

There Are Angels Hoverin' Round Me

The image shows a musical score for the song "There Are Angels Hoverin' Round Me" in G major, 4/4 time. The score is written on three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on G4. The lyrics "There are an - gels ho - ver - in' round me, there are" are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics "an - gels ho-ver-in' round me, there are an - gels ho-ver-in' round". The third staff concludes the melody with lyrics "me to car-ry the lit - tle ones home." The score includes various chord markings: G, Em, Am7, Dsus, D, D7, G, G7/F#, C9/E, Cm+7/Eb, Am/D, D7, G, C, G.

Words and music by Orien Johnson

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We used this spiritual with its lilting, easily learned melody to teach the theme of the service to children and adults alike. The traditional stanzas are as follows:

1. There are angels hoverin' round me,
There are angels hoverin' round me,
There are angels hoverin' round me,
To carry this sinner-man home.
2. Ev'ry day draws closer to glory . . .
3. I can see that golden chariot . . .
4. What a wonder to God's glory . . .
5. (Repeat stanza 1 softly.)

We composed additional or replacement stanzas of our own to reinforce the theme of the service, such as:

1. They behold the face of our Father . . .
2. They are sent to care for God's children . . .
3. They protect and watchfully guard us . . .

As we sang this song at each of the Advent and Christmas services, it grew on the congregation and reinforced their awareness of angels as "real, awesome, and here."