

FOR MY SISTER, MARY DEAN

FOREWORD

For many years, I have been asked to write out my varied harmonizations for well-known hymn tunes as I have played them in services of worship. I have assembled 20 of these harmonizations for this volume, and they can be termed “popular” by their common association with 45 beloved hymn texts found in most hymnals.

I hope these settings will afford much pleasure to organists and congregations alike. Since all of these settings were created to accompany unison singing, a word of instruction to the congregation and choir might be inserted in the service leaflet or announced before the hymn: **THE CONGREGATION IS ASKED TO SING THE FINAL [or whatever] STANZA IN UNISON.**

The free harmonization need not necessarily be reserved for the final stanza, nor should it always be played (as seems to be the custom) on full organ. Let the text being sung dictate the appropriate use.

Slight rhythmic and melodic variations appear in different hymnals. Organists may be obliged to make minor adjustments from these free harmonizations where necessary to accommodate these discrepancies.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gordon Young". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gordon" and the last name "Young" clearly distinguishable.

Detroit, Michigan
Spring • 1981

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