

Variations on
A Hymn My Grandmother Loved

His Yoke is Easy

By Ralph Erskine Hudson

Ellen Schwindt



His Yoke is Easy

The Lord is my Shepherd
I shall not want.
He maketh me down to lie
In pastures green He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

His yoke is easy; His burden is light.
I've found it so, I've found it so.
He leadeth me by day and by night
Where living waters flow.

My soul crieth out "Restore me again,
And give the strength to take
The narrow path of righteousness
E'en for his name's sake."

Yea, tho' I should walk the valley of death,
Yet why should I fear from ill?
For Thou art with me,
And Thy rod and staff me comfort still.

by Ralph Erskine Hudson, published 1855

My Grandmother, Mildred McCracken Marion, loved this hymn. I made these variations in honor of her and in honor of my mother, her daughter, Della Marie Schwindt née Marion on the occasion of Mother's Day 2020.



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♩ = 44-52

The musical score is written for piano and consists of five systems of music. Each system has a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The first system is marked 'Piano' and 'p'. The second system is marked 'Pno.' and 'mp'. The third system is marked 'Pno.', 'mp clearly', and 'with sostenuto pedal'. The fourth system is marked 'Pno.', 'slowing', and 'p'. The fifth system is marked 'Pno.', 'pp', and 'Tempo I'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings.

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31 *pp* *mp* *8va* *slowing* *Slower* *p* *lightly*

36 *mp*

40 *p*

44 *mp* *warmly*

48

52 *Very Slow* *p*

58 **Rubato, accelerando**

Pno.

64 **Tempo I**

Pno.

70

Pno.

74 *pp* **Slightly Slower**

Pno.

slowing *broadly*

78

Pno.

slowing

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Three Little Pieces by Ellen Schwindt. These solo piano pieces, ranging from slightly difficult to demanding, are pleasingly tonal but offer a bit of dissonance. The book includes “The End is the Beginning,” “Two Part Invention; Three Part Inversion,” and “Tryptych.” The three pieces were composed between 2013 and 2015, and can be played as a suite or separately. \$7

Two Dances for Four Hands by Ellen Schwindt. Scored for one piano, four hands, these pieces range from easy to moderately difficult. Includes “Spanish Dance,” written for Judy Kennedy in the style of the Spanish Dances by Enrique Granados, and “Waltz for Cindy,” written for Cynthia Aramowicz. Composed 2015-2016. \$5

Five Rhythmic Recreations by Ellen Schwindt. Scored for violin and viola, these duets are composed on the scale Oliver Messiaen termed the second mode of limited transposition. This scale is made up of two identical tetra-chords made by taking a half step, a whole step, and a half step. The two tetra-chords are separated by a whole step. In only three transpositions one arrives at the original sequence of notes. Composed in 2015-2016. Score and parts are included. \$8

Four Modes of Consciousness by Ellen Schwindt. This string quartet, composed in 2015, is meant to be played without pause, but each “movement” has a title: Trouble, Resolve, Industry, and Quiet. Score and parts are included. \$32

Method Book Miniatures by Ellen Schwindt. These are a set of four miniatures for violin and piano inspired by tunes John Thompson used in his piano method book “*Teaching Little Fingers to Play*.” The four pieces are Arpeggio Dance, Wichita Bells, Slavic March for Two, and Skipping. The violin part is accessible to players of intermediate skill level. The piano part is a bit more difficult. Score and separate violin part included. \$8.

Sonata in the Old Style by Ellen Schwindt. This piano sonata in e flat major uses a romantic style to pay homage to Beethoven, Haydn, Zipoli, and Arvo Pärt. Three movements comprise the whole: Pastorale, Adagio Cantabile and Trio, and Andante Semplice. \$8

Some of these pieces are available as electronic files for interested players. If you prefer paper copies, you may order the printed versions. To order, mail payment plus \$2 shipping for each piece to Ellen Schwindt, 783 Davis Hill Road, Center Conway, NH 03813. inquiries to ellen.m.schwindt@gmail.com. Downloadable pdfs available at IMSLP.org.