

# Imagine God

*A children's musical exploring  
and expressing images of God*

*For unison/two-part voices, piano,  
C instruments, chime tree, woodblock,  
triangle, suspended cymbal and  
optional Orff instruments*

**Words by Jann Aldredge-Clanton  
Music by Larry E. Schultz**

## Related Products

<i>Preview Kit (includes score and demo CD)</i>	<i>code CGK24</i>
<i>Demonstration CD</i>	<i>code CGCD11</i>
<i>Accompaniment CD</i>	<i>code CGCD12</i>



## Also Available

<i>Production Guide</i>	<i>code CGBK65</i>
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*Suggestions for creative art expression, craft activities, dance and movement,  
Bible discovery, ministry projects and multi-generational participation.*

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*To Cindy, Ryan and Kelly —  
magnificent images of God.*

L.E.S.

*To David, Brett, Chad, Eva, Anne, and Evelyn —  
marvelous embodiments of God, who is both She and He  
and so much more.*

J.A.C.

PREVIEW

## Comments from . . .

### . . .a Theologian

*Jann Aldredge-Clanton and Larry Schultz perceptively understand that transforming the church's language for God can profitably begin with children, whose imaginations are less bound to traditional images. Exploring the breadth of biblical metaphors, this winsome musical offers a fresh vision of the Triune God who reveals self in all of creation, especially through human creatures who share the divine imagination.*

*The composers know that naming the divine is fraught with challenges, yet necessary in order to know and love the God who delights in creaturely imaging. Most profound is the way the musical invites all to participate in the life of God as it is expressed in such earthly effects as breath, light, and friendship.*

*Dr. Molly T. Marshall  
Professor of Theology and Spiritual Formation  
Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri*

### . . .a Hymnologist

*Although there have been a number of recent hymns exploring new images for God, such texts have usually been geared for adults, while hymns and anthems for children have continued to use a more limited stock of titles and metaphors mistakenly regarded as an appropriate expression of tradition.*

*In this fresh and creative musical, author and composer make available a more comprehensive range of biblical images, celebrating both God and humanity in language that has been too long neglected. In doing so, they have helped to prepare the children who perform it and the audiences who attend it for greater appreciation and understanding of the images they will encounter in much new hymnody. In fact, several of the pieces in this musical could well be used as anthems interspersed in a hymn festival exploring the images of God being recovered and developed in recent hymns.*

*Imagine God! will open minds and hearts to a new appreciation of imagination as an essential element of sung faith.*

*Dr. Carl P. Daw, Jr.  
Executive Director  
The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada*

## ...a Christian Educator

*Imagine God! is a brilliant musical that will nurture a vibrant Christian faith in older children. Its creative use of metaphor invites children to explore concrete images of God and opens their imagination to infinite possibilities for naming and knowing God. Through these metaphors abstract ideas about God become more accessible and memorable.*

*Likewise, children experience different images for God through their multiple intelligences. This musical not only appeals to children's musical intelligence, but also includes spatial, bodily-kinesthetic, linguistic, logical-mathematical and interpersonal intelligences.*

*Imagine God! is a valuable resource for Christian educators who nurture children's faith in VBS and church camp settings.*

*Dr. Evelyn Parker  
Assistant Professor of Christian Education  
Southern Methodist University  
Dallas, Texas*

## ...a Music Educator

*At last, a musical that assumes children are more than cute and entertaining. Imagine God! encourages children to find both their theological and musical voice. Each melody enhances the simple, straightforward text without resorting to cliché. The vocal ranges bring out the authenticity of the children's voices. The varied musical styles and accompanying instruments add colorful variety. The part writing is logical and attainable. Woven together, these elements form a wonderful blend of biblical truth and musical artistry.*

*Dr. C. Michael Hawn  
Associate Professor of Sacred Music  
Southern Methodist University  
Dallas, Texas*

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## Cast of Characters

*(In order of appearance)*

*Female Adult      Female Child      Teenager*  
*Male Adult      Male Child*

## Preface

### Exploring...

*Our Milky Way Galaxy contains over a hundred billion stars. The Milky Way is only one of hundreds of billions of galaxies in the universe. The Creator of so vast a universe exceeds all our thoughts and words. All our language for God must then be metaphorical. Biblical revelation gives a multiplicity of divine images to suggest the vastness and all-inclusiveness of our Creator. The more we teach children these names and images, the fuller their experience of God will be, and the more they will believe themselves to be created in God's image. Imagine God! is a musical designed to give children a wide variety of divine images and invite them to use the wonderful gift of their own imaginations to imagine more.*

*God created male and female in the divine image (Genesis 1:27). Although the image of God implies much more, the first chapter of Genesis makes clear that femaleness and maleness are in some way part of God's nature. Since male and female are created in the image of God, God's image includes both male and female, although much of our worship and Bible teaching give children the impression that God is exclusively male. This musical includes feminine along with masculine divine names to instill the belief that girls as well as boys are created in the image of God, and that girls and boys are equally valued by God.*

*Imagine God! also teaches children that God is much greater than everything and everyone they know. Through a variety of feminine, masculine, and non-gender images of God, this musical invites children and their teachers to imagine a God who is both transcendent and immanent, to believe that the great Creator of the universe lives within them. It is our hope that Imagine God! will contribute to an expansive theology of God and an ethic of equality and justice in human relationships.*

*-Jann Aldredge-Clanton*

## Expressing...

*This musical offers children a multi-sensory approach in expressing numerous images of God as revealed in the Bible, the natural world, each individual, and relationships with others. Along with the music and narrations included in this score, the companion Imagine God! Production Guide (CGBK65) provides ideas for creative art projects, dance and body prayer movement, multi-generational participation, Bible exploration, and ministry activities that will enhance the learning and presentation of Imagine God!*

*Composed with an eye to the goals of children's choir curricula, the music in this work is flexibly voiced and contains a variety of musical elements, meters and modes. This allows for the music to be successfully taught and included within the context of a progressive learning environment. With this in mind, consider preparing individual pieces and narrations for various services of worship throughout the year. Then, conclude the children's choir year by presenting the musical in its entirety. The projects and activities found in the Imagine God! Production Guide can be used in coordination with weekly rehearsals or to supplement a music camp experience.*

*May all who present Imagine God! find in it a means of naming, knowing, and loving God.*

*- Larry E. Schultz*

**SCENE 1**

FEMALE A long, long time ago God imagined the earth and the seas, the mountains and the valleys.

ADULT: God imagined all kinds of plants, flowers and trees. God imagined the sun, moon, and stars. God imagined all the fish that swim in the oceans and all the birds that fly above the earth. God imagined the cows and horses and dogs, and all the animals that live on the ground. And everything God imagined came to be.

MALE Then God imagined you and me. We are created in God’s own image, so we can imagine

ADULT: too. God says to each girl and boy, “Imagine what I might be like. All you can imagine, I Am. And so much more.” *\*(from Genesis 1) \*[Scripture references noted throughout the dialogue are not intended to be read.]*

**Imagine God!**

Larry E. Schultz (Chorus with C Instrument and Chime Tree) Larry E. Schultz  
and Jann Aldredge-Clanton

With wonder (♩ = 82)

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system includes staves for Chime Tree (marked with a double bar line and 6/8 time), C Instrument (Flute, Oboe, or Violin), and Piano. The Chime Tree part features glissando markings: 'gliss. down' and 'gliss. up'. The C Instrument part begins with a melodic line in G major, marked *mp*. The Piano part is currently silent. The second system continues the Chime Tree and C Instrument parts, with the C Instrument part marked *mp*. The third system introduces a vocal line for 'Part I' with the lyrics 'I - mag - ine!' and a melodic line in G major, also marked *mp*. The Piano part remains silent.

NOTE: When singing this song as the “Reprise,” omit page 17. Use the **REPRISE ENDING**, page 18, in place of page 17. (Omit page 18 the first time the song is sung.)

Parts for C instrument and Chime Tree are printed on pages 19 and 20.

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11 *tr*  
*gliss. up*

C  
Inst.

Part II (optional)  
*mp*

II  
I

I - mag - ine! \_\_\_\_\_ I - mag - ine! \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I - mag - ine! \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

*red.* \* *red.* \* *sim.*

17

II  
I

I - mag - ine! \_\_\_\_\_ I - mag - ine! \_\_\_\_\_ { 1. I -  
2. I -

I - mag - ine! \_\_\_\_\_ I - mag - ine! \_\_\_\_\_ { 1. I -  
2. I -

*mf* *mf*

*mf*

21

mag - ine God, Cre - a - tor of all, Cre - a - tor of all that we  
mag - ine God, whose im - age we are, whose im - age we are and will

24

see and hear or think and feel or  
al - ways be; re - flect - ing God we

27

*(opt. div. for first ending)*

can - not know. I - mag - ine God,  
live and grow. I - mag - ine God,

## SCENE 2

**FEMALE CHILD:** God is so much more than we can ever imagine. I've learned in church that God is so much greater than anything or anyone we've ever seen. Sometimes it just blows my mind to try to imagine God!

**FEMALE ADULT:** Yes, I feel that way too! But the Bible helps us to imagine God by giving us many different word-pictures. One of the pictures of God in the Bible is of a mother bird. God is like a mother eagle that teaches her young eagles to fly and to hunt their own food. When the little eagles are old enough to leave the nest, their mother shakes the nest and flutters her wings over them. Then she takes them on her wings to teach them to fly. When the mother thinks the young birds are ready, she swoops down to let them fly by themselves. But she stays close enough to swoop back under them and catch them if they're having trouble flying by themselves, or if they get too tired to continue flying on their own. (*Deuteronomy 32:11-12*)

**MALE CHILD:** I see! God is like the mother eagle, and we are like her young birds.

# Mother Eagle, Teach Us to Fly

(Chorus)

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Larry E. Schultz

With excitement ( $\text{♩} = 72$ )

**Piano**  
*mf marcato*

**Unison**  
*mf marcato*

1. Moth - er Ea - gle, teach us to fly; now it's \_ time to try our own wings.  
2. Moth - er Ea - gle, lift us up high; with your \_ help we nev - er will fear.

9

Show us how to reach to the sky; take us where our spir - its will  
New ad - ven - tures we want to try; give us faith and stay ev - er

13

1. | 2.

sing. \_\_\_\_\_ near. \_\_\_\_\_

18 *legato*

Moth - er Ea - gle, teach us to fly!

*legato*

22

Moth - er Ea - gle, lift us up high!

26

Help us to try what we've nev - er tried be - fore!

30 *cresc.*

Moth - er Ea - gle, watch us do more!

*cresc.*

MALE ADULT: A picture of God in the Bible is of a shepherd. God takes care of us as a shepherd takes care of sheep. Jesus told a story about a shepherd who had one hundred sheep. He lost one of his sheep. Even though he had ninety-nine other sheep, he missed this one lost sheep. The shepherd cared deeply for this sheep. Surely he could do without this one little sheep if he had ninety-nine others. But no! This sheep was too important to him. So the shepherd left the others for a while to go and search for the lost sheep. The shepherd searched and searched until he found the lost sheep. When he found the lost sheep, the shepherd was so happy that he told all his friends and neighbors to celebrate with him. (Luke 15:3-6)

FEMALE CHILD: When I imagine God like that shepherd and each of us like that little lost sheep, I begin to feel how much God loves us and how important everyone is to God.

## Tenderly Comes Our Shepherd God

(Chorus with C Instrument)

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Larry E. Schultz

With gentleness (♩ = 82)

C Instrument\* (Flute, Oboe, or Violin) (third time only)

Piano *p con rubato*

Unison *con rubato*

*mp* 1. Ten - der-ly,                      ten - der-ly,  
*mf* 2. Long - ing-ly,                      long - ing-ly,  
*f* 3. Lov - ing-ly,                      lov - ing-ly,

*mp* (1st time)  
*mf* (2nd time)  
*f* (3rd time)

\*C instrument plays only on the third stanza. Part begins in measure 15 (following the second stanza). A C instrument part is printed on page 31.

7

comes our Shep - herd God;  
 comes our Shep - herd God;  
 comes our Shep - herd God;

9

Part II (optional-may be sung second and/or third time)

*mf* 2. search - ing for us ev - 'ry - where, lift - ing us with  
*f* 3. when we're lost and all a - lone, He will bring us

Part I

He will lead us ev - 'ry day, show - ing us the  
 search - ing for us ev - 'ry - where, lift - ing us with  
 when we're lost and all a - lone, He will bring us

# Tenderly Comes Our Shepherd God

31

C Instrument  
(Flute, Oboe, or Violin)

Larry E. Schultz

With gentleness (♩ = 82)

2 3 (third time only\*)

6

9

13 1., 2. (Part begins here - second time)

*mf* legato con rubato

17 3.

*mf* gradually rit. to end

21

*mp* \*\* *p*

\*C instrument plays only on the third stanza. Part begins in measure 15 (following the second stanza).

\*\*Play cue-size notes if Part II is secure.

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CGC48



SCENE 4

**FEMALE CHILD:** All of us are created in God’s own image. Imagine that! In the beginning, God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.” (*Genesis 1:26*) In the book of Genesis, we read that God created all people in God’s image; male and female God created them. (*Genesis 1:26-27*) Since girls and boys, women and men are made in the image of God, God’s image includes both male and female. So we can call God “He” and “She,” “Mother and Father,” “Sister and Brother.”

**MALE CHILD:** Yes! And God is so much greater than we can ever imagine or name. It’s hard to imagine that the great Creator of hundreds of billions of galaxies in the universe knows each one of us by name and wants to relate to us.

**TEENAGER:** One of the ways we can know God is through our relationships with other people. We can know God’s love through our families and friends.

**FEMALE ADULT:** In the Bible, the prophet Isaiah reveals that God is like a loving mother who not only gives birth to her children, but also comforts and nurtures them toward their full potential. (*Isaiah 66:13*) Isaiah also reveals that God is like a nursing mother whose relationship with her children is so strong that nothing can ever break it. (*Isaiah 49:15*)

**MALE ADULT:** The Psalms sing of God who is like a tender father, loving and caring for his children. (*Psalms 103:13*) The Gospels proclaim that God is like a gracious father who gives us freedom to learn from our experiences and offers unconditional love when we make mistakes. (*Luke 15:11-32*)

**ALL VOICES:** Let’s celebrate God’s image and love known in each of us!

*(The ADULTS and TEENAGER who participate in the narration may also participate in the circle dance which accompanies “Our God Is a Mother and a Father.” See the Imagine God! Production Guide, CGBK65, for circle dance instructions.)*

## Our God Is a Mother and a Father

(Chorus)

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Shaker Tune  
arr. Larry E. Schultz

With joy ( $\text{♩} = 72$ )

Piano

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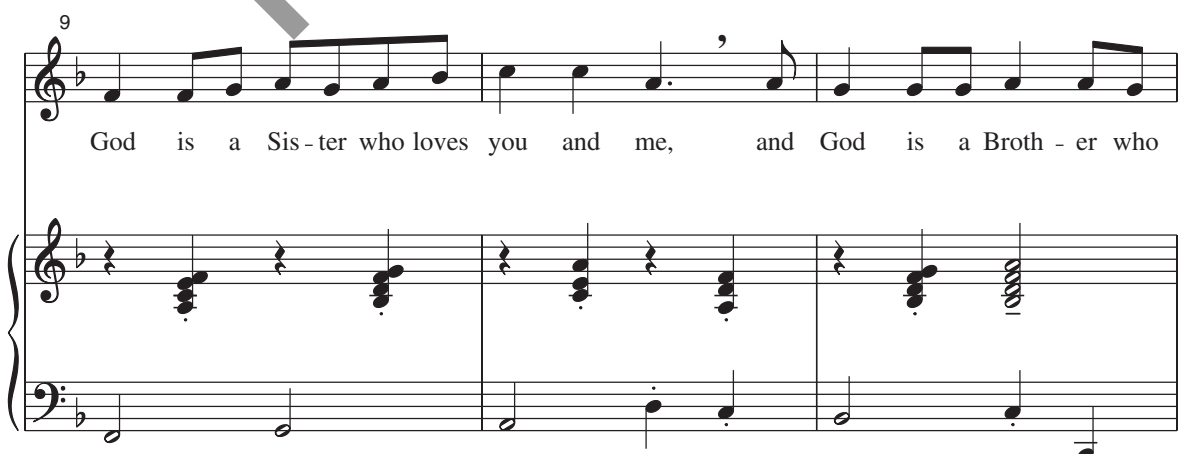
3 *mf*  
Our God is a Moth-er and a



6  
Fa - ther too, and God is a Friend who will al-ways see us through. Our



9  
God is a Sis-ter who loves you and me, and God is a Broth - er who



12 *f*

sets us free. God's im - age

15 *, mf*

all \_\_\_ are \_\_\_ we, but our lov - ing God is \_\_\_ more, you see, for

18

God who made both you \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ me is as great as \_\_\_

*mf*

## SCENE 5

**FEMALE ADULT:** The Bible pictures God as Lady Wisdom, who gives long life and peace. The book of Proverbs tells us that She is more precious than all the silver and gold and fine jewels in the world, and that She is like a “tree of life” to those who follow Her paths of peace and love and kindness. (*Proverbs 3:13-18*) Wisdom teaches us to do what is right and true. (*Proverbs 8:1-11*) She calls us to listen and learn from Her words of truth.

(*Proverbs 1:20-23*)

**MALE CHILD:** Some people make fun of Her teaching and do many hurtful things. But She keeps calling us to do right. Wisdom rewards those who follow Her teaching: “Prize Her highly, and She will exalt you; She will honor you if you embrace Her. She will place on your head a fair garland; She will bestow on you a beautiful crown.”

(*Proverbs 4:8-9*)

# Listen, Wisdom Is Calling

(Chorus)

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Larry E. Schultz

With intensity (♩ = 76)

Unison *p*

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system shows the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the first two measures. The vocal line is marked 'Unison p' and has the lyrics 'Lis-ten! Lis-ten!'. The piano accompaniment is marked 'Piano p'. The second system shows the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the next four measures. The vocal line starts at measure 5 and has the lyrics 'Lis-ten, lis-ten! Lis-ten, lis-ten, Wis-dom is call-ing,'. The piano accompaniment is marked 'mp' and 'mf'.

9

teach-ing us Her fair-ness and peace. Guid-ing us to love one an-oth - er,

13

She will help all vio-lence to cease.

17

*p* Lis - ten! Lis - ten! *mp* Lis - ten, lis - ten!

21 Part II (optional) *mf legato*



Fol - low, \_ fol - low! Fol - low, fol - low, Wis - dom is lead - ing,

Part I *mf legato*



Fol - low, \_ fol - low, fol - low, \_ fol - low! Fol - low, fol - low, Wis - dom is lead - ing,



*mf legato*

25



Fol - low, fol - low, Wis - dom is lead - ing, show - ing us Her path - way to right.



show - ing us Her path - way to right. Let us go to - geth - er with Wis - dom;



## SCENE 6

**FEMALE ADULT:** In the beginning God gave birth to the heavens and the earth. The Spirit of God moved over the waters to bring forth light and life. (*Genesis 1:1-2*) In the Bible the word for Spirit is the Hebrew word *Ruah* [pronounced ROO-AH]. The word *Ruah* also means “breath.” *Ruah* is the Breath of Life. *Ruah* gives life to us all. *Ruah* breathes Her life into everyone.

**MALE ADULT:** The Gospel of John records Jesus’ saying, “I am the Bread of Life: whoever comes to me shall never hunger” (*John 6:35*), and “I am the Door.” (*John 10:9*) Jesus is like an open door, welcoming everyone. Jesus wants us to welcome all people and to share his table of life with them. Jesus gives new life to us all. When we celebrate communion, we remember that Jesus is the Bread of Life, given for everyone.

# Ruah, Breath of Life/Jesus, Bread of Life

(Chorus with C Instrument)

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Larry E. Schultz

With expansiveness (♩ = 76)

Piano

\*C Instrument (Flute, Oboe, or Violin)  
3  
(second time only)

mp a tempo poco rit.

Part II

Part I  
\*\* mp a tempo poco rit.

Ru - ah, Breath of Life, breathe in us.

a tempo poco rit.

\*C instrument plays the second time only. Part begins in measure 15 (at end of first stanza). Flute should play one octave higher. A C instrument part is printed on page 52.

\*\*Body prayer movements may be used in measures 3-6 and 19-25. See the *Imagine God! Production Guide* (CGBK65) for movement instructions.

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5

*a tempo*

*poco rit.*

**Part II (optional)**  
*mp a tempo*

*poco rit.*

Je - sus, Bread of Life, give us strength.

(Part I sings in absence of Part II)

*a tempo*

*poco rit.*

Je - sus, Bread of Life, give us strength.

*a tempo*

*poco rit.*

7

*mf a tempo*

*mf a tempo*

1. Ru - ah, Breath of Life, breathe in us, we pray,  
2. Je - sus, Bread of Life, give us strength, we pray,

*mf a tempo*



9

that we may spread good-ness to all peo - ple on earth.  
 that we may help oth - ers who are hun - gry and poor.

11

Spir - it, wind of change, bring a peace - ful day, and  
 Fill us with your grace; show us all the way to

## SCENE 7

FEMALE CHILD: Did you know that God is like a rock?

MALE CHILD: How can that be? A rock just sits there, saying nothing and doing nothing.

FEMALE CHILD: The Bible says that God is our Rock. (*Psalm 31:3; 62:2*)

MALE CHILD: So what does that mean?

FEMALE CHILD: I think it means that God is solid and secure *like* a rock *and* we can always depend on God. Of course, God is much more than a rock, but that's one picture that helps us understand something of what God is like. The Bible also says that God is like a rock who gave birth to us. (*Deuteronomy 32:18*)

MALE CHILD: So what does *that* mean?

FEMALE CHILD: I think it means that God is like the foundation of the world, the Creator of everything.

## Like Rock and Light and Wind

(Chorus with Woodblock, Triangle, Suspended Cymbal, and \*Orff Instruments or Piano)

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Larry E. Schultz

**With confidence** (♩ = 76)

Alto Metallophone

Woodblock

Bass Xylophone

Piano

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

On God, our Rock, we

\*This song may be accompanied by Orff instruments **OR** piano. Orff instruments and piano are not played together.

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CGC48

4

AM

BX

safe - ly stand, with girls and boys in ey - 'ry land. On

The musical score for measures 4-6 consists of four staves. The top staff is labeled 'AM' and contains a treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff is labeled 'BX' and contains a treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The third staff is the vocal line with lyrics: 'safe - ly stand, with girls and boys in ey - 'ry land. On'. The bottom staff is a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

7

AM

BX

God, our Rock, we can de-pend; God's strength and good-ness nev - er

The musical score for measures 7-9 consists of four staves. The top staff is labeled 'AM' and contains a treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The second staff is labeled 'BX' and contains a treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The third staff is the vocal line with lyrics: 'God, our Rock, we can de-pend; God's strength and good-ness nev - er'. The bottom staff is a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

10

AM

BX

end.

MALE CHILD: Have the lights ever gone out in your house?

FEMALE CHILD: Yes, and we couldn't see anything! We stumbled around in the dark until we could find a candle.

MALE CHILD: What if there was no light in the whole world?

FEMALE CHILD: Then we wouldn't be able to see anything at all! It would be hard to know where we're going or what we're doing.

MALE CHILD: In the Bible, the psalmist writes that God is our Light and our Salvation. (*Psalm 27:1*) Jesus said, "I am the Light of the World." (*John 8:12*)

FEMALE CHILD: What do you think that means?

MALE CHILD: I think it means that God makes it possible for us to see and understand. And Jesus, the Light of the World, helps us find the right way.

FEMALE CHILD: Do you think that God could ever be like the wind?

MALE CHILD: The wind can be strong, and it can be a gentle breeze. I suppose God is like that, strong and gentle.

FEMALE CHILD: In the Bible, the Hebrew word for “Spirit”, Ruah, also means “breath” and “wind.”

MALE CHILD: Jesus said that the Spirit of God is like the wind. It blows where it chooses, and we hear it, but we don’t know where it comes from or where it’s going. (*John 3:8*)

FEMALE CHILD: Also in the Bible, we read that Elijah expected God to come in the wind, but instead God came in a “still small voice.” (*1 Kings 19:11-12*) But another time, the Spirit of God came “like the rush of a mighty wind.” (*Acts 2:2*)

MALE CHILD: So I guess we can say that God sometimes comes in surprising, unexpected ways, like the wind.

25

Soprano Glockenspiel  
 mf

Alto Xylophone

Alto Metalophone

Suspended Cymbal  
 (scrape)  
 mf

Bass Xylophone

Like sounds of a might-y rush-ing

28

SG

AX

AM

BX

wind, as soft, gen-tle breez-es blow through trees, the

PREVIEW

31

SG

AX

AM

BX

Spir - it of God will come, — sur - pris - ing in ways we can - not

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It features five staves: SG (Soprano), AX (Alto), AM (Armed), BX (Bass), and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is marked with a large 'PREVIEW' watermark. The lyrics are: 'Spir - it of God will come, — sur - pris - ing in ways we can - not'. The piano part consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand accompaniment.

SCENE 8

MALE CHILD: God is a Friend to everyone, even those people who are made fun of or looked down on as not being good enough. God loves and cares for all people – girls and boys, men and women of all races in all occupations – no matter what we do or how we look. (*Matthew 11:19*)

FEMALE CHILD: God is a Friend who is always there for us. God calls us all “friends” and wants us to join as partners in loving and caring for everyone. (*John 15:12-15*)

# Loving Friend of Everyone

(Chorus with optional Solo)

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Larry E. Schultz

With beauty (♩ = 78)

Piano *mp*

3 *f* \*Descant (optional)

3. O faith - ful

Solo (or chorus) - stanza 2

*mf* 1. O lov - ing Friend of ev - 'ry -  
*mf* 2. O gra - cious Friend of ev - 'ry  
*f* 3. O faith - ful Friend through ev - 'ry

*mf* 1st and 2nd time  
*f* 3rd time

\*Descant line may be played as a C instrument obbligato. Flutes should play one octave higher. A C instrument part is printed on page 72.



6

Friend, \_\_\_\_\_ give faith to dare to fol - low

one, teach us to be like you; as we make  
 race, help us to break down walls; as friends with  
 day, give us the faith to dare to fol - low

9

you in peace \_\_\_\_\_ and show we

friends, your will is done, and we are lov - ing  
 you, we share your grace; we give your hope to  
 you in peace - ful ways, and show we tru - ly

12

care. We thank you thank for

All

too. }  
all. }  
care. }

We thank you, dear - est Friend, for

15

hear - ing, for lov -

hear - ing when we call, for love that has no

FEMALE CHILD: It's fun to imagine what God is like.

MALE CHILD: Yes! I'm so glad God gave us imagination.

FEMALE CHILD: At night when I look up at the huge sky and see the moon and all the stars, I think about how great God is.

MALE CHILD: The bright red and gold trees in the fall and the shining yellow and pink wildflowers in the spring help me to imagine God.

FEMALE CHILD: The Bible says that nature shows us something of the glory of God. (*Psalm 19:1; 104:24*) God created everything, and we can see God everywhere if we really look.

MALE CHILD: In the book of Psalms we also read that God is far above the earth, (*Psalm 148:13*) and that God's love is higher than the heavens. (*Psalm 108:4*)

FEMALE CHILD: God is way above us, that's for sure.

MALE CHILD: But the Bible also says that God is in us. (*Ezekiel 36:27; Luke 17:21*) Can you imagine that? The great God who created everything and everyone in the whole world lives in you and me!

FEMALE CHILD: And we can feel God in us, especially when we love others and receive love from them.

MALE CHILD: Yes! One of the first verses in the Bible I ever learned was "God is Love." (*I John 4:8*) And God's love is like an open door, welcoming everyone.

## God Is In Us and Above

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

(Chorus)

Larry E. Schultz

With bouyancy (♩ = 74)

The musical score is for a piano accompaniment and a unison vocal line. It is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 74. The piano part starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, then moves to mezzo-forte (*mf*), and ends with piano (*p*). The unison vocal line is marked mezzo-forte (*mf*). The lyrics are: 1. God is like sun - light, 2. God is like riv - ers.

7

danc - ing through trees; He is the kind - ness in you and me.  
 flow - ing through earth; She is the Moth - er who gives us birth.

10

God is like twink - ling stars in the night; She is the wis - dom  
 God is like trees that grow green and tall; He is a Friend who

13

lead - ing to right. God is in us  
 hears when we call.

16

and a - bove, She and He and so much more; now and al - ways

20

God is Love, ev - 'ry-where

23

an o - pen Door.

\*