

# nā mele hawai‘i

Jordan Sramek, Series Editor

## **Perine**

PERINE

Composer Unknown

arr. Jordan Sramek

# ROSE PUBLICATIONS

From the archives of *The ROSE ENSEMBLE*

Daniel Mahraun & Jordan Sramek, General Editors

**Source:** *Ka lira Hawaii*. Honolulu: Mea Paipalapala a na Misionari, 1848.

**About the source / general notes on genre:**

When the brig *Thaddeus* first arrived in Hawaiian waters in April 1820 carrying the Pioneer Company of the Sandwich Islands Mission, members of the company sang several psalms and hymns for the Hawaiian Royal party. Liholiho—King Kamehameha II (1797-1824)—was apparently pleased. By 1823 the Hawaiians had advanced well enough in hymn singing and in reading the Hawaiian language to warrant a printed hymnal. In that year, the mission press put out the first hymnbook in Hawaiian: *Na himeni Hawaii: he me ori ia Jehova, ke Akua Mau* (“*Hawaiian Hymns and Songs to Jehovah, the Eternal God*”). The publication of *Na himeni Hawaii* helped to widely promote the practice of hymn singing.

In 1834, hymn singing reached a new stage of sophistication when the great missionary Hiram Bingham (Binamu) published the first Hawaiian hymnal containing musical notation and even explicit instructions in both singing and reading music.

The hymn tunes used in the early Hawaiian hymnals were not composed in Hawai‘i, but mostly of British and American origin. These were well known and loved by the Calvinist missionaries, many of whom were well-educated in music and active in the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston.

The source of this particular *himeni* (hymn), while clearly of European-American style, is unidentified.

**Text:** Author Unknown, ed. Amy Ku‘uleialoha Stillman

**Music:** PERINE, Composer Unknown

**Editorial method/notes:**

The English translation, by Amy Ku‘uleialoha Stillman, appears above the staff.

In the edited source text, the presence of the ‘*okina*’ consonant required rhythmic interpretation and subdivision in some places. These interpretations are based on The Rose Ensemble’s coaching with Dr. Stillman.

**Performance suggestions:**

This text is a conversation between the Hawaiian people and the Christian missionaries there to convert them. The sections marked “MISSIONARI” should be sung by a quartet or small group, set apart in the performance area from the larger choir. The small group should not sing the “KANAKA” parts but should join in on the final “PAU PU” (full *tutti*) section.

The suggested solos in verses 3 and 5 through 7 may be sung in either the soprano or tenor octave. If the melody is sung in the lower octave, performers may assign a few sopranos to sing the tenor line an octave up.

**Duration:** 4m

The Rose Ensemble’s recording, *Nā Mele Hawai‘i: A Rediscovery of Hawaiian Vocal Music*, is available on most download and streaming platforms.

PERINE. 11.

Perine.

O - wai la ka me-a e ho - i - ke mai, I i - kema - kou i ka me - a mai - kai? Hoo - lohe ou - kou i ka

me po - no e, He u - la ka makou e hui a - ku nei.

- 2 Aueha la ka pono? e hai mai oukou,  
Aueha la ke ola e ola'i makou?  
A i luna ke Akua ka Haku maikai,  
No ia ia na lani, na aina, na kai.
- 3 Huhu paha ia, e make makou;  
Aueha la ke ola? e hai mai oukou.  
Na Iehova he mau kanawai i kaa mau,  
Hoolohe mau ia, ka me' e ola'i.
- 4 Ua haki—ua hewi—ua make makou;  
Aueha la ke ola? e hai mai oukou.  
O kana Messia ua iho mai nei—  
A malama pono ia mau kanawai.

# Perine

SATB soli, SATB

Author Unknown  
ed. Amy Ku'uleialoha Stillman

PERINE, Composer Unknown  
arr. Jordan Sramek  
ed. Daniel Mahraun

Andante (♩ = 66-69)

KANAKA [People]

*mf*

1. Who is the one who will  
2. Where is the righteousness?

Soprano



1. 'O - wai lā ka me - a e hō - 'i - ke mai, I 'i - ke mā -  
2. 'Au - hea la ka po - no? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou, 'Au - he - a la ke

Alto



1. 'O - wai lā ka me - a e hō - 'i - ke mai, I 'i - ke mā -  
2. 'Au - hea la ka po - no? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou, 'Au - he - a la ke

Tenor



1. 'O - wai lā ka me - a e hō - 'i - ke mai, I 'i - ke mā -  
2. 'Au - hea la ka po - no? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou, 'Au - he - a la ke

Bass



1. 'O - wai lā ka me - a e hō - 'i - ke mai, I 'i - ke mā -  
2. 'Au - hea la ka po - no? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou, 'Au - he - a la ke

*So that we can see what is good?  
Where is the life that grants us life?*

*Listen to the good word.  
Above is God, the good Lord.*

MISIONARI [Missionaries]

6

S  
kou i ka me - a mai - ka - 'i?— Ho - 'o lo - he 'ou - kou i ka  
o - la e o - la ai mā - kou?— A i lu - na ke A - ku - a ka

A  
kou i ka me - a mai - ka - 'i?— Ho - 'o lo - he 'ou - kou i ka  
o - la e o - la ai mā - kou?— A i lu - na ke A - ku - a ka

T  
kou i ka me - a mai - ka - 'i?— Ho - 'o lo - he 'ou - kou i ka  
o - la e o - la ai mā - kou?— A i lu - na ke A - ku - a ka

B  
kou i ka me - a mai - ka - 'i?— Ho - 'o lo - he 'ou - kou i ka  
o - la e o - la ai mā - kou?— A i lu - na ke A - ku - a ka

*...all of life.  
From him are the heavens, the land, the oceans.*

11

S  
mea po - no e, — He o - la kā mā - kou e ha - 'i a - ku nei.  
Ha - ku mai - ka - 'i, No i - a la nā la - ni, nā 'āi - na, nā kai—

A  
mea po - no e, — He o - la kā mā - kou e ha - 'i a - ku nei.  
Ha - ku mai - ka - 'i, No i - a la nā la - ni, nā 'āi - na, nā kai—

T  
mea po - no e, — He o - la kā mā - kou e ha - 'i a - ku nei.  
Ha - ku mai - ka - 'i, No i - a la nā la - ni, nā 'āi - na, nā kai—

B  
mea po - no e, — He o - la kā mā - kou e ha - 'i a - ku nei.  
Ha - ku mai - ka - 'i, No i - a la nā la - ni, nā 'āi - na, nā kai—

*He is angry, we shall die.*

*Where is life? Tell us.*

KANAKA  
*mp* solo (*ad lib.*)

tutti

S 3. Hū - hū pa - ha i - a, e ma - ke mā - kou; 'Au - he - a la ke o - la? e

A *p* oo *p* 'Au - he - a la ke o - la? e

T *p* oo *p* 'Au - he - a la ke o - la? e

B *p* oo *p* 'Au - he - a la ke o - la? e

MISIONARI

*Jehovah has placed laws before us.*

S 23 *mf* ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Na Ie - ho - va he mau kā - nā - wai i kau

A *mf* ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Na Ie - ho - va he mau kā - nā - wai i kau

T *mf* ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Na Ie - ho - va he mau kā - nā - wai i kau

B *mf* ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Na Ie - ho - va he mau kā - nā - wai i kau

*to that which gives life.*

S 28 mai Ho - 'o - lo - he mau i - a, ka mea e o - la ai—

A mai Ho - 'o - lo - he mau i - a, ka mea e o - la ai—

T mai Ho - 'o - lo - he mau i - a, ka mea e o - la ai—

B mai Ho - 'o - lo - he mau i - a, ka mea e o - la ai—

KANAKA

*We are weak, we have sinned, we have died.*

*Where is life? Tell us.*

*mf*

S 4. Ua ha - ki - ua he - wa - ua ma - ke mā - kou; 'Au - he - a la ke o - la? e

A 4. Ua ha - ki - ua he - wa - ua ma - ke mā - kou; 'Au - he - a la ke o - la? e

T 4. Ua ha - ki - ua he - wa - ua ma - ke mā - kou; 'Au - he - a la ke o - la? e

B 4. Ua ha - ki - ua he - wa - ua ma - ke mā - kou; 'Au - he - a la ke o - la? e

MISION. *Ua hōiahi hōiahi he descended*

*f*

S 39 ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. O ka na Me - si - a ua i - ho mai

A ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. O ka - na Me - si - a ua i - ho mai

T ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. O ka - na Me - si - a ua i - ho mai

B ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. O ka - na Me - si - a ua i - ho mai

*and cares properly for the laws.*

*f*

S 44 nei - A mā - la - ma po - no ia mau kā - nā - wai -

A nei - A mā - la - ma po - no ia mau kā - nā - wai -

T nei - A mā - la - ma po - no ia mau kā - nā - wai -

B nei - A mā - la - ma po - no ia mau kā - nā - wai -

5. How will he grant us life?  
6. Alas, death! We have sinned!

Where is life? Tell us.  
Where is life? Tell us.

KANAKA  
*mf* solo (*ad lib.*)

*mp* *mf* tutti

S  
5. Pe - he - a ho-'i iā ia e o - la ai mā - kou? 'Au - he - a la ke  
6. 'Au - wē i ka ma - ke! ua he - wa mā - kou! 'Au - he - a la ke

A  
*mp* *mf*  
oo 'Au - he - a la ke  
oo 'Au - he - a la ke

T  
*mp* *mf*  
oo 'Au - he - a la ke  
oo 'Au - he - a la ke

B  
*mp* *mf*  
oo 'Au - he - a la ke  
oo 'Au - he - a la ke

54

MISIONARI  
*f*

S  
o - la? ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Ki - 'i mai ka Me - si - a i o - la 'ou -  
o - la? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Kau - iā ia ka ha - la o kā - kou ā

A  
o - la? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Ki - 'i mai ka Me - si - a i o - la 'ou -  
o - la? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Kau - iā ia ka ha - la o kā - kou ā

T  
o - la? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Ki - 'i mai ka Me - si - a i o - la 'ou -  
o - la? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Kau - iā ia ka ha - la o kā - kou ā

B  
o - la? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Ki - 'i mai ka Me - si - a i o - la 'ou -  
o - la? e ha - 'i mai 'ou - kou. Kau - iā ia ka ha - la o kā - kou ā

*f*

The Messiah is summoned so that you shall live,  
Place our sins before him.

*crucified, and died for us.  
When he dies, he rises, the day returns.*

60

S  
kou— Ua pe - pe - hi 'ia, ma - ke e iā kā - kou—  
pau, I ma - ke— ua o - la— ua ho - 'i i ke ao—

A  
kou— Ua pe - pe - hi 'ia, ma - ke iā kā - kou—  
pau, I ma - ke— ua o - la— ua ho - 'i i ke ao—

T  
kou— Ua pe - pe - hi 'ia, ma - ke iā kā - kou—  
pau, I ma - ke— ua o - la— ua ho - 'i i ke ao—

B  
kou— Ua pe - pe - hi 'ia, ma - ke e iā kā - kou—  
pau, I ma - ke— ua o - la— ua ho - 'i i ke ao—

KANAKA  
*mf* solo (ad lib.)

*Where shall sin be carved out?*

S  
7. Pe - la ke 'a - no? e ha - 'i po - no mai; Ma he - a la ka he - wa e

A  
*mp*  
oo

T  
*mp*  
oo

B  
*mp*  
oo

## MISIONARI

*Do not doubt the good sacrifice.*

71

*mf*

S kā - la - ia ai?— Mai kā - na - lu - a a - 'e i ka Mō - hai mai - ka - 'i, E

*mf*

A Mai kā - na - lu - a a - 'e i Mō - hai mai - ka - 'i, E

*mf*

T Mai kā - na - lu - a a - 'e i Mō - hai mai - ka - 'i, E

*mf*

B Mai kā - na - lu - a a - 'e i Mō - hai mai - ka - 'i, E

*Trust in him to live forever.*

77

S pau - le - le iā — ia — e o - la mau ai.

A pau - le - le iā o - la mau ai.

T pau - le - le iā e o - la mau ai.

B pau - le - le iā ia — e o - la mau ai.

## KANAKA

*believe in life.**We are blessed.*

*f*

S 8. Oia 'o ka o - la!— Pō - mai - ka - 'i mā - kou! Me e — ka Me - si - a e

*f*

A 8. Oia - 'i - 'o ka o - la!— Pō - mai - ka - 'i mā - kou! Me e ka Me - si - a e

*f*

T 8. Oia - 'i - 'o ka o - la!— Pō - mai - ka - 'i mā - kou! Me e — ka Me - si - a e

*f*

B 8. Oia - 'i - 'o ka o - la!— Pō - mai - ka - 'i mā - kou! Me e ka Me - si - a e

PAU PU [All]

*Life is known. Thanks to the light.*

87

S o - la ai kā - kou!— Ua 'i - kea ke o - la! ma - ha - lo ke

A o - la ai kā - kou!— Ua 'i - kea ke o - la! ma - ha - lo ke

T o - la ai kā - kou!— Ua 'i - kea ke o - la! ma - ha - lo ke

B o - la ai kā - kou!— Ua 'i - kea ke o - la! ma - ha - lo ke

*To Jesus is the never-ending kingdom.*  
*rit.*

92

S ao! Iā le - su ke au - pu - ni a 'o - le e pau.

A ao! Iā le - su ke au - pu - ni a 'o - le e pau.

T ao! Iā le - su ke au - pu - ni a 'o - le e pau.

B ao! Iā le - su ke au - pu - ni a 'o - le e pau.

## BRIEF HAWAIIAN DICTION GUIDE

Vowels:			
Hawaiian Letter	IPA	English example	
a	[ʌ]	“sun”	Notes: The macron, called kahakō or mekona, over a vowel denotes both length and syllabic stress. Only with the letters “a” and “e” does it also alter the pronunciation. The pronunciation of the macron-less “e” is less predictable; a speaker of Hawaiian should be consulted when possible.
ā	[ɑ]	“father”	
e	[ɛ] or [e]	“dead” or “day” (no diphthong)	
ē	[e]	“day” (no diphthong)	
i / ī	[i]	“eat”	
o / ō	[o]	first syllable of “obey” (no diphthong)	
u / ū	[u]	“soon”	

### Diphthongs and Vowel Combinations:

Since the Hawaiian language contains no successive consonants, vowels predominate. Hawaiian diphthongs—ai, ae, ao, au, ei, eu, oi, and ou—place the stress and length on the first vowel sound. All other vowel combinations place the length on the second.

Regardless, great care should be taken to fully pronounce each vowel. In such vowel combinations, “i” and “u” may occasionally be treated as glides [j] and [w], respectively. Examples include the borrowed names “Iesu” [jɛsu] and “Iehova” [jɛhova].

Consonants:			
Hawaiian Letter	IPA	English equivalent	
h	[h]	“h”	Notes: The pronunciation of the letter “w” is often unpredictable; a speaker of Hawaiian should be consulted when possible. The ‘okina, “‘”, is considered a consonant and denotes a glottal stop. Because texts printed before the 1970s generally do not include this letter, Dr. Amy Ku‘uleiahola Stillman has edited the language in our editions. The letters “t” [t] and “s” [s] sometimes occur in borrowed words, such as “Mesia” [mesia].
k	[k]	“k”	
l	[l]	“l”	
m	[m]	“m”	
n	[n]	“n”	
p	[p]	“p”	
w – after i or e	[v]	“v”	
w – after o or u	[w]	“w”	
w – after a or initial	[v] or [w]	* choice consistent through piece	
‘	[ʔ]	hyphen in “uh-oh”	

Failing consultation with a speaker of Hawaiian, we recommend the following resources:

- The Rose Ensemble’s recording, *Nā Mele Hawai‘i: A Rediscovery of Hawaiian Vocal Music*, available on most streaming platforms.
- the Hawaiian dictionaries available electronically at <https://wehewehe.org>.
- Duane Richard Karna, ed. *The Use of the International Phonetic Alphabet in the Choral Rehearsal*. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2012.