

Mp3 R. Todd Webb - Near To The Heart Of God - Meditations For Piano

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A very relaxed mixture of old hymns and new worship music, this will be the CD you play while you read and pray. All songs you know performed solo piano, but with lush chords that will keep you singing. 14 MP3 Songs GOSPEL: Traditional Gospel, GOSPEL: Contemporary Gospel Details: I started playing the piano around age 5. Much to my big brother's frustration, I was able to play by ear some of the pieces that he was diligently working on. I was on the piano bench at church by the time I was 12. Attending a small Nazarene church in Spartanburg, SC, gave me a great place to learn and develop. Under the leadership of my granddad, J.Y. Todd, I learned to love the old "hymns of the church." The hymnal for me was a lot like the King James Version of the Bible was for many - hard to give up. It was easy to embrace the praise and worship movement, but I still find a lot of solace in the hymnal. Playing by ear made learning to read music a difficult process. Around age 10 (after I had played for 5 or so years) my parents decided it might be worth trying to teach the child something. I had 4 piano teachers "graduate" me in the first 2 years of study; they didn't want to deal with my ear. Looking back, I certainly understand their frustration, but oh, how I wish someone could have motivated me to learn to read early. In college, I was fortunate enough to study with two great professors; Dr. Barbara McClain and Professor Jim Jarrett. Barbara made me do the hard stuff, while Jim taught me to incorporate my ear into the technical work of scales and arpeggios. I received my Bachelors degree in Church Music from Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, TN. While the thought of more schooling after that didn't appeal to me at all, I became a student of worship, reading everything I could on the subject, attending seminars and truly seeking God for ways to help His people connect. Creating an atmosphere of worship is truly where I think God gifted me. All the other skills He put in me were for that purpose. I'm thankful! Throughout my career, I've worked in the church both full time and part time leading worship, playing piano and organ and currently leading the orchestra at the Richardson Church of the Nazarene in Richardson, TX. I truly enjoy being at the keyboard in a supportive role. I've been amazed at various stages of my life to see God's hand leading. He has walked me through some deep valleys to get me to where I am today. The toughest

lesson has been to embrace the difficulty and allow Him to teach and mold me in the rough places. I continue to be overwhelmed by His faithfulness and His mercy. "Day by day and with each passing moment, strength I find to meet my trials here. Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment I've no cause for worry or for fear. He whose heart is kind beyond all measure Gives unto each day as He deems best. Lovingly it's part of pain and pleasure Mingling toil with peace and rest." From the Hymn, Day by Day Words by Carolina V. Sandell-Berg - Public Domain This CD... My favorite thing in the world is to play underscore for prayer and response times at the end of the service. The sweet, soft, flowing music was always a love of mine and I enjoyed trying to create the right mood for such times. There have been several times that pianists, even piano teachers, would ask me to teach them to improvise. Those of you who don't improvise and are most comfortable reading notes have a more difficult task in those instances. These arrangements are for you. If that sounds like your kind of music, you need to hear this CD. If you play and would like the printed versions, check out my website at toddsmusic.info. You can contact me there.

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