, you al - ways were with me, _____ yet from you I went a -
2. God, you called 'til I heard you, _____ and your ra - diance helped me

(Am) Dm	(Fmaj7) B♭maj7	(G) C	(F) B♭	(C/E) F/A
------------	-------------------	----------	-----------	--------------

1. stray, for temp - ta - tion cap - tured my rest - less
2. see. I can breathe your fra - grance when you are

(Dm) Gm	(Bm7(b5)) Em7(b5)	(E) A
------------	----------------------	----------

1. heart but your love turned night in - to day.
2. near, and you touched me, now I am free.

D.S.

Prayer of St. Augustine

CELLO

Ken Canedo

INTRO *Pensively* (♩ = ca. 86)

REFRAIN 16

VERSE 1

REFRAIN

VERSE 2

FINAL REFRAIN

© 2021, 2022, Ken Canedo. Published by Spirit & Song®, a division of OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

Composer Notes

Saint Augustine of Hippo, renowned theologian, is revered as a Church Father from the Patristic Period. His influence on doctrine and spirituality was felt throughout the Middle Ages and beyond, right up to our modern day.

Born in the year 354, Augustine was a rowdy youth who got involved in petty theft and sins of the flesh – much to the dismay of his Christian mother, Monica—herself a canonized saint who prayed constantly for her son’s conversion. Under the mentorship of Saint Ambrose, Augustine was baptized at age 40. He was eventually ordained a priest and appointed as Bishop of Hippo, a coastal center in northern Africa. A dynamic preacher and writer, his *Confessions* was the first Christian biography and is considered one of the great masterpieces of Western literature.

I have always been drawn to Saint Augustine’s story of conversion, detailed at length in *Confessions*. “Prayer of St. Augustine” is based on his lovely poetry from Book 10, Chapter 27. “Late, so late have I loved thee, O God, thou beauty so ancient and yet so new.”

This is a brief and accessible song of reflection that would fit well during liturgy at the Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts, or as a Song of Praise after Communion. It is also appropriate for Reconciliation services and retreats. Although it can be an effective solo piece, an assembly will quickly learn to sing the refrain and, if desired, the verses. The recording reveals a subtle jazzy vibe that contemporary ensembles will enjoy, but “Prayer of St. Augustine” can also be performed only with piano or even with just one guitar. The simple choral and cello arrangements will add texture and nuance.

—Ken Canedo

Preview

Assembly Edition

PRAYER OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Ken Canedo

Refrain

Late, so late have I loved you, beau-ty
so an-cient and new; al-ways you're near yet
far from my view. Hum-bly, I turn to you.

Verses

1. God, you al-ways were with me, yet from you I went a -
2. God, you called 'til I heard you, and your ra - diance helped me
1. stray, for temp - ta - tion cap-tured my rest - less
2. see. I can breathe your fra-grance when you are
1. heart but your love turned night in - to day.
2. near, and you touched me, now I am free.

to Refrain

Text based on *Confessions*; St. Augustine of Hippo, 354-430; Book 10, Chapter 27; adapt. by Ken Canedo.
Text and music © 2021, 2022, Ken Canedo. Published by Spirit & Song®,
a division of OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

For reprint permissions, please visit OneLicense.net or contact us at 1-800-663-1501.

