



10 SETTINGS FOR
MAUNDY THURSDAY

UBI CARITAS

OrganistSRQ
April 2019

Ubi Caritas: 10 Settings for Maundy Thursday
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If you have served in a liturgical church, then you're likely very familiar with [Ubi Caritas](#). This ancient antiphon originated in France and contains a number of stanzas, but most of us are familiar with the first:

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.*

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.*

On the Thursday before Easter, known as Maundy Thursday, many churches like to incorporate a setting of this text. Many of us love the Duruflé, but other settings may breathe new life into the tune. Here, I'll share several options for incorporating this tune into your Holy Week worship. Whether you're an organist, choir director, or pianist, hopefully you'll find an arrangement that works for your level and your ensemble.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Charles Callahan)

For the pianist asked to sub last-minute, look no further than Callahan's Lenten Music for Manuals, a two-set series containing "Ubi Caritas."

[Meditation on Ubi Caritas](#) (Alejandro D. Consolacion)

Organ

Available in both sheet music and PDF form, this piece works especially well during Communion, foot-washing, or as an extended prelude.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Roger Emerson)

2-Part Choir with Piano

Many arrangements of "Ubi Caritas" for children's choirs have been done time and time again, but I've not heard this lovely arrangement quite as often.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Catherine McMichael)

3-6 Octave Handbells, Opt. Handchimes

One of few handbell arrangements of "Ubi Caritas," this contemplative arrangement lends itself well to variation, suiting a variety of ensemble sizes.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Mary Lynn Lightfoot)

SSA Choir with Piano

A simple arrangement that works beautifully whether you have an ensemble of high school girls or older women.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Bob Moore)

SAB with Piano

This piece has worked well with my youth singers, especially if you have a small group. The simple presentations of each individual part results in approachable 3-part texture.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Mack Wilberg)

TB or TTBB

The current music director of the Tabernacle Choir, Mack Wilberg is known for his stirring, thoughtful settings, and this one for men's choir is no exception.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Ola Gjeilo)

SATB Choir, a cappella

This anthem begins with a unison chant section that expands into 4-part harmony. The stepwise melodic motion makes this popular piece more accessible than it may appear on first glance.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Maurice Duruflé)

SATB a capella

This celebrated selection from "Four Motets on Gregorian Themes" has stood the test of time with masterful partwriting.

[Ubi Caritas](#) (Philip Stopford)

SATB Choir, a cappella

Intentionally written in four accessible parts, this warm setting features one of the richest uses of the 9th chord in recent sacred music.