

Foreword

There are few things that I enjoy more than playing in an ensemble. That passion for creating music with other pianists helped inspire these arrangements. But more importantly for a collection of sacred arrangements is the message of the hymns included.

The title song, *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*, conveys the overarching theme of this collection. It is a prayer for Christ to lead us like a shepherd leads sheep to the safety of the fold. The book begins with a lively and worshipful setting of *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*, which is a reflection of Christ's leading his followers into a new kingdom. *I Need Thee Every Hour* and *O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus* are reflections on how much we must truly depend upon God to guide us. God's plan is perfect, God's love is boundless, and God's presence is steadfast in times of joy and pain. *Am I a Soldier of the Cross?* and *Bring Them In* contain our response to the leading of Christ. God desires to have a relationship with each of us, and we are responsible to share that wonderful message with the world. We must help to bring wandering sheep into the safety of our loving shepherd's fold.

As you play these pieces with a friend, may your heart be blessed in knowing that Christ is always leading us, and may you worship our Great Shepherd for his deep, unending love.

Shelton Ridge Love

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