

BEHOLD
THE
LAMB

AN EASTER
MUSICAL

REHEARSAL GUIDE

by Dennis Allen

“COME, PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING”

The Gettys have brought so much wonderful music to the church. This song is a powerful declaration, and it is packed with verse after verse of strong truth. Take time to rehearse crisp enunciation of this great text. On the choruses, bring the energy and volume up to match the exciting statement, “Rejoice, rejoice! Let ev’ry tongue rejoice!”

“COME TO THE TABLE”

Michael Card is one of the few writers to create an up-tempo communion song. The quicker tempo will require work to distinctly pronounce the lyrics. Practice this *a cappella* so you can clearly hear trouble spots. Another part of the creativity in this song is unique harmonies, especially in meas. 27, 33, 41, 47-49, and other spots. Listen to the demo, and then match your choir’s careful tuning to what you hear.

“BEHOLD THE LAMB (THE COMMUNION HYMN)”

This is another wonderful Keith and Kristyn Getty hymn. Pay close attention to the sensitive text. Notice that the verses alternate between unison and SATB singing, and the chorus has long phrases. Spend quality rehearsal time on making smooth transitions in the verses, and maintaining vocal energy through the chorus phrases.

“THE WONDERFUL CROSS”

Isaac Watts is one of the greatest hymn writers in musical history, and his “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” has stood the test of time. However, this new chorus, written by Chris Tomlin, Matt Redman, and others, has also stood the test of time and is well loved. Your congregation will want to join in singing this familiar, powerful hymn.

“I STAND AMAZED IN THE PRESENCE”

with “Behold the Lamb”

This has always been one of my favorite hymns. It tells the amazing story of Jesus’ sacrifice, and then gives the singer an opportunity to respond in worship. The slower tempo will give the beautiful text a chance to sink in with the listener. Once you get to the key change at meas. 56, add the excitement and energy needed to match the final verse. The great Dottie Rambo song “Behold the Lamb” concludes this arrangement, and should be sung with power.

“JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY”

with “All Hail King Jesus”

Though not as widely sung as “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today,” this hymn is in most every hymnal, and it contains a strong statement of faith. We have added a new worship chorus to the hymn, transforming the arrangement into an exciting worship anthem. In the middle you find the powerful chorus “All Hail King Jesus.” Invite your congregation to join in singing this great Easter medley, which can be used any Sunday.

“MIGHTY TO SAVE”

with “Come, People of the Risen King”

A favorite worship song begins the finale in this musical. Hopefully, the congregation will naturally join in singing this beautiful response to the truths presented in the songs and narrations they have heard. As you move toward the reprise of the opening song, let the *crescendo* swell starting in meas. 36 with “Shine your light.” Then sing this repeat of the Getty song with enthusiasm.