

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

TEXT: Thomas A. Dorsey 1938
MUSIC: George N. Allen, 1844

Gospel feel $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 76$

[Intro] G/D Cm/E♭ G/D D7 G C/G G [Voc] G

The musical score begins with an intro section consisting of chords G/D, Cm/E♭, G/D, D7, G, C/G, and G. This is followed by the lyrics "Pre - cious Lord, take my". The music is in 3/4 time and key signature of G major.

6 G G7 C6 C G D/F♯ Em A9 D A7/E

The lyrics continue with "hand; lead me on, help me stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn." The music remains in 3/4 time and G major.

12 D7/F♯ D13 G D7 G7 C6 C♯dim

The lyrics continue with "Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light; take my". The music continues in 3/4 time and G major.

17 G/D Cm/E♭ G/D D7 G G/C G G/D Cm/E♭ G/D D7

The lyrics end with "hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home." An interlude section begins, indicated by a box labeled "Interlude". The music continues in 3/4 time and G major.

23 G C/G G G G7 C6 C G D/F♯

A guitar solo section begins, indicated by a box labeled "Gtr. solo". The music consists of eighth-note patterns on the G string. The lyrics are omitted during this section.

30 Em A9 D A7/E D7/F♯ D13 G D7 G7 C6 C♯dim

The final section of the song concludes with the lyrics "Em A9 D A7/E D7/F♯ D13 G D7 G7 C6 C♯dim". The music ends on a G chord.

37 G/D Cm/E♭ G/D D7 G G/C G Voc G G G7

When my way grows drear, pre - cious

43 C6 G D/F♯ Em A9 D A7/E D7/F♯ D13 G D7

Lord, lin - ger near; when my life is al - most gone, _____ hear my cry, hear my

50 G7 C6 C♯dim G/D Cm/E♭ G/D D7

call, hold my hand lest I fall;— take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me

55 G G/C G rallentando G/D Cm/E♭ G/D D7 G C/G G

home._____ take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home_____

This black gospel song, like much hymnody, sprang out of the author's deep personal loss (the death of his wife and newborn son), yet it has brought solace to many. He thought his fingers were playing new music, but they unlocked a deep memory of a tune almost a century old.