


## Picardy

 forby
Dale E. Ramsey

SWIRLV MUSIC
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## Composer's Note

The beautiful melody "Picardy" is a French Folktune named after a province in northern France. It originated probably from around the seventeenth century. The tune today is known most commonly set to the words "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence", an Eucharistic text of much earlier origins. Some scholars think these tender words may have been written by the first Bishop of Jerusalem, St. James the lessor, in the first century A. D.

Keeping with its roots, this setting of the melody is gentle and reflective in nature. The violin is the perfect instrument to render the melody with spiritual sensitivity. The organ accompaniment borrows from an early Rennaissance choral style, encopporating harmonies utilizing many open fifths and simple melodic figures that are linear and are nearly exclusively step-wise. This gives the opening and closing sections of the work an almost Medieval feel. The middle, livelier section is a variation of the tune, which makes the piece into "song" form or A-B-A. It ends quietly as it began.

# Additional Organ Music by Dale Ramsey available from SwirlyMusic.com 

Sortie
Fantasia on "Crucifer"
Variations on "Adoro te devote" Festival Flourish on "Union Seminary"
Prelude on "National City" (with Trumpet)
Psalm 23
Processional on a 9-tone Scale (versions for organ alone, and with Brass Quintet)
"The Trumpet Shall Sound" (for Organ, Baritone, and Trumpet)


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