

For God

so loved the world

Song for Assembly and Choir or Cantor
for Lent & Maundy Thursday

2nd edition

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Bear Music
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For God so loved the world

Words and Music
by Martin Foster

Refrain

For God so loved the world that he gave his on - ly Son that

ev - 'ry - one who be - lieves in him, be - lieves in him shall have e - ter - nal

life; shall have e - ter - nal life.

1st & last tune

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It features a vocal line with lyrics, a bass line, and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand accompaniment. The lyrics are: "For God so loved the world that he gave his on - ly Son that ev - 'ry - one who be - lieves in him, be - lieves in him shall have e - ter - nal life; shall have e - ter - nal life." The score includes a section labeled "1st & last tune" which repeats the final phrase of the refrain.

Sundays of Lent Year A
verses from Psalm 32

Verses

life. _____ 1. For the word _____ of the Lord _____ is _____ faith - ful _____
 2. They are hap - py, whose _____ God _____ is the Lord, _____
 3. The _____ Lord _____ looks on those _____ who re - vere him, _____
 4. Our _____ soul _____ is _____ wait - ing for the Lord. _____

_____ and _____ all _____ his _____ works _____ to be trus - ted. _____ The _____
 _____ the _____ peo - ple he has cho - sen as his own. _____ From the
 _____ on _____ those _____ who _____ hope _____ in his love, _____ to _____
 _____ The _____ Lord _____ is our help _____ and our shield. _____ May your

Lord _____ loves _____ jus - tice and _____ right _____ and _____
 heav'ns _____ the _____ Lord _____ looks _____ forth, _____ he _____
 res - cues _____ their _____ souls _____ from _____ death. _____ to _____
 love _____ be up - on us, O _____ Lord, _____ as we

fills _____ the earth with his love. _____ For...
 sees _____ all the chil - dren of men. _____
 keep _____ them a - live in in fa - mine. _____
 place _____ all our hope _____ in you. _____

Verses

life. _____

1. For the word _____ of the Lord _____ is _____ faith - ful _____

2. They are hap - py, whose _____ God _____ is the Lord, _____

3. The _____ Lord _____ looks on those _____ who re - vere him, _____

4. Our _____ soul _____ is _____ wait - ing for the Lord. _____

_____ and _____ all _____ his _____ works _____ to be trus - ted. _____

_____ the _____ peo - ple he has cho - sen as his own. _____

_____ on those who _____ hope _____ in his love, _____

The _____ Lord _____ is our help _____ and our shield. _____

_____ The _____ Lord _____ loves _____ jus - tice and _____ right _____ and _____

_____ From the heav'ns _____ the _____ Lord _____ looks _____ forth, _____ he _____

_____ to _____ res - cues their _____ souls _____ from _____ death. _____ to _____

May your love _____ be up - on us, O _____ Lord, _____ as we

fills _____ the _____ earth _____ with _____ his _____ love. _____ For...

sees _____ all _____ the _____ chil - dren _____ of _____ men. _____

keep _____ them _____ a _____ live _____ in _____ fa - mine. _____

place _____ all _____ our _____ hope _____ in _____ you. _____

Sundays of Lent — Year B

Verses from Psalm 84

Verses

life. _____ 1. O _____ Lord, you once fa - voured your land _____
 2. Will you not re - store a - gain our life _____
 3. I will hear what the Lord _____ has to say, _____
 4. The _____ Lord will _____ make _____ us _____ pros - per _____

_____ and re - vived _____ the _____ for _____ tunes of Ja - cob, _____ you for -
 _____ that your peo - ple may re - joice in _____ you? _____ Let us
 _____ a _____ voice _____ that _____ speaks of _____ peace. _____ His _____
 _____ and our earth _____ shall _____ yield its _____ fruit. _____

gave the _____ guilt of your _____ peo - ple, _____ you _____
 see, O _____ Lord _____ of your _____ mer - cy _____ and
 help is _____ near for those who fear him _____ and his
 Jus - tice will march _____ be - fore him _____ and _____

calmed _____ the heat of your an - ger. _____ For...
 give us your will dwell in _____ help. _____
 glo - ry shall fol - low our his land. _____
 peace _____ steps. _____

Verses

life. _____

1. O Lord, you once fa - voured your land _____

2. Will you not re - store a - gain our life _____

3. I will hear what the Lord has to say, _____

4. The Lord will make us pros - per _____

_____ and re - vived _____ the _____ for _____ tunes of Ja - cob, _____

_____ that your peo - ple may re - joice in _____ you? _____

_____ a voice that speaks of _____ peace. _____

_____ and our earth shall yield its fruit. _____

_____ you for - gave the _____ guilt of your _____ peo - ple, _____ you _____

_____ Let us see, O Lord your _____ mer - cy _____ and _____

_____ His help is near for those who fear him _____ and his _____

_____ Jus - tice will march _____ be - fore him _____ and _____

calmed _____ the heat of your an - ger. _____ For...

give us your sa - ving help. _____

glo - ry will dwell in our land. _____

peace shall fol - low his steps. _____

Sundays of Lent —Year C

Verses from Psalm 85

Verses

life. _____

1. Turn your ear, O Lord and give an - swer _____
 2. O Lord, you are good and for - giv - ing, _____
 3. I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart _____
 4. But you, God of mer - cy and com - pas - sion, _____

_____ for I am poor and nee - dy. _____ Pre -
 _____ full of love to all who call. Give _____
 _____ and glo - ri - fy your name for ev - er: _____ for you
 _____ slow to an - ger, O Lord, _____ a -

serve my life for I am faith - ful: _____ save your
 heed, O Lord, to me has been prayer great: _____ and at -
 love to me has been great: _____ you have
 boun - ding in love and truth, _____

ser - vant who trusts in you. _____ For...
 tend to the sound of my voice. _____
 saved me from the depths of the grave. _____
 turn and take pi - ty on me. _____

Verses

life. _____

1. Turn your ear, O Lord and give an - swer _____
 2. O Lord, you are good and for - giv - ing, _____
 3. I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart _____
 4. But you, God of mer - cy and com - pas - sion, _____

_____ for full of I am poor and nee - dy. _____
 _____ and love to all who call. _____
 _____ slow glo - ri - fy your name for ev - er: _____
 _____ to an - ger, O Lord, _____

Pre - serve my life for I am faith - ful: _____ save your
 Give heed, O Lord, to me has been prayer and at -
 for you love to me has been great: _____ you have
 a boun - ding in love and truth, _____

ser - vant who trusts in you. _____ For...
 tend to the from take sound of my voice. _____
 saved me and take depths of the grave. _____
 turn and take pi - ty the on me. _____

Maundy Thursday

Verses

piu mosso

We should glo - ry in the cross of our Lord Je - - sus Christ.
By his cross and re-sur - rec - tion Christ has set us free.

He is our sal - va - tion, our life and re - sur - rec - tion,
He is the Sa - viour, he is the Sa - viour,

rit. a tempo
— through him we are made free.
— the Sa - viour of the world.

Assembly Edition

For God so loved the world

Refrain

For God so loved the world — that he gave his on - ly Son —
— that ev - 'ry - one who be - lieves in him, be - lieves in him, shall
have e - ter - nal life, — shall have e - ter - nal life. —

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Note

For God so loved the world grew out of a reflection on the Entrance Antiphon for Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper and the question of what other text might be suitable as an alternative Galatians 6:14. The antiphon text became the basis for one of the verses.

The melody of the refrain is intended to echo late 18th – early 19th century hymn tunes so that it feels familiar to the congregation and they can sing it with conviction — enabling them to make the 'leaps of faith' at the end of the refrain!

As beginning the Maundy Thursday liturgy with a new song did not seem to be a good idea I decided to introduce it over the Sundays of Lent. In the first edition this was achieved by the provision of verses for every Sunday of Lent which evoked images and phrases from the Liturgy of the Word.

In the second edition a simpler solution is offered of a psalm setting. The same melody is used for each of the 3 years of the Cycle but a different psalm text is used. The psalm is chosen to reflect the broad themes of the Lectionary in each year. The verses can be sung in unison or 4 parts and it is assumed that 1 or 2 verse would be used each week.

The music for the verses for Maundy Thursday is different to show the change of liturgical season and bring fresh vigour to the occasion.

