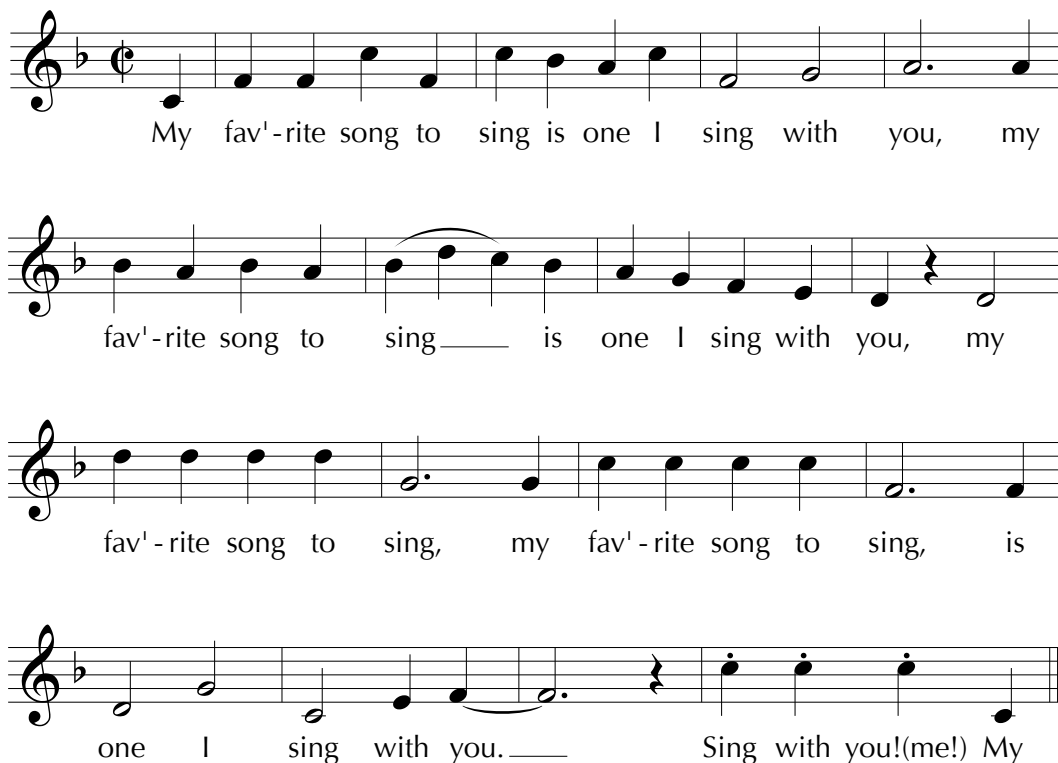


I'll Meet You There

for Livia DeLancey

Invitational Round for up to four voices

The six of us—seven year old Livia, Henry, weighing in at two and a-half, and we four in the adult category—arrived at Betty Rae's after a dusk walk from the Delancey home, three blocks along the Trolley Track Trail. Home had been a brief stop following a late afternoon table of ribs and brisket at the bustling Q 39 restaurant (no joint, this). So even if Betty Rae's Burnt Ends with Sauce ice cream *had* been available . . . well, okay. We would have tried it. There's no such thing as too much barbecue. We landed on chairs around the only open table at the bright, crowded Betty Rae's. Between licks of my goat cheese/dried apricot/walnut waffle-cone scoop, I chatted with the young woman sitting to my right. A Betty Rae's first-timer, she was waiting for her friend, who soon joined our conversation, holding chocolate atop cinnamon up to her open mouth. Beginning their last year at U. of Mo., Kansas City, they already knew where they'd be doing graduate work next year.



My fav'-rite song to sing is one I sing with you, my
fav'-rite song to sing_____ is one I sing with you, my
fav'-rite song to sing, my fav'-rite song to sing, is
one I sing with you._____ Sing with you!(me!) My

David Mahler
October/November 2017

I glanced at Julie to my left, and then further down the table from Julie, at Livia. "Hey, Liv, I called, and with a beckoning finger invited her to come closer to Julie and me. "Cows!" I whispered enthusiastically, shaking my head in encouragement. Then I asked the young women next to me, "May we sing you a song?" Julie and Livia began singing "Cows take a vacation," I picked it up in round fashion, and after a verse I added "Squirrels go to work every day."

Hooray for Livia, who had easily learned the round from hearing Julie and me sing it over the past few days.

Later, at home, we discussed what is meant by "guerrilla singing."

