

Take Up Your Cross

SATB, *A Cappella* or with Accompaniment

Lent

In this arrangement I have hoped to preserve the strength and severity of the verse by Charles William Everest (1814–1877). The lyric here is closer to Everest's original than versions found in most hymnals.

I have matched the verse with the Dorian melody KEDRON from *The Southern Harmony* (1835). I have kept the harmony within the Dorian mode as well, in support of the lyric's severe demands:

Take up your cross and follow on,
Nor think till death to lay it down.

Albert Blackwell
February 18, 2012

Take Up Your Cross

Charles William Everest (1814-1877)

KEDRON, from Southern Harmony

Arr. Albert Blackwell

1. Take up your cross, the Sa - vior said,
2. Take up your cross, let not its weight
3. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
4. Take up your cross, then, in his strength,
5. Take up your cross, and fol - low on,

1

if you would my dis - ci - ple be;
fill your weak soul with vain a - larm;
and let your fool - ish pride be still;
and calm - ly ev - 'ry dan - ger brave:
nor think till death to lay it down;

4

7

take up your cross with will - ing heart,
 his strength shall bear your spi - rit up,
 the Lord re - fused not e'en to die
 it guides you to a bet - ter home,
 7 for those who bear the hea - vy cross

10

and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.
 up - on the cross on Cal - v'ry's hill.
 it points to vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
 10 may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.