

What God Ordains Is Always Good

arranged by
Dan Forrest



Composer's Note:

Julie Herbster, a dear friend of our family, passed away on March 25, 2013 after a 10-month battle with colon cancer. At 39 years of age, and as the mother of 5 children (ages 7 - 14), it was difficult for her family to understand God's chosen path for their lives. This hymn, "What God Ordains Is Always Good," was introduced to the Herbster family shortly after Julie's cancer was first diagnosed. It became a source of resolve and testimony for the family as they sought to trust God's sovereignty in the midst of uncertainty, and it was eventually sung at Julie's funeral. Julie lived her life with a focus on "things above" that allowed her to keep her cancer and death in perspective. This setting is dedicated to Julie's memory and testimony, as her family affirms:

"What God ordains is always good. This truth remains unshaken."

In loving memory of Julie Herbster

What God Ordains Is Always Good

For SATB Choir and Piano

Samuel Rodigast (1649-1708)

Servus Gastorius (1646-1682)

J. S. Bach (BWV 250), ca. 1730

Arranged by DAN FORREST

(ASCAP)

Slowly, dream-like ♩ = ca. 58-63

The musical score is written for SATB choir and piano. It begins with a piano introduction in 4/4 time, marked *mp dolce e espressivo*. The piano part features a flowing melody in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand. The choir enters in measure 5 with the lyrics "What God or - dains is al - ways good: His will is just and". The vocal parts are written for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The piano accompaniment continues with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (*mp*, *p*, *ad lib*), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions (e.g., *con Ped.*, *Ped. ad lib*). The lyrics are: "What God or - dains is al - ways good: His will is just and ho - ly. As He di - rects my life for me, I fol - low meek and".

mp dolce e espressivo

con Ped.

SA unis. *mp*

What God or - dains is al - ways good: His will is just and

p *mp*

Ped. ad lib

ho - ly.

TB unis. *mp*

As He di - rects my life for me, I fol - low meek and

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mf

My God in - deed In ev - 'ry need Knows

mf

low - ly.

8va

13 14 15 16

,mp *rit.*

well how He will shield me; To Him, then, I will - yield

rit.

17 18 19 20

a tempo

me.

a tempo

mf a tempo

21 22 23

*poco più mosso**mp* What God or - dains is al - ways good: He

Both hands
8va

24 25 26 27

is my friend and Fa - ther; He suf - fers naught to

28 29 30 31

do me harm Though man - y storms may gath - er.

32 33 34 35

I may know Both joy and woe; Some - day I shall see

36 37 38

clear - ly That He has loved me - dear

39 40 41

f *moving forward*

42 43 44

With confidence
a tempo

7

rit. *f* Ah ——— Ah ———

What God or-dains is al - ways good: This truth re-mains un -

rit. *unis. f* *a tempo*

rit. *f* *a tempo* With confidence

45 46 47 48

Ah ——— Ah ———

shak - en. ——— Though sor - row, need, or death be mine, I

unis.

49 50 51 52

shall not be for - sak - en. ——— I fear no _ harm, For

53 54 55 56



with His arm, He shall embrace and shield

57 58 59

unis. **Tempo I** *mp*

me; So to my God I

mp *unis.*

Tempo I

mf *p* *mp*

60 61 62 63

p *rit.*

yield me.

p *rit.*

p *rit.* *8va*

64 65 66 67 68