Hosanna Piano Preludes

Easter Vol. I

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Come Follow Me



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I Need Thee Every Hour



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In Memory of the Crucified



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He Died That We Might Live Again



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Jesus Has Risen



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Hosanna

Rita S. Robinson, 1920



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Easter Hosanna



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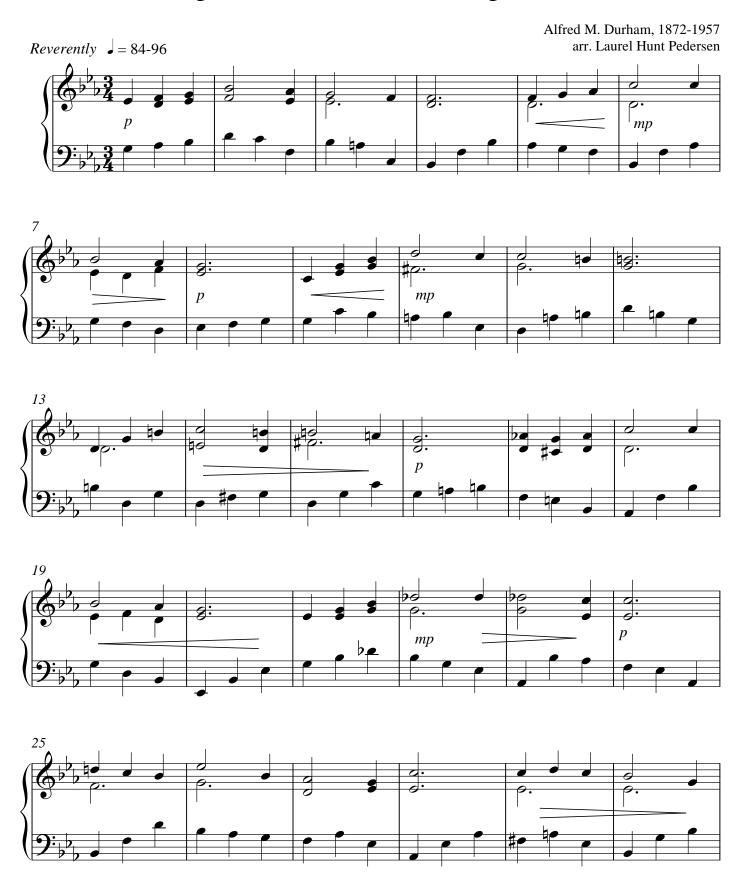
My Redeemer Lives



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I was very young, just a Beehive in Young Women's when the bishop of our ward invited me to visit with him in his office. With a little fear and a lot of curiosity, we met. He called me to play for Primary. I was thrilled to be attending Young Women's and consequently informed him that I was now old enough for Mutual. Gently he smiled and reassured me that I could play for Primary on Thursday afternoons and still attend Young Women's each Wednesday evening. With that understanding, I gladly agreed to my first music calling.

During my first Primary as pianist, the chorister had a "choose your favorite song" time. I was terrified as I had to sight-read a couple of Primary songs that were unfamiliar to me. I determined that would never happen again. That week I divided the Primary songbook into 50 page sections and every day practiced a new group. By the following week I was prepared to play anything they might choose.

I was soon called to play for Junior Sunday School. We held opening exercises and then dismissed for classes. To increase hall reverence, the Senior Sunday School opening exercises were dismissed about five minutes before the children. Due to this I arrived a few minutes late to class each week. One day one of the boys in our class who did not know I played for Junior Sunday School, began to chide me about being constantly late. A friend came to my rescue and informed him that I was there fifteen minutes early so I could play prelude for the children.

When I was a sophomore in high school, our ward faced the dilemma of not having a single Priesthood brother who could play the piano. Again the bishop called me into his office. He told me that as this was a Priesthood calling, he was not calling me, just inviting me to attend Priesthood each Sunday morning, with my father, and play for their opening exercises. I was never called, sustained, or set apart for this position, but for one year I faithfully attended opening exercises. My father would tease and say, "Now that her brother is on a mission, I just take my daughter to Priesthood with me." About a year later there was a young deacon who could play, and I ceased attending Priesthood opening exercises.

These and many other experiences in my youth taught me to love our hymns and Primary Songs. They can offer comfort and peace to all who sing or play them.

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