

About...

## My song and my prayer

### **...how and why they were written**

These two songs were written together during a time of worship when I was praying for my neighbours – they share the same chords and have almost identical melodies – they also work like a whole song version of the call and response idea.

Samuel Crossman's 'My song is love unknown' is one of my favourite hymn lyrics and it just seemed to contextualise the more specific prayer for my neighbour.

### **...the image of transferring favour**

I feel it's important to comment on the lines of my prayer which state, 'Standing in the gap for her/my dearest prayer becomes her life/if there's any favour waiting for me today/pour it out on her I pray.'

Transference of blessing, favour, or breakthrough is not an expression of theological doctrine in this context. It relates to that place of love in prayer of desperation to see breakthrough for someone's situation, so much so that you would rather not move forward in your own than see this person remain in their uncertainty or pain.

### **...how, where and when they could be used**

I think that these songs are best used in personal devotions, though the hymn setting could be used corporately. You might find them helpful for praying for your own neighbours and friends.

### **...their place on the journey to where world and worship meet**

As we come to know more of the God who is Love unknown, we long not only to 'stay and sing no story so divine' but also to see others' lives impacted by his love.

As we are transformed to be more like him, and therefore more loving, our priorities change – the welfare, transformation and blessing of those around us become so important to us, we would sacrifice our own personal desires so that they can experience love – from us, and from God.