

HYMNAL Highlight

Musician's Resource

Musician's Resource is the place for enhancing congregational singing . . . lead sheets, arrangements for liturgical ensemble, alternate choral stanzas, instrumental and vocal descants, alternate accompaniments, and more are available for a la carte purchase as PDF downloads.

Currently more than 850 resources are available with more coming in the future. Many of these can serve congregations using CW93 as well as those using the new hymnal. The largest categories are: almost 500 Instrumental Doubling Packs, over 100 Modulations, more than 90 Choral Alternates, 70+ Lead Sheets, nearly 30 Liturgical Ensemble, and 24 Instrumental Descants.

Some of these resources cover more than one hymn. The most striking example is the package "Easy Lead Sheets for 347 Hymns with Text and Tune in Public Domain or © NPH." If your church sometimes uses guitar to lead hymns, this is a great value at \$29.99. With a focus on public domain hymns and NPH copyrights, this doesn't include many new hymns. But it does include all kinds of hymns not in collections available from other publishers, especially Lutheran heritage hymns. "Look inside" to see the contents and a few samples.

The most popular resource "type" is Instrumental Doubling Packs (also called Instrumental Chorale Parts Packs). These make it easy to add wind and string instruments that play in a variety of transposing keys to a hymn, thus enriching the sound and involving the congregation's instrumentalists—including any capable grade school and high school players.

It's good to involve other instruments as often as possible, but especially for festivals. As you make plans for Easter worship, explore the resources available to enrich that day's hymns. And check out the liturgy packs for Setting 2 and Setting 3 for 1) liturgical ensemble and 2) brass, timpani, strings, synthesizer and more. Find these by selecting the setting from the "Rites" dropdown on the MR search form.

Visit *Musician's Resource* often. Its contents grow regularly as more resources are developed and pass copyright permissions.

online.nph.net/musicians-resource