

# Lord, Before that Quiet Meal

a communion hymn for congregation and keyboard

Text and music by  
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quietly, ♩ = ca. 86

Lord, be - fore that qui - et meal, the ta - ble and the bread..., a

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features a vocal line in the treble clef and a keyboard accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Lord, be - fore that qui - et meal, the ta - ble and the bread..., a". The keyboard part includes a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure.

hill - side thronged with hun - gry souls. You raised to God two fish, five loaves, which

*sl. accel.*

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The lyrics are: "hill - side thronged with hun - gry souls. You raised to God two fish, five loaves, which". The tempo marking *sl. accel.* is present. The keyboard part features a more active accompaniment.

at your break - ing, spread. The thou - sands, all, were fed.

*rit.*

The third system of musical notation concludes the hymn. The lyrics are: "at your break - ing, spread. The thou - sands, all, were fed.". The tempo marking *rit.* is present. The keyboard part features a more active accompaniment.

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Lord, Before that Quiet Meal

And, be-fore that qui-et meal..., you'd been a wed-ding guest. Your low-key turn-ing

This system contains the first five measures of the piece. The vocal line begins with a half note 'And,' followed by a quarter note 'be-fore' and a quarter note 'that'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a more active melody in the right hand.

wa-ter... wine brought cel-e-bra-tion - and a sign of God's own fu-ture  
*dancelike* *broadening* *sl. accel.*

This system contains measures 6 through 10. The lyrics 'wa-ter... wine brought' are followed by 'cel-e-bra-tion - and a sign of' and 'God's own fu-ture'. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar texture, and the tempo marking 'sl. accel.' appears at the end of the system.

fest, a - bun-dant-ly ex - pressed! Much rests in that qui-et meal, and

This system contains measures 11 through 15. The lyrics 'fest, a - bun-dant-ly ex - pressed!' are followed by 'Much rests in that qui-et meal, and'. The piano accompaniment features a more active bass line in the left hand.

what you said to friends. Be - cause your liv - ing ways they knew, your words, "I am the

This system contains the final five measures of the piece. The lyrics 'what you said to friends. Be - cause your liv - ing ways they knew, your words, "I am the' are followed by a final chord. The piano accompaniment concludes with a descending eighth-note line in the left hand.

Lord, Before that Quiet Meal

vine" rang true. And still, for us as them, the vine sup-plies the stems.

Now, *slower* you meet us for that meal. You've *rit.* bought the bread and wine. We

take these gifts, trust what you say, — *sl. accel.* fed by you un - til the day of Bride-groom and of

Bride and Feast that's Heav - en - wide. *rit.* *pp* *mf*