For Choir
Cantor Assembly
Keyboard and Guitar
with Two C Instruments
and String Quartet

Marty Haugen

SHEPHERD ME
O GOD
For Ken Mervine and St. Anne’s Church, Raritan, New Jersey.

SHEPHERD ME, O GOD

Psalm 23, adapt. by M.H. Marty Haugen

Gentle and tranquil \( \frac{d}{\text{d}} = 54–58 \)
Introduction

Capo 1:  (Em)  (C)  (G)  (D)  (Bm7)  (C)
\[ \text{Fm} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{Ab} \quad \text{E} \quad \text{Cm7} \quad \text{D} \]

\[ \text{mp} \]

\[ \text{Am7} \quad \text{Bm7} \quad \text{Em} \quad \text{B} \quad \text{m/F} \quad \text{Am} \]
\[ \text{Cm7} \quad \text{Bm7} \quad \text{D} \quad \text{b} \quad \text{C} \quad \text{D} \]

*N.B.–If the woodwind or string arrangement is used, the piano should enter at measure 5.

See pages 12–13 for a part for two woodwinds.

Notes

The 23rd Psalm appears numerous times in the lectionary; it is also appropriate for the Order of Christian Funerals. The language of this setting, especially the refrain, moves away from the familiar biblical text not in order to change the meaning of the psalm, but in an attempt to uncover anew the deep and profound truth of God’s intimate relationship with us.

The accompaniment is deliberately sparse, and the instrumentation should support the assembly and choral voices, and “frame” the words without calling attention to itself. One keyboard instrument or two guitars are sufficient. There are optional parts for a string quartet available separately from the publisher, G-2950INST.

Although there are choral parts written throughout, the setting may be done with a single cantor singing the melody line, especially if the setting were to be done at weddings or funerals. On the fourth verse the choral harmonies may also be done as 2-part (soprano and tenor).

Thank you to Ken Mervine for suggesting this psalm setting and various ideas on its form and use.
Refrain (1st time unison; may be intoned by cantor)

S. A unis. *\textit{mp}*

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

T. B unis. *\textit{mp}*

Shepherd me, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death to life.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(Em)} & \quad \text{(C)} & \quad \text{(G)} & \quad \text{(D)} & \quad \text{(Bm)} & \quad \text{(C)} \\
\text{Fm} & \quad \text{Db} & \quad \text{Ab} & \quad \text{Eb} & \quad \text{Cm} & \quad \text{Db}
\end{align*}
\]
Verses 1–3

Cantor or Choir

1. God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I
2. Gent-ly you raise me and heal my wea-ry soul, you
3. Though I should wan-der the val-ley of death, I

(Em) (Am/E) (Em?) (A/E)
Fm Bm/F Fm7 B/F

rest in the mead-ows of faith-ful-ness and love, I walk by the
lead me by path-ways of right-eous-ness and truth, my spir-it shall fear no e- vil, for you are at my side, your rod and your

(Em) (Am/E) (Em?) (A/E) (Am?)
Fm Bm/F Fm7 B/F Bm7

qui-et wa-ters of peace.
sing the mu-sic of your name.
staff, my com-fort and my hope.

(Bm7) (Am/C) (D) (Em) (Am/E) (Em?) (A/E)
Gm7 Bm/D E Fm Bm/F Fm7 B/F

(To Refrain II)
Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.
4. You have set me a banquet of love

(Am)  (D)

Bbm  Eb

4. You have set me a banquet of love

(Am)  (D)

Bbm  Eb

(Am)  (Am7/G)

Bbm7/A

Verse 4 (may be sung 2-part — soprano and tenor)

in the face of hatred,
crowning me with

(G)  (C)

(Ab)  (Db)

(Am)  (Am7/G)

Bbm7/A

love beyond my pow'r to hold.
Refrain III

mp a tempo

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, be-

mp a tempo

Shepherd me, O shepherd me beyond my wants, be-

(E₃m) (C) (G) (D₉)

F₉n D₉b A₉b E₉b

a tempo

fears, from death into yond my fears, death to

(yond my fears, death to

(B₃m₇) (C₃m₇) (A₃m₇) (B₃m₇)

C₃m₇ D₉ B₉m C₃m₇
Verse 5

*Cantor or Choir*

5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me

all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my life.
God forever.

(C)  
(Db)  
(D)  
(Em)  
(Am/E)  
(Em7)  
(A/E)  

Final Refrain

Choir, unis.

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from

(Em)  
(Db)  
(C)  
(G)  
(Ab)  
(Em)  
(Bm7)  
(Cm7)  
(D)  

p a bit slower

Death into life.

(Am7)  
(Bm7)  
(C)  
(D)  
(Em)  
(Am/E)  
(F)  

pp

rit.

Licensed to Washington Revels Jubilee Voices, limit 1 copy.
2 Woodwinds in C

SHEPHERD ME, O GOD

Marty Haugen

Gentle and tranquil \( \text{\textit{j}} = 54-58 \)

\[ \text{\textit{Refrain}} \]

\[ \text{\textit{Verse 1}} \]

\[ \text{\textit{Refrain}} \]

\[ \text{\textit{Verse 2}} \]
THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER OF THIS EDITION — presuming that sufficient copies have been purchased for choir, cantor, organist, instrumentalists, etc. — is authorized to photoduplicate the material printed in this box for use solely by his/her own parish/community. This authorization is only for assembly use, and only for disposable service bulletins. The entire contents (but not the box itself) must be reproduced. Removal of the title, writer’s name or copyright notice is prohibited, although they may be reset to match the type style of the remainder of the bulletin material. Written permission must be obtained for all other uses.

SHEPHERD ME, O GOD
Psalm 23, adapt. M.H. Marty Haugen

Copyright © 1986 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved

For licensing needs or questions, go to OneLicense.net. 1–800–663–1501.

An electronic version of this reprint material is available through HymnPrint.net.