

# Comfort, comfort, O my people

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1671  
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863  
GENEVA 42 (FREU DICH SEHR) 87.87.77.88

Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

arr. Claude Goudimel, 1565

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 12/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and three lines of lyrics. The first system begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 12/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final whole note chord at the end of each system. The lyrics are in a simple, sans-serif font, with hyphens used for syllables that span across lines. The second system continues the melody and lyrics. The third system also continues the melody and lyrics. The fourth system concludes the piece with a double bar line.

1 Com - fort, com - fort, O my peo - ple, speak of peace, now says our God.  
2 Hark, the voice of one who's cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 O make straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er plac - es plain.

Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.  
bid - ding all to full re - pen - tance since the king - dom now is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.

Speak un - to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them.  
O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad.

Tell of all the sins I cov - er, and that war - fare now is o - ver.  
Let the val - leys rise to meet God and the hills bow down to greet God.  
And all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.