

## **VARIATIONS ON AN IRISH HYMN TUNE** (Piano and Organ)

**Variations on an Irish Hymn Tune** was originally written in 2003 as a concert band composition. Here it is presented in a completely new suit of clothes.

Being long-retired from teaching, and since joining a UMC choir, I now spend far more time with church musicians than school musicians. So lately, I have been shifting my creative efforts away from school music and towards church music. This transcription of that band piece for piano and organ was one of my first efforts in that direction.

After attending a recital that our organist gave together with a pianist, which included a couple compositions for the two of them together, I found myself fascinated by that combination. Talking with her about it later, she told me that in planning the recital, finding suitable repertoire for piano and organ had been difficult for them. So that settled it: I would try my hand at it, first by transcribing an already-existing composition of mine that is based on a popular hymn tune.

I kept the same title and got permission from Seolta Music, which holds the copyright on the original band piece, to transcribe it for another medium. After getting some help from our organist on technical issues, this transcription is the result.