

422-815

Lord of the Dance

Unison/two-part, kbd., handbells, glock, hand drum

Sydney Carter, arr. Steve Pilkington

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Sydney Carter  
arr. Steve Pilkington



Selah Publishing Co.

## Lord of the Dance

Sydney Carter, arr. Steve Pilkington • 425-701 • Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

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for the children's choirs of Christ Church United Methodist and Brick Presbyterian Church, N.Y.C., Feb. 1st and 8th, 2009

## Lord of the Dance

Unison/Two-part choir, keyboard, handbells, soprano glockenspiel, hand drum

Sydney Carter, 1963

LORD OF THE DANCE, Shaker melody, adapt. Sydney Carter,  
arr. Steve Pilkington

$\bullet = \text{ca. } 58$

*f* *mp*

Soprano Glockenspiel

5 danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun and I danced in the moon and the

8 stars— and the sun, and I came down from heav-en and I danced on the earth. At

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3

11 A

Beth - le - hem I had my birth. Dance, then wher - ev - er you may be;

15

I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher -

18

ev - er you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

21 Opt. solo

*mp* *f* *mp* *f*

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25 **B**

danced for the scribe— and the Phar - i - see, but they would not dance and they

28

would not fol - low me; I danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John; they

31

Soprano Glockenspiel

came with me and the dance went on. Dance, then, wher - ev - er you may be;

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5

35

I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher-

38

ev - er you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

41

© Handbells

*mf*

1

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6

45

danced on the sab-bath when I cured the lame, the ho-ly peo-ple—

48

said it was a shame; they whipped and they stripped—and they hung me high, and they

51

left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, wher-ev-er you may be;

8va

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55

I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher-

58

Muffled hand drum

Handbells

ev - er you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

*Slowing*  
*tolling*  
*8va*

*p* *8va*

62

*mp* Opt. solo

I danced on a Fri-day and the

*8va*

*8va*

*loco*

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8

66

sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the dev - il on your back; they  
(8<sup>va</sup>)

69

bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I

loco

72

Descant *f a tempo*

Dance, — dance, wher - ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the  
*f*

still go on. Dance, then, wher - ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the  
*mf*

Red. \*



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76

Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may be, and I'll

Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may be, and I'll

*Ped.* \*

79

lead you all in the dance, said he.

lead you all in the dance, said he. They

*f marcato*

*joyously*

*f*

83

cut me down - and I leapt up high, I am the life that - I'll nev - er, nev - er die; I'll

*mf* *mf*

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87

live in you — if you'll live in me; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

*Red.* \*

91

Handbells **F**

Soprano Glockenspiel

*Descant*

Dance, — dance, — wher - ev - er you may be, I am the Lord of the

Dance, then, wher - ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

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94

Dance,— said he. And I'll lead— you— all — wher - ev - er may be, and I'll

Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may be, and I'll

Musical score for measures 94-96, featuring vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part includes a trill in measure 95.

97

lead you all in the dance, said he.

lead you all in the dance, said he.

Musical score for measures 97-100, featuring vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part includes a trill in measure 99. Performance markings include *rit.*, *Sva*, and *loco*.

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12

This arrangement was originally conceived for children's voices but it works well as a two-part anthem for youth or adult voices. It can be done many ways including entirely in unison without the percussion parts or the descants. One descant may be used without the other. Men and treble voices may alternate verses. It works quite well as a congregational hymn, too. C instruments may be used on the melody and/or descants. It is a lot of text, especially for children, so I have included indications where a verse or two may be sung as a solo. The refrain should always be tutti. The congregation may join in singing one or all of the refrains.

Lastly, I have found it very effective when using children or youth to have a relevant bible verse recited by a child over the introduction to each verse. Here are my choices:

m. 1–4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

m. 21–25

Jesus said: "Come, follow me; I'll make you fishers of men!"

m. 41–44

And Jesus went about Galilee, teaching, preaching  
and healing all manner of sickness.

m. 61–65

The chief priests and rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death,  
and they crucified him.

m. 81–82 Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life!"

—Steve Pilkington