

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

Words of Verses: James Quinn SJ

Music: Ephrem Feeley

Stately (♩ = 80)

Violin

Organ *mp*

REFRAIN:

Vln. *(tacet until after Verse 2)*

5

I am the bread of life that feeds all the world. I am the li-ving wa-ter

I am the bread that I am the wa - ter

Org. *mf*

5

8

Vln.

8

quen-ching your thirst. I am the gate-way to the Fa-ther a-bove.

Org.

11

Vln.

11

1-5 To Verses Final

Come live in me, and live for e-ver. e-ver.

Org.

VERSES:

Cantor:

16

Vln.

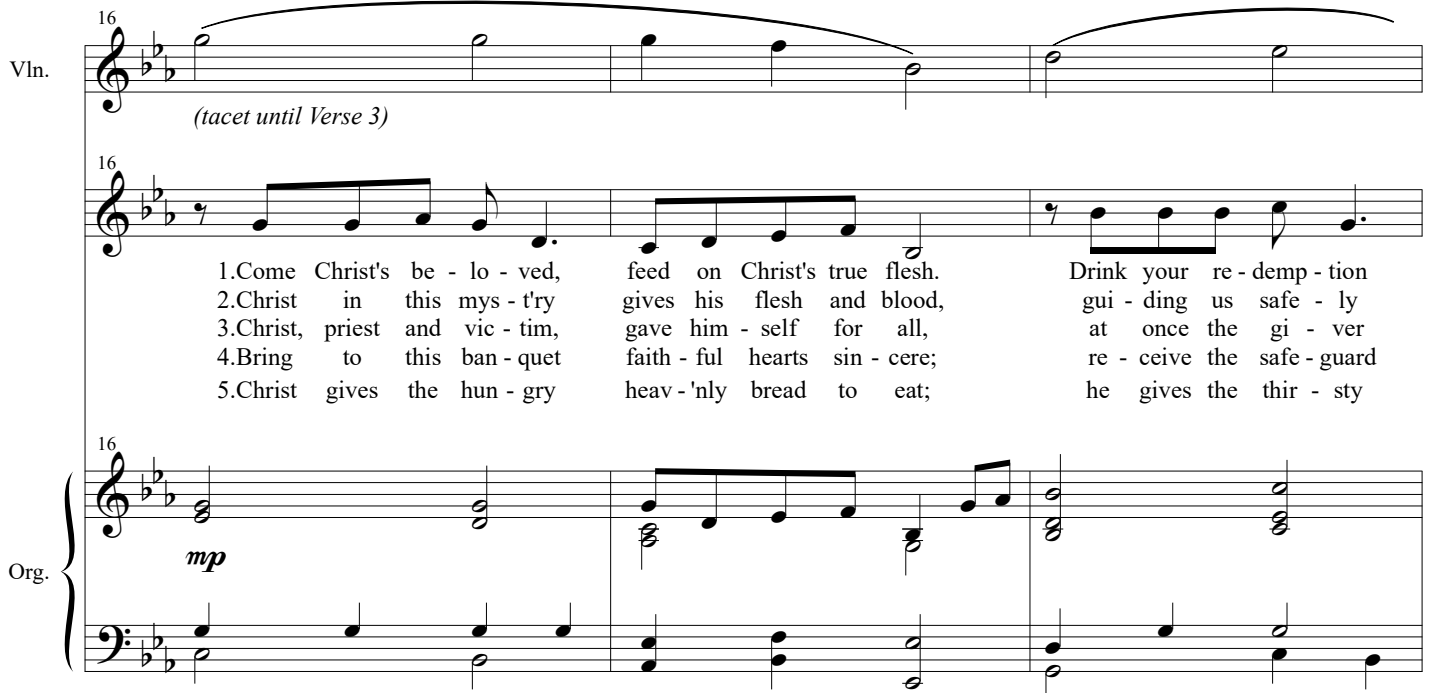
(tacet until Verse 3)

16

1. Come Christ's be - lo - ved, feed on Christ's true flesh. Drink your re - demp - tion
2. Christ in this mys - t'ry gives his flesh and blood, gui - ding us safe - ly
3. Christ, priest and vic - tim, gave him - self for all, at once the gi - ver
4. Bring to this ban - quet faith - ful hearts sin - cere; re - ceive the safe - guard
5. Christ gives the hun - gry heav - 'nly bread to eat; he gives the thir - sty

16

Org. *mp*



19

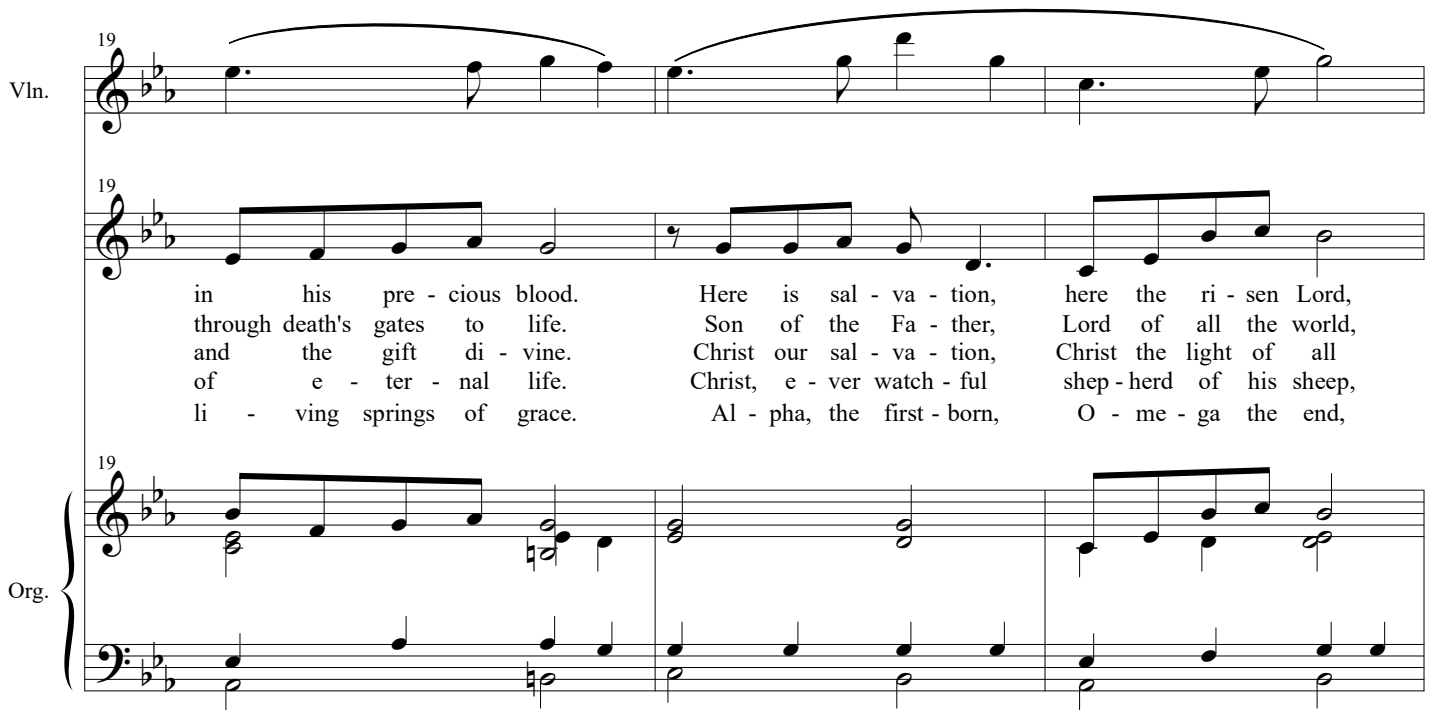
Vln.

19

in his pre - cious blood. Here is sal - va - tion, here the ri - sen Lord,
through death's gates to life. Son of the Fa - ther, Lord of all the world,
and the gift di - vine. Christ our sal - va - tion, Christ the light of all
of e - ter - nal life. Christ, e - ver watch - ful shep - herd of his sheep,
li - ving springs of grace. Al - pha, the first - born, O - me - ga the end,

19

Org.



22

Vln.

22

here God's great ban - quet; let us thank our God.
 Christ is our Sa - viour through his cross and blood.
 has yet en - riched us by this gift sub - lime.
 gives true be - lie - vers life that knows no end.
 you came as Sa - viour, you will come as judge.

22

Org.

rit.

To Refrain

Composer's Notes:

In John's Gospel, there are a number of times when Jesus uses the statement "I Am", which his followers would have automatically linked to the divine name. This text by James Quinn references several of these statements (Christ as the Bread of Life, the Gateway, the Light of the World), and also an I Am statement found three times in the Book of Revelation (the Alpha and Omega). In this hymn, I have added a refrain that uses the I Am statements. The verses may be sung by cantor, or choir. I have used this piece in many ways in liturgy: as written, with full choir; a simple performance with cantor and assembly; or with a two-part refrain, using just soprano and tenor lines. All are musically effective.

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