

I'VE BEEN IN THE STORM SO LONG

SA Voices (Optional Descant), *a cappella*
with Optional Piano

Traditional Spiritual
Arranged by Christi Jones

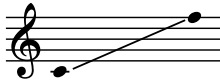
BriLee Music
Part-by-Part



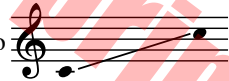
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Ranges:

Soprano



Alto



Language: English
Use: General/Festival
Time: Approx. 2:48
*Difficulty: Moderate

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Notes

One of the most meaningful and emotional genres of American music and folk songs is the spiritual, created by slaves during their days and nights of persecution on plantations in the American South prior to the Civil War. The words convey heartache and misery over the loss of freedom, family, and home; yet they also highlight the hopes and dreams that slaves could overcome these hardships and gain freedom, either through emancipation, or when they leave this world and find peace in Heaven.

The text of *I've Been in the Storm So Long* tells a story of someone who has been through many trials and wishes desperately that the burdens of slavery could be lessened or lifted for even a small amount of time. The words express a heartfelt desire to communicate and reunite with family and loved ones. In the end, the singer rejoices in the fact that these troubles will end when he or she finally reaches Heaven.

About the Arranger

Christi Jones has been teaching Choir for nineteen years now, eighteen of which have been at Young Junior High in Arlington, Texas. Choirs under her direction have performed at TMEA, SWACDA, ACDA, the MS/JH National Convention and for the State Board of Education. Christi was named Teacher of the Year at Young in 2011 and also received Runner-Up for the district's AWARE award in 2011, 2014 and 2016.

Christi has had pieces published by Carl Fischer, BriLee Music and RBC (UIL Sightreading pieces). Most of her compositions came about due to a need for one of her own ensembles, or a need/interest of her other choir director friends.

She is a member of TMEA, TCDA, ACDA and TMAA and is sought after as a Region Cincian and UIL Adjudicator. Christi is also on staff as a Worship Ministry Assistant at First Baptist Church in Arlington, where she directs the Children's and Youth Choirs.

She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Wayland Baptist University. While at Wayland, she was listed as Who's Who Among America's Colleges and Universities, named International Choir Outstanding Freshman, selected as a Sears Directors Cup National Finalist, and played Volleyball for the Sooner Athletic Conference Champions, the Lady Pioneers.

Christi is happily married to her High School Sweetheart, Scott (whom she met in Choir when she was in Junior High!). Scott teaches Math at Young, and they reside in Arlington with their sons, Neal and Carson.

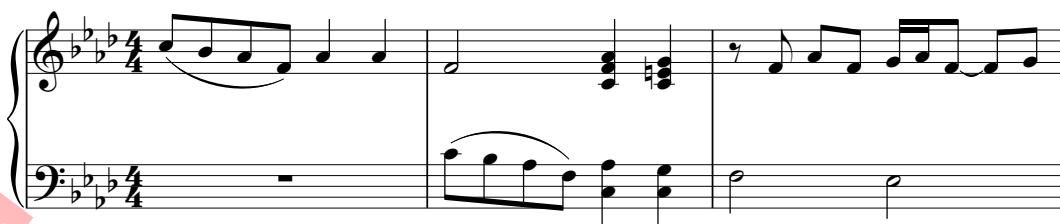
I've Been in the Storm So Long

for SA Voices (optional Descant), *a cappella* and optional Piano

Traditional Spiritual
Arranged by Christi Jones

♩ = 80*

Piano



The piano introduction consists of two staves in 4/4 time. The right hand plays a melodic line starting with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, C5, and a quarter note D5. The left hand plays a bass line starting with a whole note G3, followed by quarter notes A3, B3, and C4.

4

Soprano *mp*

I've been in the storm so long. I've been in the storm

Alto *mp*

I've been in the storm so long. I've been in the storm



The vocal parts for Soprano and Alto enter at measure 4. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

8

so long chil - dren. I've been in the storm so long, oh

so long chil - dren. I've been in the storm so long, oh



The vocal parts continue with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a consistent eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

* If performing *a cappella*, begin singing in m. 4.

11

give me lit - tle time to pray. I've

give me lit - tle time to pray. I've

14

mf been in the storm so long. I've been in the storm

mf been in the storm so long. Been in the storm

17

so long chil - dren. I've been in the storm so long, oh

so long chil - dren. Been in the storm so long,

* If performing a *cappella*, rest for one beat and continue to beat 4 of m. 13.

20

mf

give me lit - tle time to pray. Oh let me tell my moth - er —
Oh when I get to heav - en I'll

mf

give me lit - tle time to pray. Oh let me tell my moth - er
Oh when I get to heav - en

23

how I come a - long. Give me lit - tle time to pray, with a
walk - all a - bout. There'll be

how I come a - long. Oh give me time, with a
I'll walk all a - bout. There'll be

26

hung down head and an ach - ing heart. Give me lit - tle time to pray. I've
no - one there to — turn - me out.

hung down head and an ach - ing heart. Give me lit - tle time to pray. I've
no - one there to — turn - me out.

30

Optional Descant

I've been in the storm. It's been oh so long.
mp been in the storm so long. *mf* I've been in the storm so long chil - dren. I've
mp been in the storm so long. *mf* Been in the storm so long chil - dren.

The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, following the harmonic structure of the vocal lines.

34

f I've been in the storm, give me lit-tle time to pray. *rit.*
f been in the storm so long, oh give me lit-tle time to pray.
f Been in the storm so long, give me lit-tle time to pray. *rit.*

The piano accompaniment includes a more active right hand with eighth-note patterns and a steady bass line, concluding with a ritardando.

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