

# Servant of God

Words + Music: Simon Pedley

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# Servant of God

I'd been studying Isaiah, and looked there for inspiration during a weekend away for songwriters. I should fess up: my original intention was to avoid chapter 53 as there are already some excellent songs based on it! But it's hard to help being drawn to the crystal-clear and gut-wrenchingly powerful prophecy of the suffering servant. I think it's the clearest description of substitutionary atonement anywhere in the Bible, where we see Jesus bearing the wrath of God for our sins in his death, before rising triumphantly to lead us, his newly-justified servants, into glory. Isaiah 53 is the culmination of several other "servant songs", and I wanted to draw in some of the earlier material from chs 42 and 49, and make the whole song a cry of praise addressed to Jesus.

## How to make it go

The key to this one is speed. Pace it slowly enough for the second verse not to sound too jaunty. The best way to pick a speed is to sing the beginning of verse 2 to yourself, imagining yourself to be in the middle of the congregation. Once the tune has been learnt by the congregation, the second half of the chorus makes an effective intro.

## Placement in a meeting

This song works very well at the start or finish of a meeting. It would also be appropriate to sing after a congregational confession.

Simon Pedley

# Servant of God Most High

From Isaiah 42, 49 & 53

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A D A/C# Bm A/C# D E

1. Called and named\_ be - fore your birth, cho - sen One, Je - sus Christ, \_  
2. Your ap - pear - ance was so marred; so des - pised, so re - viled, \_  
3. Bu - ried like \_\_\_ a sin - ful man; in - no - cent, ho - ly one, \_

A D A/C# Bm A/C# E A

giv - en now\_ to all the earth; Spi - rit filled, \_ per - fect light. \_  
like a lamb\_ led to its death, si - lent - ly, \_ you faced the cross. \_  
God's will pros - pered in your hand, Serv - ant King, \_ o - be - dient Son. \_

A D A/C# Bm A/C# D E

Bring - ing peace\_ and right - eous - ness, free - ing slaves, \_ end - ing night; \_  
For our sin\_ and for our guilt you were crushed, \_ you were killed; \_  
Raised as our\_ vic - tor - ious Lord, glo - ri - fied, \_ for - giv - ing sin; \_

F#m D A/C# Bm A/C# D

hon - oured in \_\_\_ the sight of God; you're his joy, \_\_\_ his de - light. \_\_\_  
all of this\_ for God's own will, that by your death \_\_\_ we might live. \_  
shar - ing with\_ your child - ren now \_\_\_ right - eous - ness\_ and life in heaven. \_

Esus<sup>4</sup> E A F#m

Ser - vant\_ of God Most High, Sav iour\_ of all the earth,

D Bm A/C# D Esus<sup>4</sup> E A

we can - not rea - son why you came to die\_ for\_ us. Shout prai - ses

F#m D A/C#

to our King, burst forth\_ with songs of joy: Je - sus has

Bm A/C# D Esus<sup>4</sup> A

set us free to serve him e - ver more.

F#m D D/E E A

Last time only