

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Kremser

We Gather Together

ROOT POSITION 7TH CHORDS to embellish harmony, a simple tutor.

arranged by B. A. Fackler

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a treble clef staff with a melody line and a bass clef staff with a bass line. Chord changes are indicated by letters above the staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

System 1: Chords: C, F, C, F, G, C. Lyrics: 1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing; He
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing, Or -
3. We all do ex - tol Thee, Thou Lead - er tri - um - phant, and

System 2: Chords: G, Am, D, Am, D, G. Lyrics: chas - tens and has - tens His will to make known; The
dain - ing main - tain - ing His King - dome di - vine; So
pray that Thou still our de - fend - er wilt be. Let

System 3: Chords: G, C, G, C. Lyrics: wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing, Sing
from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning: Thou,
Thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion: Thy

System 4: Chords: F, G, Dm, G⁷, C. Lyrics: prais - es to His name: He for - gets not his own.
Lord, wast at our side, He for all gets not his own.
name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make ry be us Thine!
free!

13

SAMPLE - Adding a 7th to the chords, even when not indicated in the changes adds an interesting extra color to your harmonies. I've written in the 7th in these chords, without indicating this change in the chord changes indicated, so this simply simulates what you'd do in an improvisational sense. This exercise, using only root position 7th chords in the bass clef is the easiest way to begin. Stay in the key, you don't actually need to know if it's a major or minor 7th, because staying in the key is going to be your best guide. That way, if the congregation is singing harmony from the hymnal, what they sing still fits with what you're playing. There's a tutorial for practice to learn the shapes of the 7th chord inversions at <https://hornandharp.com/tutorial.html> Also, find the sample that uses 7th chords in the treble, under the melody for added challenge.