

Side Notes: I wrote this song as an arrangement for choir and violin in 2003 and then revamped the song to work as a piano solo in 2011. The composer, Lowell Mason, set a poem by Sarah F. Adams to music in 1856 and published the song in a collection known as The Sabbath Hymn and Tune Book. The song received rave reviews in 1900 when a choir of over 1,500 people performed it in Philadelphia.

Numerous accounts from the survivors of the Titanic make reference to this song. One journal entry states, "As the Titanic was sinking, the doomed passengers sang "Nearer My God to Thee." Those who were fortunate enough to get into life boats heard the song." I can't think of a more appropriate song and message to share in such a situation.

The fifth verse includes a great thought as well... "Still all my song shall be, Nearer my God to Thee." I can't think of a better statement to end with. Hopefully all of the music in this book helps bring others closer to God.

Nearer, My God To Thee

Arranged by
JASON TONIOLI

Reverently

p

With Pedal

6

11

16

Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

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21

Musical notation for measures 21-24. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 21 starts with a whole rest in the treble and a quarter rest in the bass, followed by a quarter note G4. Measure 22 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note G3 in the bass. Measure 23 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note A3 in the bass. Measure 24 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note Bb3 in the bass.

25

Musical notation for measures 25-28. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 25 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note C4 in the bass. Measure 26 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note D4 in the bass. Measure 27 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note E4 in the bass. Measure 28 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note F4 in the bass.

29

Musical notation for measures 29-33. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 29 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note G3 in the bass. Measure 30 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note A3 in the bass. Measure 31 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note Bb3 in the bass. Measure 32 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note C4 in the bass. Measure 33 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note D4 in the bass.

34

Musical notation for measures 34-37. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 34 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note E4 in the bass. Measure 35 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note F4 in the bass. Measure 36 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note G4 in the bass. Measure 37 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note A4 in the bass.

38

Musical notation for measures 38-41. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 38 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note Bb4 in the bass. Measure 39 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note C5 in the bass. Measure 40 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note D5 in the bass. Measure 41 has a half note chord of G4-Bb4 in the treble and a quarter note E5 in the bass.