

# COME TO THE BANQUET

for S.A.B. voices, accompanied\*

Words and Music by  
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Expressively (♩ = ca. 88-92)

ACCOMP. *mp*

5 S. *mp* (opt. solo) **7** UNISON  
A. Come to the ban - quet God has pre -  
B.

10  
pared, a ta - ble of plen - ty, no cost has been spared.

\* Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 16056

15

*mp* (opt. solo) (tutti) *mp*

Christ is our ser - vant, we are His \_ guest

(tutti) at a

19

feast of for - give - ness where all will be blessed, a

*mf* *mf*

23

*rit.* *mp a tempo* *poco rit.*

feast of for - give - ness where all will be blessed.

*mp*

*mf* *rit.* *mp* *a tempo* *poco rit.*

28 *a tempo* *mp unis.*

All the ways that He

Come and re-mem-ber as you eat the bread the

33 *mp unis.* 36

fed you by the words that He said. Rest and

There's rest for the wea-ry,

38

strength, O — come and re-mem-ber the Sav-iour of

strength for the small. O

43 *mf* *rit.*

all, O come and re - mem - ber the Sav - iour of all.

*mf* *rit.*

48 (49) *a tempo*  
*unis.*

Come to the ta - ble, re - joice in the wine that re -

*a tempo*

53 (57)

fresh - es the spir - it, brings peace to the mind. Come drink your

*mf*

58

fill till hearts o - ver flow, O — come to the ban - quet where

63

God's grace is shown. *cresc.* *rit.* 66 *a tempo*  
Go from the *f unis.*

*cresc.* *rit.* *a tempo*  
*f*

67

ban - quet with hearts strong and pure, — your place at the

71

74

7

Handwritten: *sib*

unis.

ta - ble for - ev - er se - cure. Ask all who

75

*rit.*

*mf unis.*

hun - ger to join with you there, for there's

*rit.*

79

*a tempo*

room at the ban - quet,

*mf*

room at the ban - quet,

*a tempo*

*mf*

83 *mf* *rit. al fine*

room at the ban - quet and plen - ty to

*rit. al fine*

87

share.

*rit.* \*

**Come to the Banquet** is an anthem for communion and for Maundy Thursday services. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Exodus 12: 1-14, Psalm 116: 12-19, Matthew 26: 17-29, Mark 14: 12-25, Luke 22: 7-23, and 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26. One basic homiletical theme is an invitation to join the body of Christ in a feast of forgiveness at the Lord's table.

This gently flowing anthem should be performed legato, with a prevailing feeling of one large pulse per measure. The phrases should be breathed as the text dictates. For example, measures 7-14 should be sung as two 4-measure phrases, while measures 15-22 should be sung as 2 + 6. Listen carefully for the near-constant eighth notes of the accompaniment, allowing them to imbue the singers' phrases with motion. To improve rhythmic precision and choral tone, rehearse the entire anthem on the neutral syllable "noo," pulsing constant eighth notes as you refine dynamic shading, breathing, and consistency of tone throughout the vocal register.

**Joseph M. Martin** is Director of Church Music Marketing for Shawnee Press, an accomplished pianist, nationally recognized clinician, and a widely published composer. With music degrees from Furman University and the University of Texas at Austin, he is the owner of MusiKids, a national preschool music education program.

