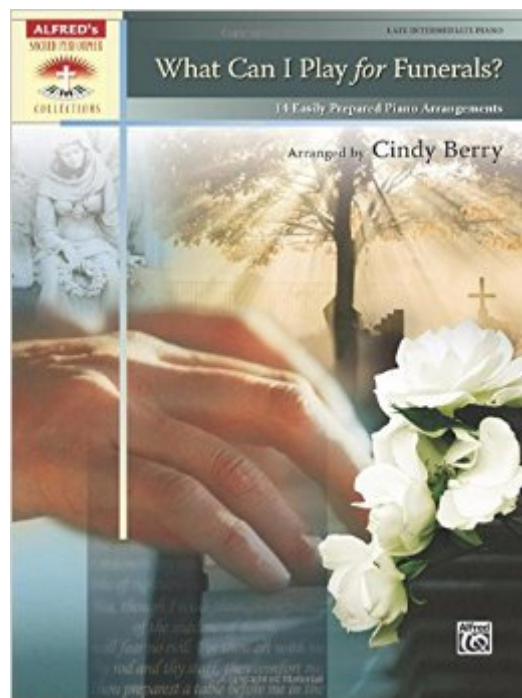


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# What Can I Play For Funerals?: 14 Easily Prepared Piano Arrangements (Alfred's Sacred Performer Collections)



## Synopsis

This collection features arrangements that are especially appropriate for funerals, contained in one readily accessible book. Approximate performance times for each piece are included to assist in planning. Titles: Because He Lives \* Face to Face \* Great Is Thy Faithfulness \* His Eye Is on the Sparrow \* How Great Thou Art \* I Need Thee Every Hour / Abide with Me \* In the Garden \* Just a Closer Walk with Thee \* My Faith Has Found a Resting Place \* Nearer My God to Thee \* Rock of Ages \* Shall We Gather at the River / Sweet By and By \* What a Friend We Have in Jesus \* When We All Get to Heaven.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #759,608 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #236 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Religious & Church Music](#) #242 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Religious & Sacred Music > Hymns](#) #570 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Religious & Sacred Music > Christian](#)

## Customer Reviews

I was uncertain when buying this book, because even from the reviews I couldn't tell what the difficulty level of it was. I ordered it anyway. The book is part of Alfred's series and lists itself on the cover as "Late Intermediate". That still doesn't tell me much, because I really didn't know what level to call myself. I play pretty well. I'm a decent sight-reader, but not as dexterous as in years past. Anyway, the book came. It has lovely arrangements. I played through the book a couple times just sight-reading. Today I used it for a funeral. The arrangements are fairly simple, but have interesting chord structures, modulations, and are interesting to listen to. Here is some concrete info about the level of play required. While many songs are in the key of C, F, or G, there are songs that

are in (or modulate to) three sharps (A), 5 flats (Db) etc. Songs are written in 0-5 flats and 0-3 sharps. Almost every song modulates to a different key. Be prepared to read a bunch of accidentals, especially during modulations. The songs seem to begin more simply, and progress to more difficulty during the piece. Be prepared to play four-note chords with the right hand and octaves with the left. Besides funerals, this book's arrangements are good for Communion playing within churches whose members may sometime wish for "the oldies". I played "In the Garden" for Communion this past week and had several come up to tell me how much they'd appreciated it. Simple, but played with expression, it was the right piece. I'm looking through the other titles, and want to add to my stash of music with these. 5 of 5!

Not sure what I expected, but this was much better. Also not sure if I'd play any of them during a funeral. Certainly in the interlude before the service. Some of these wonderful arrangements are pretty stirring. For that reason I can see myself playing all of these on Sundays for regular services.

Another excellent book by Cindy Berry. The arrangements are perfect to be played during funerals. They are favorite hymns nicely arranged and are done so very quietly and worshipfully. Every church pianist needs this book included in her library of music for piano solos. Cindy Berry does an excellent job on all her books and I enjoy playing them for my congregation.

As a pianist, I was disappointed in this book. I am an Intermediate pianist and can usually play this level without much practice. The practice time for this book as an intermediate player would require more than the two days prior to the funeral. I still have hope that someone will publish an easier piano arrangement book for funerals with less practice time but more embellishment than a straight hymn.

The description fits the book. The songs are easily prepared - I was able to sit down and sight read all of the songs quite well. Just what I was looking for. Planning on using it for church preservice music, offertories, postservice music, and yes, funerals. Will be looking at other Cindy Berry arrangements for future use.

These are very simplistic in terms of the musicality (and technicality), but I'm spoiled by all my Mark Hayes offertory books. I'd be better off just playing from the hymnal, fancying up the hymns on my own, then playing these. They do not appeal to me at all. If you play every Sunday at church, these

are likely much too easy for you.

This has to be Cindy's best book. It is fairly easy and is listed as Late Intermediate. So far, this is my favorite of Cindy's books. It has some of the old favorites like: Great Is Thy Faithfulness, His Eye is On The Sparrow, Just a Closer Walk with Thee, Rock of Ages and others but; the best part is that it is Intermediate and not so Late Intermediate that the selections are not too hard to play. However, if you are Intermediate I would think these selections would take some hours of practice before playing for a congregation--the songs are not for cold play.

These arrangements are great and you don't have to use them just for funerals. It is a good book to have if you need music for a funeral, but they are suitable for preludes in a regular church service too.

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