

Not worthy, Lord! to gather up the crumbs

Felex Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, 1835

Communion
10.10.10.10

The first system of the musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the treble clef begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass line consists of a steady accompaniment of chords, primarily triads and dyads, with a final measure ending on a whole note G3.

The second system of the musical score continues the piece. It begins with a measure rest, followed by a melody in the treble clef that includes a half note G4, quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, and a half note D5. The bass line continues with accompaniment, including a measure with a whole note G3 and a final measure with a whole note G3.

Not worthy, Lord, to gather up the crumbs
With trembling hand that from Thy table fall,
A weary, heavy laden sinner comes
To plead Thy promise and obey Thy call.

I am not worthy to be thought Thy child,
Nor sit the last and lowest at Thy board;
Too long a wanderer and too oft beguiled;
I only ask one reconciling word.

One word from Thee, my Lord, one smile, one look,
And I could face the cold, rough world again;
And with that treasure in my heart could brook
The wrath of devils and the scorn of men.

I hear Thy voice; Thou bidd'st me come and rest;
I come, I kneel, I clasp Thy piercèd feet;
Thou bidd'st me take my place, a welcome guest
Among Thy saints, and of Thy banquet eat.

My praise can only breathe itself in prayer,
My prayer can only lose itself in Thee;
Dwell Thou forever in my heart, and there,
Lord, let me sup with Thee; sup Thou with me.

Edward Bickersteth