

# All God's Children

A Musical Exploring Young People's  
Lives and Concerns

Music, Lyrics, and Dialogue  
by Stan Graner

Unison/two part voices with keyboard.  
Orchestrated accompaniment track is also available.

**Related Products:**

Director's Kit (includes score and demo CD) - code CGK19

Demonstration CD - code CGCD1

Accompaniment Track CD - code CGCD2

Orchestrations included on Accompaniment CD and Demonstration CD are by Stan Graner.

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS:

### Major characters

Girls 1-5

Boys 1-4

Interviewers 1 and 2

“Mass Media”

“Peer Pressure”

Audience Member 1 (can be male or female), speaking and optional singing role

Audience Member 2 (female), speaking and optional singing role

Audience Member 3 (male), speaking and optional singing role

“Friend” soloist, speaking and singing role

Announcer

Team Captains 1 and 2

Sally Jessy Know-It-All

“Give Me Your Hand” soloists 1 and 2

### Minor characters

Voices 1-43

Athletes 1 and 2

Students 1 and 2

Team Members 1-1, 1-2, and 1-3

Team Members 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, and 2-4

Casting note: *All God's Children* is designed to be especially easy in casting. Feel free to assign multiple roles to each actor, or if you have a large number of performers, assign one actor per part.

## COSTUMES:

The general chorus needs no special costuming. For Interviewers 1 and 2, perhaps matching blazers. “Mass Media” and “Peer Pressure” need their special poster board cutouts as described on page 37. For Sally Jessy Know-It-All and her Announcer, once again blazers can be used.

Performance time is approximately 30 minutes.

*for Pat Messick and the Chorister Choir of Christ United Methodist Church  
Plano, Texas*

## MUSICAL NUMBERS:

SONG 1:	<b>All God's Children</b>	Chorus
SONG 2:	<b>Which Stories To Tell</b>	Chorus
SONG 3:	<b>Choices</b>	Girls Chorus, Boys Chorus, Girls 1-5, and Boys 1-4
SONG 4:	<b>I'm Walking With God</b>	Chorus, optional solos for Audience Members 1-3
SONG 5:	<b>The Friend You've Had All Along</b>	Chorus, with soloist
SONG 6:	<b>Give Me Your Hand</b>	Chorus, with two soloists
SONG 7:	<b>All God's Children Reprise</b>	Chorus

*All God's Children* was conceived with the idea of having 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders express their faith, their fears, and their everyday life situations. My friend Stan Graner, who wrote the musical for us, met with the children on several occasions and listened to them talk about all the things they struggled with in their everyday lives. While it was impossible to encompass all the subjects the children discussed, as some of them were of a serious and personal nature, he did come up with a very refreshing and uplifting musical that enabled them to celebrate the fact that they were indeed God's children. In the process of working with Stan and he with us, we all came to truly celebrate that amazing fact . . .

**WE ARE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN!**

Pat Messick, Director of Music Ministries  
Christ United Methodist Church  
Plano, Texas  
May 1999

# All God's Children

(Chorus)

Stan Graner

Stan Graner

*The cast comes running in from the back of the performing space, coming down the aisles and up onto the stage.*

Up tempo (♩ = 76)

Piano

*f*

Chords:  $\text{A}^{\flat}\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{B}^{\flat}\text{D}$ ,  $\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{A}^{\flat}\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{A}^{\flat}\text{C}$

*Everyone should "whoop it up" with various ad libs. (including greetings to the audience) as they get into place.*

4

Chords:  $\text{B}^{\flat}\text{D}$ ,  $\text{A}^{\flat}\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{B}^{\flat}\text{D}$ ,  $\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{A}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{E}^{\flat}\text{A}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{A}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{B}^{\flat}\text{sus}$

8

Chords:  $\text{B}^{\flat}\text{sus}_{2,4}$ ,  $\text{B}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{A}^{\flat}\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{B}^{\flat}\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{E}^{\flat}$ ,  $\text{A}^{\flat}\text{E}^{\flat}$

*sub. p*, *ff*, *f*, *mf*



13 All: *mf*

We are part\_\_ of a fam - 'ly tree,

$B\flat$   $E\flat$   $E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $B\flat$   $E\flat$

16

reach - ing fur - ther than we can see, life is more\_\_ than just

$E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $A\flat$   $Fm7$   $B\flat$   $E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$

19

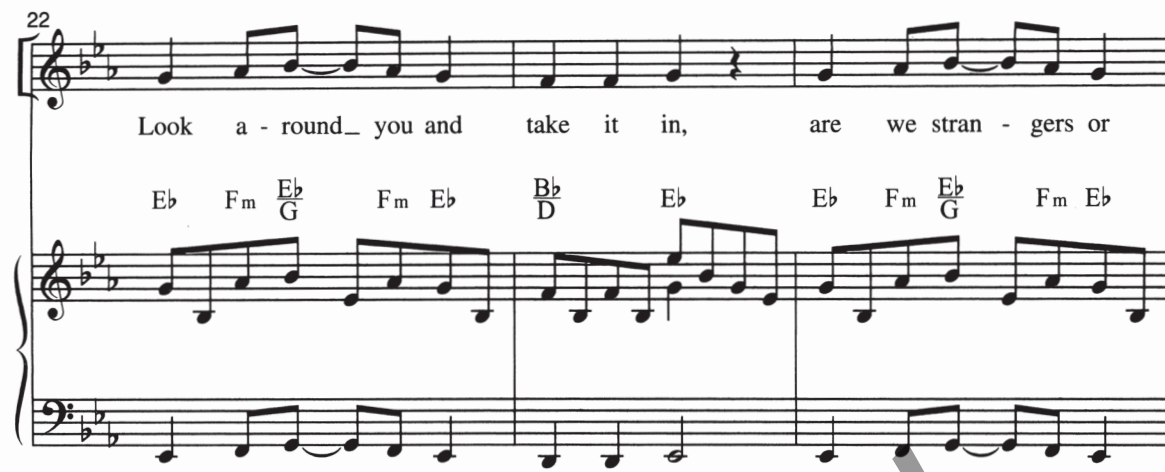
you and me, here in our fam - i - ly.\_\_\_\_\_

$B\flat$   $E\flat$   $A\flat$   $B\flat$   $E\flat$

22

Look a - round\_ you and take it in, are we stran - gers or

$E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $G$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $B\flat$   $D$   $E\flat$   $E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $G$   $Fm$   $E\flat$



25

are we kin? We're not dif - 'rent be - neath the skin,

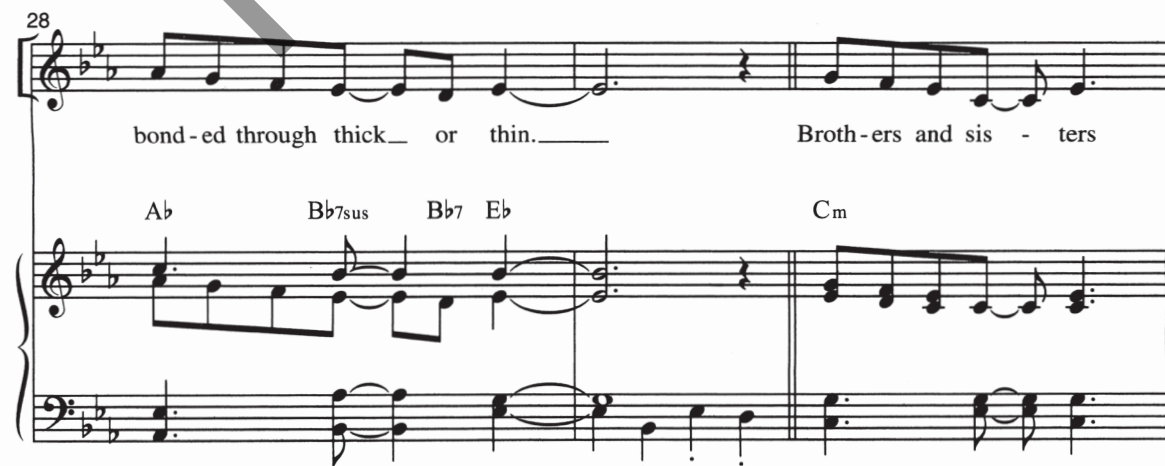
$A\flat$   $Fm7$   $B\flat7sus$   $B\flat7$   $E\flat$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $G$   $Fm$   $E\flat$   $B\flat$   $D$   $E\flat$



28

bond - ed through thick\_ or thin.\_\_\_\_\_ Broth - ers and sis - ters

$A\flat$   $B\flat7sus$   $B\flat7$   $E\flat$   $Cm$



*All lines are directed out to the audience.*

- VOICE 7:** We *are* all God's children.
- VOICE 8:** God created each and every one of us.
- VOICE 9:** And each of us is *special* in his or her own way!
- VOICE 10:** I'm a child of God, and I'm tall.
- VOICE 11:** I'm a child of God, and I have curly hair.
- VOICE 12:** I'm a child of God, and I wear glasses.
- VOICE 13:** I'm a child of God, and (*loudly*) I HAVE A BI-I-I-IG MOUTH!
- ALL:** (*in unison*) Tell us something we *don't* know!
- VOICE 14:** No two of us are exactly alike.
- VOICE 15:** Sometimes we like the ways that we're *different* from each other . . .
- VOICE 16:** And sometimes we like the ways that we're the *same* as each other.
- Athletes 1 & 2 and Students 1 & 2 step forward together in pairs.*
- ATHLETES 1 & 2:** (*in unison*) We're *both* good at soccer, and we help each other by practicing together after school.
- STUDENT 1:** I'm *great* at math, but my spelling's not so good.
- STUDENT 2:** I *won* the school spelling bee, but long division's a killer for me.
- STUDENTS 1 & 2:** (*in unison*) We help each other out by taking turns *tutoring* each other.
- VOICE 17:** Want to know more about our lives?
- VOICE 18:** Then stick around; we're going to be sharing about what it's like to be a kid in today's world.
- VOICE 19:** But since no two of us are exactly alike . . .
- VOICE 20:** . . .we'll be teaching not *only* you, but also each other . . . (*gesturing to the rest of the cast*) about *each other!*

## **SONG 2: Which Stories to Tell**

# Which Stories To Tell

(Chorus)

Stan Graner

Stan Graner

**VOICE 21:** There's so much to tell.

**VOICE 22:** I'm not sure we can  
cover it all.

**Driving** (♩ = 138)

Bb2

Ab2  
Bb

Bb2

Ab2  
Bb

Piano

*mp*

**VOICE 23:** So how do we decide what  
things to say?

**VOICE 24:** Or what things *not* to say?!

Bb2

Ab2  
Bb

Bb2

Ab2  
Bb

5

All: *mf*

Which sto-ries to tell,\_\_\_\_\_

what paths to ex - plo-re, \_

Bb2

Ab2  
Bb

Bb2

*mf*

12

which key in the lock

$A\flat_2$   
 $B\flat$   $B\flat_2$   $A\flat_2$   
 $B\flat$

15

to o - pen what door? As kids in the world

$B\flat_2$   $A\flat$   $B\flat_7\text{add}6$   $E\flat\text{maj}7$   $F$   
 $B\flat$   $D$   $E\flat$

18

to - day it some - times feels we've been dis - missed.

$Dm7$   $Gm$   $Cm7$   $F7$   $B\flat$   $E\flat$   $B\flat_7$   $Cm7$   $B\flat_7$   
 $B\flat$   $D$

21

Trials you o - ver - came — aren't strict-ly the same, — ours come with a

Em7b5 A7b9 A7 Dm G7 Gm7 C7

24

*opt.* mod-ern twist! — What facts to con - firm, —

F Gm7 F7sus Eb/F F7 Bb2

*mf*

27

what myths to de - ny, —

Ab2 Bb Bb2 Ab2 Bb



# Choices

29

(Girls Chorus, Boys Chorus, Girls 1-5, and Boys 1-4)

Stan Graner

Stan Graner

*The girls and boys move to center stage, merging the two groups together.*

Easy 2 (♩. = 60)

Piano *mf*

B $\flat$  B $\circ$ 7 C $\flat$  F B $\flat$  B $\circ$ 7

4 All girls: *mf*

Girls are ex - pect - ed to grow up dir - ect - ed to

C $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$ ma $\flat$ 7 G $\flat$ 7 B $\flat$  C $\flat$ 7 F7

7 Girl 1: *f* Girl 2: Girl 3:

one of the fol - low - ing fields: \_\_\_\_\_ A nurse! A teach - er! A

B $\flat$ ma $\flat$ 7 G $\flat$  C $\flat$ 7 F7 B $\flat$ ma $\flat$ 7 G $\flat$ 7



10

Girl 4: Girl 5: All girls: *mf*

moth-er! A wife! But there's noth - ing wrong with these op - tions in life! You're

Cm7 F7 Bbmaj9 D7 Eb C7  
E

13

right, they're not wrong, but the thing that we long for is choices,

B $\flat$  Gm7 Cm7 F7 B $\flat$ 6  $\frac{B\flat}{D}$

16

choi - ces, we want lots of choi - ces!

C<sup>o</sup>(addA) E<sup>o</sup>7 E<sup>b</sup>6 F<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>6 F13 F7<sup>b</sup>9

All the boys gather together near the front of the stage.

19

B $\flat$  B $\circ$ 7 C $\flat$  F B $\flat$  B $\circ$ 7

22 All boys: *mf*

Boys are ex - pect - ed to grow up pro - tec - tive and

C $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$ maj7  $\frac{G7}{B}$  C $\flat$ 7 F7

25 Boy 1: *f* Boy 2: Boy 3:

strong, to be king of the hill. A doc - tor! An ath - lete! A

B $\flat$ maj7 G $\flat$  C $\flat$ 7 F7 B $\flat$ maj7 G $\flat$ 7

# I'm Walking with God

39

(Chorus, with optional solos)

Stan Graner

Stan Graner

*As the song starts, Mass Media and Peer Pressure can remove their costumes and return to the chorus. The stools can also be moved out of the way.*

**Bouncy** (♩. = 100)

**Piano**

**Chorus:**

Chords: Bbmaj7, Cm7, Dm7, Eb, Eb/F, Bbmaj7, Cm7

**Optional solos – Audience Member 1 on Verse 1, Audience Members 2 & 3 on Verse 2 (or have everyone sing the entire song)** *mf*

4

1. I'm walk-ing with God \_\_\_\_\_ ev - 'ry  
2. With God at my side \_\_\_\_\_ what have

Chords: Dm7, Eb, Cbmaj7, Bbmaj7, Eb/Bb

*mf*

\*\* Throughout the song, any notes in parentheses are optional, to be used *instead* of the regular notes if simplification is desired.

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CGC43

6

step I take, — I'm walk-ing with God — ev-'ry stride I make. —  
I to fear, — I gave up the reins, — now I let God steer. —

B♭maj7 E♭maj7  $\frac{E♭}{F}$  B♭maj7 Gm7  $\frac{F7sus}{C}$  Cm7 F7 F7add6 F7

9

I'm walk - ing with God — to the 'n'th de - gree, — be -  
With God in con - trol — I feel wor - ry free — be -

B♭maj7  $\frac{A♭2}{B♭}$  B♭7 E♭maj7 D7 Gm  $\frac{Gm}{F}$

11

cause I know God walks — with me. —  
cause I know God walks — with me. —

Cm7 F7 B♭maj7 Cm7 Dm7 E♭ C♭maj7 B♭maj7

1.

*f*

14 2. All: *mf*

How — to ex - plain —

B♭maj7 C<sub>m</sub>7 D<sub>m</sub>7  $\frac{A\flat 2}{B\flat}$   $\frac{G\flat}{F\flat}$  E♭maj7  $\frac{E\flat maj7}{F}$  F<sub>9</sub>

*f* *mf*

17

the sense of sup-port that I feel in - side? —

B♭maj9 G<sub>m</sub>7 C<sub>m</sub>7 F7 F<sub>9</sub> B♭  $\frac{E\flat}{B\flat}$   $\frac{A\flat 6}{B\flat}$  B♭9

20

Sun - shine or rain, — I'll weath-er what life — de-mands

E<sub>m</sub>7♭5 A7♭9 A7 D<sub>m</sub> D<sub>sus2,4</sub>  $\frac{D\flat}{C}$   $\frac{G7}{B}$   $\frac{F}{C}$  C  $\frac{C7}{E}$

*Sally enters as everyone enthusiastically applauds.*

**With energy** (♩ = 90)

F Fmaj7 F G7 G7#5 C6

**SALLY:** *(who is annoyingly perky throughout)* Thank you so-o-o-o much! Mr. Announcer, tell us what our “Wheel of Faith” topic is for today!

**ANNOUNCER:** *(stepping forward with a sign)* Certainly, Sally! Our topic for today is . . . *(he turns the sign around, which says LOVING OTHERS)* “Loving others!”

**ALL:** *(in unison)* Oooo!

**SALLY:** We need two teams, please. *(She points to Team Captains 1 & 2.)* And you two may be the team captains!

*Team Captains 1 & 2 act excited, as they run to get in place. The chorus divides into two groups, joining their respective captains.*

**With energy** (♩ = 90)

F Fmaj7 F G7 G7#5 C6

**SALLY:** Mr. Announcer, please bring out our “Wheel of Faith!”

*The announcer reaches into his pocket, bringing out a small spinner no bigger than what you'd find in a common board game.*

**TEAM CAPTAIN 2:** *(unimpressed)* That’s the “Wheel of Faith?!”

**ANNOUNCER:** *(defensively)* This is cable access – we’re on a very tight budget!



- SALLY:** Team number one, here's your question . . . (*reading from her notes*) "What does the Bible tell us about friendship?"
- TEAM MEM. 1-1:** Greater love hath no one than to lay down your life for your friends.
- SALLY:** And where in the Bible does it say that?
- TEAM MEM. 1-2:** John 15:13?
- SALLY:** That's correct, for one point!
- TEAM 1:** Yea!
- TEAM MEM. 1-3:** But that sounds like something only Jesus could do. Are you sure God expects such a sacrifice of us?
- TEAM CAPTAIN 1:** God asks us to model ourselves after Jesus. In Ephesians 5:2 we are called to live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
- TEAM MEM. 1-3:** Okay.
- SALLY:** Now back to our game. Team number two, here's *your* question . . . (*reading from her notes*) "Does the Bible limit this kind of love only to our friends?"
- TEAM MEM. 2-1:** No. Jesus calls us to love our enemies, too, and do good to them.
- SALLY:** And where in the Bible does it say *that*?
- TEAM MEM. 2-2:** Luke 6:35.
- SALLY:** Also correct! One point for team number two!
- ALL OF TEAM 2:** Yea!
- TEAM MEM. 2-3:** Now that's asking a bit *much*, don't you think?
- TEAM CAPTAIN 2:** Jesus also says whatever we do unto the least of these, we do unto him. That's Matthew 25:40.
- TEAM MEM. 2-4:** So not only do we have to love our enemies, but we have to treat *everyone* like we would treat Jesus?
- TEAM CAPTAIN 2:** Nobody said being a Christian would be easy!
- ANNOUNCER:** Our time is up for today!
- SALLY:** Since each team answered its question correctly, I declare *both* teams as winners! Come spin the "Wheel of Faith" to see what you've won!
- Team Captains 1 & 2 go to the announcer, and together they spin the spinner at the same time.*



**ANNOUNCER:** And both teams win . . . (*dramatic pause*) . . .  
THE UNCONDITIONAL LOVE OF GOD!

**SALLY:** (*to announcer*) But both teams already *have* that!

**ANNOUNCER:** But how can you improve on the greatest prize anyone could receive?

**ALL:** (*with great enthusiasm*) Yea!

*The stage is returned to normal, as the podiums and banner are moved out of the way. The cast returns to their original positions.*

With energy (♩ = 90)

Chords: C, G/C, C6, G/C, C, D9sus, D7sus, D7, D9, F, Fmaj7, F, G7, G7#5, C6.

Measures: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.

Dynamics: *f*, *ff*.

Tempo: With energy (♩ = 90).

**“GIVE ME” SOLOIST 1:** I don’t understand why *anyone* would turn their back on Jesus’ teachings. And yet we’re *all* mean to each other at one time or another.

**SONG 7: Give Me Your Hand**

# Give Me Your Hand

(Chorus, with two solos)

Stan Graner

Stan Graner

“GIVE ME” SOLOIST 1: It can really make me sad to think about it . . .

Flowingly (♩ = 126)

Piano *mp*

*Soloist 1: mf*

Why do we try to hurt each oth - er,

why do we feel it makes us strong?

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13

Why do we choose our sep - 'rate corn - ers,

$Gm2$   
 $Bb$   $F2$   
 $A$   $Ebmaj7$   
 $G$   $Bb2$   
 $F$

17

why can't we learn to get a - long?

$Ab2$   $Eb2$   $F9sus$   $F7$   
 $G$   $Bb$   $A$

21

Soloist 2: *mf*

Give me your hand, I'll make you strong - er,

$Db2$   $Fm7$   $Gb2$   $Ab7$   
 $C$   $Bb$   $C$

25

you'll give me strength by tak - ing mine.

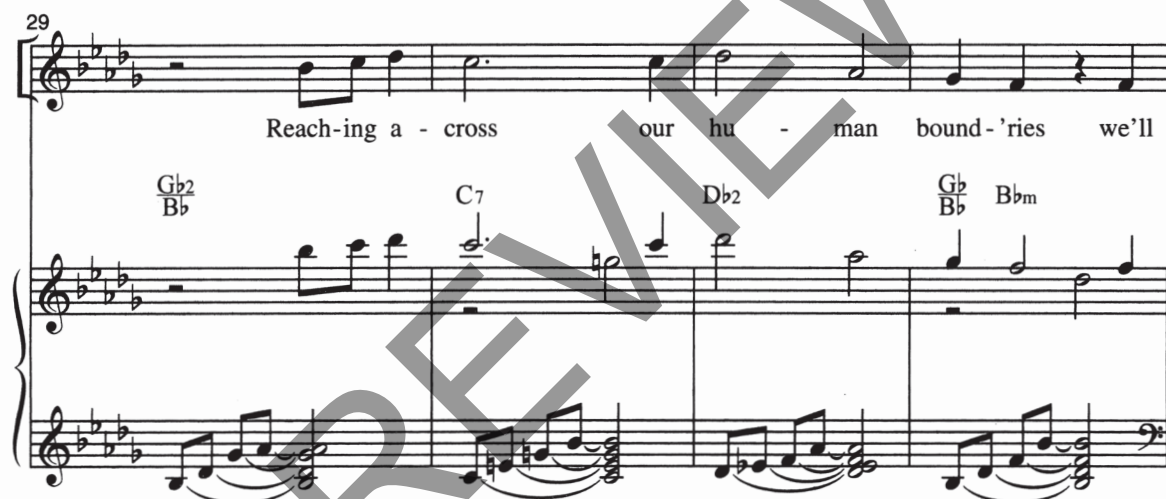
Db2 Fm7/C Gb2/Bb Abm/Eb Db



29

Reach-ing a - cross our hu - man bound - 'ries we'll

Gb2/Bb C7 Db2 Gb2/Bb Bbm



33

come a lit - tle clos - er to the world that God de -

Ebm Db/F Gb Db/F Ebm Ab Ab7sus



# All God's Children Reprise

67

(Chorus)

Stan Graner

Stan Graner

**VOICE 37:** Thanks for coming today to hear about the lives of us kids.

**Up tempo** (♩ = 76)

Piano *mp*

D Em  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  Em D  $\frac{A}{C\#}$  D D Em  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  Em D G Em7 A7sus A7

**VOICE 38:** We covered a lot of ground, what with gender expectations . . .

5 D Em  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  Em D  $\frac{A}{C\#}$  D G A7sus A7 D

**VOICE 39:** Mass media, peer pressure . . .

**VOICE 40:** Diversity, even loving our enemies!

9 Bm  $\frac{F\#7}{A\#}$  Bm Bm  $\frac{F\#7}{A\#}$   $\frac{F\#7\#9}{A\#}$  Bm

**VOICE 41:** But the list is *far* from complete.

13

Bm                      Bm                      Em    B                      Em                      C                      C(b5) C                      F                      F2

A                      G                      F#

**VOICE 42:** Still, we know we can face *anything* life throws at us because we have *Jesus* as

17

A9sus                      A7                      Bb9sus                      Bb7                      Eb    Fm    Eb                      Fm Eb

G                      G

our Savior and friend.

20

Bb                      Eb                      Eb                      Fm    Eb                      Fm    Eb                      Ab                      Fm7    Bb7sus    Bb7

D                      D                      G                      G

**VOICE 43:** And, as Romans 8:16 tells us, “*We are the children of God!*”

23

Eb    Fm    Eb                      Bb                      Eb                      Ab                      Bb7sus    Bb7    Eb

G                      D                      G

cresc.



26 All: *mf*

We are all God's chil - dren,

E $\flat$ 9 E $\flat$ 7 A $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  B $\flat$

*mf*

29

ev - 'ry boy and girl. — We are all God's

E $\flat$  E $\flat$  D C $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$  A $\flat$

32

chil - dren, ev - 'ry per - son in — the world. — We are

E $\flat$  B $\flat$  G $\flat$  C $\flat$  C $\flat$ 7 C7