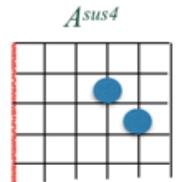


THE SERVANT SONG

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D *G D A D* *G D A*
Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
G D Em A7 Bm G Asus4 A D
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser- - vant too.



D *G D A D* *G D A*
We are pilgrims on a journey; we are travelers on the road;
G D Em A7 Bm G Asus4 A D
We are here to help each o - ther walk the mile and bear the load.

D *G D A D* *G D A*
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear.
G D Em A7 Bm G Asus4 A D
I will hold my hand out to you, Speak the peace you long to hear.

D *G D A D* *G D A*
I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
G D Em A7 Bm G Asus4 A D
I will share your joy and sor-row 'till we've seen this jour-ney through.

D *G D A D* *G D A*
When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony;
G D Em A7 Bm G Asus4 A D
Born of all we've known toge-ther of Christ's love and a - - -go-ny.

D *G D A D* *G D A*
Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you;
G D Em A7 Bm G Asus4 A D
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - - vant too.

Songs as you go

Scripture & History

Matthew 20:25-28 But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Richard Gillard (1953 -), the composer and lyricist of ‘The Servant Song’ described its origins in the following words.

“It was in the first half of 1976 that I wrote Verse 3 (‘I will hold the Christ-light for you ...’) but, initially, no more than that. It wasn’t until one particularly summery Sunday afternoon in December 1976 or January 1977, back in Auckland, that I took that scrap of paper out of my guitar case and began to meditate on that single verse, exploring the possibilities that it suggested. I remember that the other verses came quickly – although not in the order in which we now sing the Song.”

In 2001, the hymn was featured in a Remembrance Sunday broadcast from York Minster by the British TV programme, *Songs of Praise*. Richard Gillard adds that, although it “sounded wonderful played on the Minster’s grand organ, I still prefer the down-to-earth groundedness of a simple folk-song treatment but I let it go long ago. And that is as it should be.”

By C. Michael Hawn from www.stjtheb.ca/Resources/SJBnewsApril10.pdf and <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>