

The Lord's My Shepherd *Stuart Townend*

STUART TOWNEND, ARR. HUGH LEVEY



CLARINET QUARTET

SCORE & PARTS

The Lord's My Shepherd (Psalm 23)

STUART TOWNEND

Psalm 23 is one of the most loved Christian hymns. It first appeared as an authorised part of formal praise in the Scottish Psalter of 1650 and remains in the hymn books of most Christian churches today. However, in 1996 contemporary hymn writer and musician Stuart Townend was inspired by the meaning of the words to create his own tune and modern text.

"I never set out to write a new musical version of this psalm – it seems very brave, or very arrogant, to think you can improve on the existing hymn version, which has been loved and sung by millions of people for so long! I was actually working on a different song at the time, which after several hours' hard work was not going well... I happened to flick to this psalm in my Bible while taking a break, a simple melody popped into my head, and the whole thing was written in ten minutes (something I wish as a writer would happen more often to me!)."

The psalm is familiar to many as a psalm of comfort, in, for example, funeral services. But I also noticed that the psalm uses a lot of 'movement' imagery (walking, leading, following, etc) that speaks to me of an active response of faith to what the psalm is saying – we are to live each day believing goodness and mercy are following us, that there are still waters and green pastures to be found. That's why I included a response in the chorus of "I will trust..."

This arrangement for clarinet quartet or quintet includes Townend's original lyrics, tune, and chorus response. Verses 1 and 2 use a version of the original harmonies. However, Verse 3 opens with a new, darker, minor-key harmonisation which matches the words, "Although I walk through the darkest path", before returning to the brighter major key for the chorus. To play as a quartet, omit Clarinet 4. Each verse is arranged differently so that it provides sufficient musical interest as an instrumental recital piece, or for accompanying weddings and funerals. However, it is equally suited to worship and church settings; a lead vocal sheet with chord symbols is included. The tempo markings are the arranger's own, so can be adjusted to suit your musical interpretation. A flexible ensemble version of this arrangement is available for Worship; including transposed parts in Bb, F and Eb and in different clefs.

Duration: 3 minutes 20 seconds

Cover images: (1) *The Good Shepherd, 19th Century, Artist Unknown, US Library of Congress via https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Good_shepherd_LCCN2001700236.jpg* (2) *Clarinet, Yamaha Corporation, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons*

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The Lord's My Shepherd

Stuart Townend (based on Psalm 23)

Stuart Townend (Arr. Hugh Levey)

$\text{♩} = 76$
Verse 1

The image displays a musical score for five Bb Clarinet parts, labeled Bb Clarinet 1 through Bb Bass Clarinet. The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 76. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1 through 4, and the second system contains measures 5 through 8. A large, semi-transparent watermark with the letters 'W' is centered over the score. The text 'PREVIEW ONLY' is overlaid in blue across the middle of the first system. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte).

10

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B♭ Cl. (opt)

B♭ B. Cl.

PREVIEW ONLY

15

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B♭ Cl. (opt)

B♭ B. Cl.

20 Verse 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B♭ Cl. (opt)

B♭ B. Cl.

PREVIEW ONLY

24

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Cl. 3

B♭ Cl. (opt)

B♭ B. Cl.

The Lord's My Shepherd

Stuart Townend (Arr. Hugh Levey)

Tempo: $\text{♩} = 76$ **Key:** Eb **Chords:** Eb Fm Bb EbSus Eb Eb Ab Bb Eb

Vocal 1:

Vocal 2:

V1 The Lord's my
(V3) (And though I

Tempo: $\text{♩} = 76$ **Key:** Eb **Chords:** Eb Bb EbSus/Bb EbSus Eb Gm Ab

Voc.1:

Voc.2:

shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me lie in pas - tures
walk the dark - est path, I will not fear the e - vil

Tempo: $\text{♩} = 76$ **Key:** Eb **Chords:** Bb Bb/D Bb AbMaj7 Bb7 Eb/G Gm Cm9 Cm

Voc.1:

Voc.2:

green - one, He leads me by the still, still Your wa - ters, His
one, For You are with me, and Your rod and staff, Are the

Tempo: $\text{♩} = 76$ **Key:** Eb **Chords:** Fm Bb7 Eb Eb Eb Bb7

Voc.1:

Voc.2:

good - ness re-stores my soul. And I will trust in You a -
com - fort I need to know.)

I will trust, I will

14 EbSus Eb Eb Gm Ab Bb Bb Ab Gm/Bb

Voc.1 lone, and I will trust in You a - lone, for Your end - less mer - cy

Voc.2 trust in You I will trust, I will trust in You end - less mer - cy

18 Eb Gm7 Cm9 Cm Fm Bb To Coda Eb Fm Bb EbSus Eb

Voc.1 fol - lows - me, Your good - ness will lead me home.

Voc.2 fol - lows me, Your good - ness will lead me home.

22 Eb Ab Bb Eb Eb Bb7 Eb Eb

Voc.1 He guides my ways in right - eous - ness, And He an -

Voc.2

26 Gm Ab Bb Bb Abmaj7 Bb7 Eb/G Gm Cm9 Cm

Voc.1 oints my head with oil, And my cup, it ov - er - flows with - joy, I

Voc.2

30 Fm Bb Eb Eb

Voc.1 feast on His pure de - lights. And I will

Voc.2