

John 3:16
(For God So Loved The World)

I was at a church music conference where Hoyt Hickman was introducing the newly published supplemental hymnal to the 1989 United Methodist Hymnal called "The Faith We Sing". At lunch he happened to sit at the same table that I chose (however, I was there first). I was listening to the table conversation where Mr. Hickman lamented that there were no new vocal arrangements for John 3:16 -- and I took that as a challenge. This song is the result of that conversation.

John 3:16 is a verse that most every believer has committed to memory because in these "25 words or less" the great truth of the whole Bible is distilled - one verse and one profound message of love and hope.

This song is dedicated to four special pastors: Rev. Walter Damburg, Rev. Richard Beemer, and Rev. Ernest Weaver and Dr. Sherry Parker. Because of you, this scripture was planted in my heart and bore fruit. Two of you have gone home to be with the Lord and I never thanked you, well this is a very public expression of gratitude to those two that remain: May God continue to guide you, inspire you, and give you the strength and wisdom to live a life of Christian courage that you disciple many. Thank you for your years of prayer and study, preaching and teaching, shepherding and counseling -- may your reward be great in heaven.

Dear reader, please as you see this song or hear it on your CD. Let it remind you to pray for "those who watch for your souls," who carry the message of God's love contained in John 3:16.

Due to the nature of the music, please write me (Lora) for the sheet music. (Vocal parts are written out.) It is two pages total. You can buy it for \$1 each, or for a \$25 fee, you can buy the rights to copy it for your church musicians for as long as your church exists. I send you a master and you copy it guilt-free for your musicians.

Note all four verses are given on the CD, however, for weddings we include verse four, verse 3 is done during Communion, altar calls use verses one and two. This song's verses can be mixed and matched depending on the need.

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(For God So Loved The World)
by Lora L. Crombez © 2003

For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, that whoever believeth -that whoever believeth in Him - shall obtain eternal life.

Behold He's knocking at the door. Do you hear His still small voice? If you invite Him, if you invite Him in, He will come in and sup with you.

This is His body and His blood. Broken and shed for each of us. Take and eat. Drink ye all of it. Do this in remembrance of Him.

Care for one another in love. In unity of spirit becoming one - for there is one body, filled with one spirit, one hope, one God and Father of us all.