PERFECT PEACE

MEDITATIVE PIANO SOLOS

Arranged by Mary McDonald

Also available:

JMG1148...

....Listening CD

Alfred Sacred

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FOREWORD

For many church musicians, the pandemic of 2020 had a profound effect on our role as worship leaders. Many of us found more time in our day to play for enjoyment or personal worship rather than having to prepare for an upcoming service. It was during this time I experienced my relationship with God through music to be even more satisfying, for He, alone, was the only audience in the room and could hear the quiet meditations of my heart in a more personal way. We are blessed to serve the Lord through our gifts of music and, more importantly, to connect with His divine nature through our expressive musical offerings, whether we worship in the sanctuary or alone in our living room.

Perfect Peace is a collection of eight meditational settings of some of my favorite hymn tunes. Arranging these drew me even closer to the texts that inspired the tunes, allowing the words to sculpt the music's journey. Some of the hymns included are the beloved, It Is Well with My Soul and Great Is Thy Faithfulness. A few are arranged with partner songs such as Peace Like a River with Deep River and one of my favorite hymns, Be Still, My Soul with Be Still and Know. Feel free to take liberty with the tempos as you adapt each setting to your personal style and touch.

May you find the still, perfect assurance and peace of the Father as you lift your heart and hands in praise to Him, who alone is worthy of our song.



-Mary McDonald

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

with DEEP RIVER

Arranged by MARY McDONALD

Tunes: PEACE LIKE A RIVER and DEEP RIVER

Traditional American Spirituals







GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

Arranged by MARY McDONALD

Tune: FAITHFULNESS by WILLIAM M. RUNYAN





ABIDE WITH ME

Arranged by MARY McDONALD

Tune: EVENTIDE by WILLIAM H. MONK





LIKE A RIVER GLORIOUS

Arranged by MARY McDONALD

Tune: WYE VALLEY by JAMES MOUNTAIN





IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

Arranged by MARY McDONALD

Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE by PHILIP P. BLISS





MY FAITH HAS FOUND A RESTING PLACE

Arranged by MARY McDONALD

Tunes: LANDÅS and DONA NOBIS PACEM





BE STILL, MY SOUL

with BE STILL AND KNOW

Arranged by
MARY McDONALD



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Tune: FILANDIA

by JEAN SIBELIUS



NEAR TO THE HEART OF GOD

Arranged by MARY McDONALD

Tune: MCAFEE by CLELAND B. McAFEE







A lifelong native of East Tennessee, **Mary McDonald** has been playing piano since she was five years old. The youngest of six musical children, she became the family accompanist at holiday gatherings while the older children would sing. While growing up in a local Baptist church, Mary acquired a love for the church organ and, during her teenage years, began playing and arranging hymns for church. In 1974, she attended Carson-Newman College on a Home Economics scholarship but, upon hearing her play, was transferred into the Church Music department where she received formal study in organ. After graduation in 1978, Mary became church organist in an area church near Knoxville and began arranging and composing music for organ and eventually church choirs.

Today, Mary McDonald is a well-known composer of more than 1000 choral anthems and many keyboard collections. She previously served as sacred music editor for a major church publishing company and continues in an editorial consultant role. She is published with every major publisher for church music and has had numerous top-selling anthems. Her unique blend of heart, hands, and humor, combined with a wide range of writing and performing styles has kept her in constant demand for more than 40 years as a composer, keyboard artist, and as a choral clinician.

Mary is married to Brian, a Knoxville architect, and they have two married children and four grandchildren.