

Do Not Leave Your Cares At the Door

Norman V. Naylor

TBB a cappella



Elizabeth Alexander

Seafarer Press

Do Not Leave Your Cares At the Door

Adapted by Elizabeth Alexander
from *A Call To Worship* by Rev. Norman V. Naylor

Do not leave your cares at the door.
Do not leave them there when you come into this place.
Be open to forgiveness and transformation —
Come on in; you are welcome here;
And do not leave your cares at the door.

Bring your pain and sorrow and joy,
There's a place for them upon the altar of life.
Be open to forgiveness and transformation —
Come on in; you are welcome here;
So do not leave your cares at the door.

This is a place of grace,
Of losing and finding our way upon a winding road,
Meeting and parting, stumbling and starting over.
Every journey is sacred here, even yours.

Amen.

Lyric adapted by Elizabeth Alexander from *A Call To Worship* by Norman V. Naylor,
for use in musical setting only. Lyric © 2006 by Elizabeth Alexander

A Call To Worship

Reverend Norman V. Naylor

Do not leave your cares at the door. Do not leave there your pain, your sorrow or your joys. Bring them with you into this place of acceptance and forgiveness. Place them on the common altar of life and offer them to the possibility of your worship. Come then, and offer yourself to potential transformation by the creative process that flows through you and all life. Amen.

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Composer's Note: *Do Not Leave Your Cares At the Door* has its roots in old-time gospel and popular American folk song, reflecting my own upbringing in the Carolinas and Appalachian Ohio. By all means, go ahead and sing this song with the vocal nuance and abandon which these genres suggest!

Cover Art by Jonathan Machen. Jonathan Machen lives in Boulder, Colorado with his wife and two young children. He takes his inspiration from the people around him and the beauty of the Rocky Mountains and the American Southwest. Jonathan also manages the Solstice Center LLC, a healing arts facility in Boulder. Other loves are playing with his kids, playing guitar, backpacking, skiing, bicycling and kayaking. Jonathan's illustrations, landscapes and photography can be viewed at www.haikutimes.com

Do Not Leave Your Cares At the Door

Adapted from Norman V. Naylor

Elizabeth Alexander

Wholeheartedly
mf

T
1. Do not leave your cares at the door. Do not leave them there when you come
2. Bring your pain and sor-row and joy. There's a place for them up - on the

B I
1. Do not leave your cares at the door. Do not leave them there when you come
2. Bring your pain and sor-row and joy. There's a place for them up - on the

B II
1. Do not leave your cares at the door. Do not leave them there when you come
2. Bring your pain and sor-row and joy. There's a place for them up - on the

4
T
in - to this place. Be o - pen to for-give-ness and trans - for - ma - tion,
al - tar of life.

B I
in - to this place. Be o - pen to for-give-ness and trans - for - ma - tion,
al - tar of life.

B II
in - to this place. Be o - pen to for-give-ness and trans - for - ma - tion,
al - tar of life.

7

1.

T
8
Come on in; You are welcome here; and do not leave your cares at the door. —

B I
Solo or Tutti:
Come on in; You are welcome here; and do not leave your cares at the door. — Oh, —

B II
Come on in; You are welcome here; and do not leave your cares at the door. — Oh, —

11

2.

T
8
do not leave your cares at the door. — This is a place of —

B I
do not leave your cares at the door. — This is a place of

B II
do not leave your cares at the door. — This is a place of

Opal Palmer Adisa, poet • Paul Adams, technological hero • Stephen Alexander, lyric consultant • Ginny Allen, Agile coach and friend • The great people at American Composers Forum • Yehuda Amichai, poet • A. R. Ammons, poet • Jennifer Anderson, conductor and composer advocate • Scott Bates, poet • Abbie Betinis, initiator of collaborative endeavors • Beth Norton, conductor and composer advocate • Dennis Blubaugh, more than just a music dealer • Michael deVernon Boblett, poet • Edna Busby, my first piano teacher • Ray Bradbury, writer • Augustin Cadena, translator • Norbert Capek, minister and advocate for religious freedom • Jessica Corbett, editor • David Cummings, poet • Philip Dacey, poet • Catherine Dalton, composer and scrum partner • Emily Dickinson, poet • Evelyn Dudley, poet and caregiver • Rob Eller-Isaacs, minister and composer advocate • Ralph Waldo Emerson, philosopher and poet • Louise Erdrich, writer • David Allan Evans, poet • Sophia Lyon Fahs, writer • Richard M. Fewkes, minister and writer • Pasha Gertler, poet • Jack Gallagher, composer and teacher • Paul Gerike, proofreader • Jocelyn Hagen and Michael Hagan, founders of Graphite Marketplace • Steve Harper, just about everything • Steve Harkins, web designer • Edie Hill, composer and friend • Langston Hughes, poet • Margaret and George Heald, piano technician • Karel Husa, composer and teacher • David Ignatow, poet • Kabir, mystic • Linda Kachelmeier, composer and scrum partner • Ruth Palmer, conductor and composer advocate • Joan Wolf Prefontaine, poet • Paul Rardin, conductor and composer advocate • Kalidasa, poet • Steve Kaul, recording engineer • Søren Kierkegaard, philosopher and poet • Dorothy Knost, piano teacher • Ben Krywosz, artistic director of Nautilus Music-Theater • Denise Levertov, poet • George Ella Lyon, poet • Jonathan Machen, vocalist • Dawna Markova, writer • Anne Matlack, conductor and composer advocate • Nancy Menk, composer advocate • Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet • Jane Ramseyer Miller, conductor, composer, social activist • Joe Mish, conductor and composer advocate • J. David Moore, composer • Gerald Rich, poet • Carl Sandburg, poet • friend • King Sigismund III, religious reformer • Ann Silsbee, composer, poet and friend • Simon Alexander-Adams, sounding board, fellow creative, and awesome son • Steven Stucky, composer and teacher • Rabindranath Tagore, poet • Sister Peronne Marie Thibert, teacher and writer • Oliver Alexander-Adams, unconventional thinker and light of my life • Howard Thurman, civil rights leader and writer • Everyone whose work supports the Association for Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries • Charles Varney, high school choral director • Anna Vonhuben, illustrator and graphic designer • Nancy White, poet • John Greenleaf Whittier, poet • Theodore Chickering Williams, poet • Daniel Winter, pianist and teacher • Nancy Wood, poet • Yehudi Wyner, composer and teacher

**A lot of hard work
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**...and some of it
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20

Solo *mp*
Ev - 'ry sto - ry is sa - cred here,

T
Oh

B I *p*
Oh

B II *p*
Oh

23

Solo *rit.* e - ven yours, *a tempo* e - ven yours,

T *mf*
Oh e - ven yours, So come on in and

B I *mf*
Oh e - ven yours, So come on in and

B II *mf*
Oh e - ven yours, So come on in and

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Elizabeth Alexander

Seafarer Press

The Music of Elizabeth Alexander

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33

T
Come on in; you are wel - come here; and do not leave your cares at the door..

B I
Come on in; you are wel - come here; and do not leave your cares at the door..

B II
Come on in, come on in, come in and do not leave your cares at the door..

rall.

36

T
— * A - - men, a - men, a - men. *p soulfully*

B I
— * A - - men, a - men, a - men. *p soulfully*

B II
— * A - - men, a - men, a - men. *p soulfully*

* This is what I call a "Revival Amen," with a good ol' American "long a" diphthong on the first syllable! - E.A.