

PHILIP SPAETH

LORD,  
IT IS GOOD

(2009)

Ostinato Refrain for Cantor, Choir, Assembly,  
and Keyboard Accompaniment

## LORD, IT IS GOOD

### PERFORMANCE NOTES:

This piece utilizes a four measure *ostinato* refrain that can be repeated as many times as desired, and so there are many ways in which it can be performed. For example:

The Refrain may be sung by itself, as many times as desired or necessitated by the liturgical action, by the Cantor and Assembly, with or without the Choir.

The Choir may sing the Refrain in unison of the melody or in parts.

The Cantor may sing the verses superimposed over the Refrain as it is being sung by another Cantor, the Choir, and/or the Assembly, or the Cantor may be singing by themselves, alternating with the Refrain.

If a Choir is present that can sing all four parts, the Refrain may be sung without keyboard accompaniment.

The accompaniment itself may be improvised and embellished upon, as long as the harmonic structure remains intact.

Chord symbols are provided to facilitate possible participation by guitarists, and may also aid in improvisation by the accompanist or other instrumentalists.

In other words, this piece is intended to be extremely flexible to many musical and liturgical circumstances, but ultimately should result in a meditative sung repetition of the Refrain text.

# LORD, IT IS GOOD

Based on Psalm 73

Philip Spaeth

♩ = 60

## Ostinato Refrain

Capo 5: C  
F

Dm7  
Gm7

Em7  
Am7

G  
C

Am  
Dm

E♭

F/G  
B♭/C

G  
C

(Melody)

S Lord, it is good for us to be with you, to put our hope in you, O God.

A Lord, O Lord, it is good, O Lord it is good to hope in you, O God.

T Lord, O Lord, it is good for us to be with you, to put our hope in you, O God.

B Lord, it is good for us to be with you, to put our hope in you, O God. —

## Superimposed Verses

1. How good is God to Is - ra - el, to all the pure of heart!  
But I came close to stum - bl - ing; my feet had al - most slipped,
2. For I was en - vious of the proud, of those who serve them - selves.  
They see, not enden or be - reft, not strick - en like the rest.
3. I strove to un - der - stand these things, too com - plex for my mind,  
Un - til I reached your Ho - ly Place, and there, dis - cerned their end.
4. Be - side me you have al - ways been, have al - ways held my hand.  
with coun - sel you will guide my steps, and lead me back to you.
5. What else have I in heav'n but you? No earth - ly goods suf - fice.  
My heart and flesh may waste a way, but God will be my strength.

## Accompaniment

Accompaniment

ASSEMBLY REPRINT:

Based on Psalm 73

**LORD, IT IS GOOD**

Philip Spaeth

*Ostinato Refrain*

Lord, it is good for us to be with you,  
to put our hope in you, O God.

© 2009 by Philip Spaeth. All rights reserved.

[www.NorthernSpireMusic.com](http://www.NorthernSpireMusic.com)