

Dear Lord, I Come Confessing

a hymn/song for when we are tempted to hate

Text: Constance Morgenstern
Tune: KINGSFOLD, traditional English

OR

Em C G D
Dear Lord, I come confessing

Em Am Bm
a hard'ning heart of late.

Em Am7 Em D
The grip of black-hole f o r c e s

Em Am7 Em
pulls toward a mouth of hate.

G Em Am G
Help me resist the i m p u l s e

Em C D
to name an "us" and "them,"

Em C G Am
and let me name instead my fears,

G Am Em
to bring to you again.

Em C G
Dear Lord, see to my heart;

D Em Am Bm
it's more like stone of late.

Em Am7 Em Bm
I've felt it tighten as a fist

Em Am7 Em
toward those I would not hate.

G Em Am G
Help me resist the i m p u l s e

Em C D
to name an "us" and "them,"

Em C G Am
then help me offer up my needs

G Am Em
and fears to you again.

Em C Em D
You taught us, Lord, some tough things:

G C D
Do good to those who hate;

C Am7 Em D
that anger counts with m u r d e r,

Em Am Em
and carries judgment's weight;

G Em Am G
that forgiveness and f o r g i v i n g

Em Am Bm
have meas'ring cups the same....

Em C Em D
Would I then share no mercy with

G Am Em
a soul for whom you came?

Em C G D
You came, Lord, in c o m p a s s i o n,

Em Am D
to cold, dark Bethlehem.

C Am7 G Bm7
And, on the way to meet your death,

Em Am7 Em
you mourned *Jerusalem!*

G Em Am G
You freely met with s i n n e r s;

Em C D
you did not count the cost;

Em C G D
you told how Heaven rejoices when

G Am Em
one is found who had been lost.

Em C G D
Your "No" to earthly power,

Em Am D
refused the Tempter plain.

C Am7 Em D
You gave, instead, your life poured out,

G Am Em*
and Spirit to remain.

G Em Am G
So let us, in your steps, Lord,

Bm Am7 D
spread blessing side-to-side.

C Am G D
To act in love, we can, because

G** Am7 E***
of peace that You provide.

* If doing this as a solo, you can hold on “remain” and replace the Em chord with C.

** Here, use the brighter G chord that includes a D on the second-highest string.

***End with E major for a lift.

(These chords don't match the accompaniment for KINGSFOLD in most church hymnals.)