

John 14: 6

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life."

Matthew 6: 33

*Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you.*

Jesus Is the Answer/Seek Ye First is an inspired partnering of two well-known songs by Andraé Crouch and Karen Lafferty. Suitable for performance throughout the church year, it may be especially appropriate for evangelism, stewardship and confirmation. Suggested corresponding scripture readings include Proverbs 9: 1-12, Matthew 6: 33 & 7: 7-12, John 14: 1-6 and 1 Timothy 2: 1-7. One basic homiletical theme is committing oneself to obedience and service to God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The arranger highly recommends the use of children's (or youth) choir for performance of the descant. Any combination of voices, divided equally, may sing Parts I & II in mm. 29-44, or the men may sing Part I and the women Part II. Congregational singing is also encouraged on the melody in the final verse (mm. 47-62).

Benjamin Harlan is Dean of the School of Church Music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. With degrees from Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Dr. Harlan is a widely celebrated church choral composer, arranger, and clinician.

The publisher hereby grants permission to reprint the text of this anthem for the purpose of performance with the congregation provided that a sufficient quantity of copies is purchased for the choir.

JESUS IS THE ANSWER/ SEEK YE FIRST

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied,
with descant or children's choir and opt. congregation*

Arranged by
BENJAMIN HARLAN

Words and Music by
ANDRAÉ CROUCH ("Jesus Is the Answer")
and **KAREN LAFFERTY** ("Seek Ye First")

Gentle, folklike rhythm (♩ = ca. 60-66)

ACCOMP.

N.C. *mf* *mf* *mf*

Ab Eb/G

4 Fm7 Eb/G Ab Ab/Bb Eb

7 SOPRANO ALTO TENOR BASS

9 *mf* *mf*

Je - sus is the an -

Bb F7sus/C Bb/D Bb F7sus/C Bb/D Eb

* Also available for S.A.B. voices, No. 19112, and 2-part any combination voices, No. 19113. Parts for alto and tenor sax, 2 trumpets, 2 trombones, synthesizer, guitar, bass, drums, glockenspiel, tambourine, chimes, triangle and director's score (No. 19115) and a full performance/accompaniment compact disc (No. 19114) are available separately.

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10

- swer _ for the world to - day. _ A -

Bb/D

Ab

Eb

13

bove Him there's _ no oth - er; Je - sus is _ the way, -

the way..

Ab

Eb/G

Fm7

16

He is the way. Je - sus is _ the an - swer _

Bb

F7sus/C

Bb/D

Eb

Bb/D

19

for the world to - day. — A - bove Him there's — no

Ab Eb Ab

22

oth - er; — Je - sus is the way. —

Eb/G Ab Ab/Bb Eb

25

Bb/Eb Ab/C Bb F7sus/C Bb/D Bb F7sus/C Bb/D

29 * DESCANT OR CHILDREN'S CHOIR (sing 3rd time only)

mp

Al - le - lu -

* PART I (sing all 3 times)

mf

Seek ye first the king - dom of

* PART II (sing 2nd and 3rd times)

mf

Je - sus is the an - swer for the world to - day.

29

E_b B_b/D A_b

(play mm. 29-44 3 times)

32

ia, al - le -

God and His right - eous -

A - bove Him there's no oth - er;

32

E_b A_b E_b/G

* Equal parts, any combination of voices.

35 37

lu - ia. Al -

ness, _____ And all these

Je - sus is the way. Je - sus is the an -

Detailed description: This block contains the first three vocal staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. It contains the lyrics 'lu - ia. Al -' with a measure rest in the second measure. The second staff has a treble clef and contains 'ness, _____' with a long horizontal line under 'ness' and 'And all these' in the second measure. The third staff has a treble clef and contains 'Je - sus is the way. Je - sus is the an -' with a measure rest in the second measure. A box containing the number '37' is located above the second measure of the first staff.

35 Fm7 37 Bb F7sus/C Bb/D Eb

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 35-37. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The key signature is two flats. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: Fm7, Bb, F7sus/C, Bb/D, and Eb. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes in both hands.

38

le - lu - ia,

things shall be add - ed un - to you.

- sver - for the world to - day. A -

Detailed description: This block contains the next two vocal staves. The first staff has a treble clef and contains 'le - lu - ia,' with a measure rest in the second measure. The second staff has a treble clef and contains 'things shall be add - ed un - to you.' with a measure rest in the second measure. The third staff has a treble clef and contains '- sver - for the world to - day. A -' with a measure rest in the second measure.

38 Bb/D Ab Eb

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 38-39. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The key signature is two flats. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: Bb/D, Ab, and Eb. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes in both hands.

41

al - le - lu, al - le - lu -
 Al - le - lu, al - le - lu -
 bove Him there's no oth - er; Je - sus is the way

41 Ab Eb/G Fm7 Ab/Bb

44

ia.
 (to p. 6, m. 29)
 ia.
 (to p. 6, m. 29)

44 Eb A/B

cresc.

(DESCANT OR CHILDREN'S CHOIR)

47

mf

Al - le - lu -

Al - le - lu -

(+ opt. congregation on melody)

S.

f

A.

Je - sus is the an - swer for the world to - day.

T.

B.

47

E

B/D#

f

50

ia,

al

le

A - bove Him there's no oth - er;

50

E

A

E/G#

53 55

lu - ia. Al -
the way. —

Je - sus is — the way, — He is — the way. Je - sus is — the an -
the way. —

53 F#m7 B F#7sus/C# B/D# 55 E

Detailed description: This system contains the first two systems of music. The top system shows vocal lines with lyrics 'lu - ia. Al - the way. —'. The middle system continues the vocal lines with lyrics 'Je - sus is — the way, — He is — the way. Je - sus is — the an - the way. —'. The bottom system is the piano accompaniment, with chords F#m7, B, F#7sus/C#, B/D#, and E marked above the staff.

56

le - lu - ia,
— swer for the world to - day. — A -

56 B/D# A E

Detailed description: This system contains the next two systems of music. The top system shows vocal lines with lyrics 'le - lu - ia, — swer for the world to - day. — A -'. The middle system continues the vocal lines. The bottom system is the piano accompaniment, with chords B/D#, A, and E marked above the staff.

59

al - le - lu, al - le - lu -

bove Him there's no oth - er; Je - sus is the way.

59

A E/G# A A/B E

62

ia.

(end congregation)

(rejoin choir)

mf

A -

mf

62

B/E A/C# Esus/B E/B

bove Him there's no oth - er; Je - sus

A F#m7 E/B F#7sus F#7 A E/G#

mf

70 is the way, *dim.*

F#7 A/B E A/E

73 *rit. mp* He is the way. *mp*

E A/E E

rit. mp

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