

Charles Crozat Converse
arranged by CaptaNova

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

For String Quartet



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Duration: 0'50"

Difficulty: 

INSTRUMENTATION

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello

PROGRAM NOTES

The lyrics of the song *What a Friend we have in Jesus* were written by the Irishman Joseph Medlicott Scriven. Scriven was born in Dublin in 1819 and had a great career ahead of him.

A few hours before his wedding, his bride was caught by a gust of wind on a bridge and drowned in the river before his eyes. Scriven then emigrated to Canada where he fell in love again and married. Shortly after the wedding, his wife became seriously ill and died.

A friend of Scriven's discovered the manuscript shortly before the author's death and asked him if he had written this poem. "*The Lord and I wrote it together*," Scriven replied. He had written it in 1857, shortly before the death of his second wife. With this he wanted to comfort his mother, who was suffering from the cruel strokes of fate of her son.

The poem, which speaks of the intimate relationship with Jesus, should never have been seen by anyone other than his mother. But it found its way to Ira D. Sankey, who included it as song No. 1 in the song collection *Gospel Hymns*.

LYRICS

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear;
what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, o what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptation? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer,
in His arms He'll take and shield thee, thou wilt find a solace there



What a Friend we have in Jesus

For String Quartet

Charles Crozat Converse

arr. CaptaNova

Joseph Medlicott Scriven

Violin I

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

♩ = 80

5

Violin 1 (Vln. I) and Violin 2 (Vln. 2) are in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The Viola (Vla.) and Cello (Vc.) are in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score shows a sequence of notes across four staves, with a measure number '5' at the top left.

What a Friend we have in Jesus

9

Vln. I

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 9 through 12 of the piece. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first violin (Vln. I) part begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4 with a sharp sign, then eighth notes B4, C5, D5, and E5, a half note F5, and a quarter note G5. The second violin (Vln. 2) part consists of a continuous eighth-note line: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F6, G6, A6, B6, C7, D7, E7, F7, G7, A7, B7, C8, D8, E8, F8, G8, A8, B8, C9, D9, E9, F9, G9, A9, B9, C10, D10, E10, F10, G10, A10, B10, C11, D11, E11, F11, G11, A11, B11, C12, D12, E12, F12, G12, A12, B12, C13, D13, E13, F13, G13, A13, B13, C14, D14, E14, F14, G14, A14, B14, C15, D15, E15, F15, G15, A15, B15, C16, D16, E16, F16, G16, A16, B16, C17, D17, E17, F17, G17, A17, B17, C18, D18, E18, F18, G18, A18, B18, C19, D19, E19, F19, G19, A19, B19, C20, D20, E20, F20, G20, A20, B20, C21, D21, E21, F21, G21, A21, B21, C22, D22, E22, F22, G22, A22, B22, C23, D23, E23, F23, G23, A23, B23, C24, D24, E24, F24, G24, A24, B24, C25, D25, E25, F25, G25, A25, B25, C26, D26, E26, F26, G26, A26, B26, C27, D27, E27, F27, G27, A27, B27, C28, D28, E28, F28, G28, A28, B28, C29, D29, E29, F29, G29, A29, B29, C30, D30, E30, F30, G30, A30, B30, C31, D31, E31, F31, G31, A31, B31, 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What a Friend we have in Jesus

For String Quartet

Charles Crozat Converse

Joseph Medlicott Scriven

arr. CaptaNova

$\text{♩} = 80$

Violin I

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

5

Vln. I

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

What a Friend we have in Jesus

9

Vln. I

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 9 through 12 of the piece. The first violin (Vln. I) part begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4 with a sharp sign, and then a quarter note B4. The second violin (Vln. 2) part consists of a continuous eighth-note melody starting on G4. The viola (Vla.) part features a series of chords, primarily triads, mostly on a half-note pulse. The cello (Vc.) part provides a harmonic foundation with a half-note melody, including a whole note G3 in the final measure.

13

Vln. I

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 13 through 16. The first violin (Vln. I) part continues with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4 with a sharp sign, and then a quarter note B4. The second violin (Vln. 2) part continues with a continuous eighth-note melody. The viola (Vla.) part continues with a series of chords, primarily triads, mostly on a half-note pulse. The cello (Vc.) part continues with a half-note melody, including a whole note G3 in the final measure.