

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms is an arrangement of the beloved gospel hymn by A.J. Showalter and Elisha A. Hoffman. Its refrain was inspired by a verse from Deuteronomy 33: 27:

"The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms."

This anthem setting is appropriate for early Lent, stewardship or evangelism, or any time throughout the year. Additional suggested lectionary readings include Deuteronomy 26: 1-11, Psalm 91, Luke 4: 1-13 and Romans 10: 8b-13. One basic homiletical theme is God as our refuge and strength.

A.J. Showalter (1858-1924), a pious Presbyterian layman, composed the words and melody of the refrain. His friend Elisha A. Hoffman (1839-1929), a pastor and author of over 2,000 gospel songs, added the verses. The hymn was first published in 1887.

In rehearsal, strive for a relaxed gospel rhythmic swing. The syncopations should be performed with energy and precision. Sing the entire anthem on staccato "doo" until uniform ensemble and rhythmic precision are achieved. Caution the singers against the dangers of singing too loudly, which adds weight to the sound and makes the rhythms sluggish. Carefully tune the close harmonies (e.g., mm. 25-28, 53-56, etc.), singing them on a focused neutral syllable such as "noo" until they are properly blended and balanced.

Mark Hayes is an award-winning concert pianist, composer and arranger of sacred choral, piano and orchestral music. With over 400 published works to his credit, Mark has also recorded numerous solo piano albums and has received the Gospel Music Association's prestigious Dove Award, which is the equivalent to a Grammy in gospel music. A graduate of Baylor University, he has served as an adjunct professor of composition at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Missouri.

LEANING ON THE EVERLASTING ARMS

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied*

Arranged by
MARK HAYES

SHOWALTER
ELISHA A. HOFFMAN (1839-1929)
ANTHONY J. SHOWALTER (1858-1924)

Gospel shuffle (♩ = ca. 138) (♩ = $\overline{\overline{\overline{\text{3}}}}$)

UNISON VOICES

ACCOMP.

3

7

9 *mf*

What a fel - low - ship,

mf

3

*Also available for S.A.B. voices with descant, No. 21005.

Parts for 2 Bb trumpets, 2 trombones, alto and tenor sax, piano, bass, drums, electric guitar and director's score, No. 12252, and a full performance/accompaniment CD, No. 11886, are available separately.

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11

what a joy — di - vine, lean - ing

14

on the ev - er - last - ing — arms;

17

What a bless ed - ness, what a peace -

20

— is mine, lean - ing on the ev - er -

* No breath.
16061

23 SOPRANO & ALTO Unison

25

last - ing arms.
TENOR & BASS Unison

Lean

Musical notation for Soprano & Alto and Tenor & Bass unison parts, measures 23-25.

Piano accompaniment for measures 23-25.

26

ing, lean - ing,

Musical notation for Soprano & Alto and Tenor & Bass unison parts, measures 26-28.

Piano accompaniment for measures 26-28.

29

safe and se - cure from all a - larms; -
unis.

Musical notation for Soprano & Alto and Tenor & Bass unison parts, measures 29-31.

Piano accompaniment for measures 29-31.

32

33

Lean - ing,

Musical notation for measures 32-33. The vocal line features a long note on 'Lean' followed by a melodic phrase on 'ing,'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

Piano accompaniment for measures 32-33, showing the right and left hand parts.

35

lean - ing, lean - ing

Musical notation for measures 35-36. The vocal line continues with 'lean - ing, lean - ing'. Dynamics markings include *mf* and *f*.

Piano accompaniment for measures 35-36, including a triplet in the right hand.

38

on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Musical notation for measures 38-39. The vocal line concludes with 'on the ev - er - last - ing arms.' The piano accompaniment features a key signature change to two flats.

Piano accompaniment for measures 38-39, showing the final chords and melodic lines.

41

Oh, how sweet — to walk in this pil-

mf unis.

Oh, ————— how sweet — to walk

f mf

44

- grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er - last-

mf

this pil - grim way.

49

ing — arms; — Oh, how bright.

f

I'm lean-ing on Je - sus

50

the path grows from day to day,
 ev-'ry day and ev-'ry ho - ur.

53

mf

lean - ing on the ev - er - last ing arms..

56

57

Lean - ing,
unis.
 I'm lean - ing on my Je - sus' arms,

59

lean - ing, — safe and se -

He'll keep me safe — from ev - 'ry harm, safe and se -

62

cure from all a - larms;

65

Lean - ing, — lean - ing, —

unis.

He is my Rock, — my Hope, my Stay, He is my com -

68

mf

lean - ing on the ev - er -

- fort day to day, I'm lean - ing on the ev - er -

mf

mf

71

last - ing arms.

unis. f

What have

unis. f

What have

f

74

I to dread,

what have I to fear,

I to dread, what have I to fear,

3

77 *mf*

lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms _____ of _____ God?.

mf

mf

80 81

I have such bless - ed peace — with

v

83

Je - sus, my Lord so near, — lean - ing

v

86 *f* *mf unis.*
 on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Talk - in' 'bout

f

89 *mf unis.*
 Je - sus, talk - in' 'bout my sweet Sav - ior.
 Lean - ing, lean -

mf

92
 Je - sus keeps me hap - py and safe
 ing, safe and se - cure from

95

97

from all a-larms. — Talk-in' 'bout Je - sus,

all a - larms; — Lean -

98

talk-in' 'bout the Rock of A - ges, for - ev - er

ing, lean ing,

101

lean ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms... *f*

I'm lean - ing *mf* *f*

104 Soprano 105 *mf* Sing 2nd, 3rd, & 4th times only

The arms of Je - sus,

Alto *mf* Sing 3rd & 4th times only

Lean - ing,

Tenor *mf* Sing 4th time only

Je - sus, I'm lean-ing on

Bass *mf* Sing each time

I'm lean-ing on Je - sus, I'm lean-ing on

104 105

mf Play 4 times

107 1., 2., 3. 4.

the arms of my sweet Sav - ior, sweet Sav - ior,

lean - ing, ing,

Sing 3rd time only

Je - sus, I'm lean-ing on

Je - sus, I'm lean-ing on

107 1., 2., 3. 4.

110

cresc.

Yes, I am lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing

cresc.

Yes, I am lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing

cresc.

Yes, I am lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing

cresc.

Yes, I am lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing

110

cresc.

114

arms!

arms!

arms!

arms!

114

ff

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