

Background Notes.

*This song was inspired by a sign outside the front door of a pub in Ireland. I can't say that I've never been in a pub, but I've never been in this one ... in fact I've never been to Ireland. I saw it on a holiday programme on the telly. Anyway, the sign said in big bold letters "NO STRANGERS HERE", but then below, slightly smaller, "Just Friends Who Never Met". It immediately struck me that this is just the sort of sign that ought to hang outside our churches, so this is a song about the sort of welcome that **I hope** visitors to the church should be able to expect. After all, if we don't offer this sort of welcome, it's hardly surprising if everybody's down at the pub instead!*

No Strangers Here

Words and music by Keith Miller

Are you feeling lonely?
Do you need a friend?
Do you need to know there's one on whom you can depend?
There's a place I often go,
Have you found it yet?
Come inside and you will find
No strangers here – just friends you never met.

Come on in, feel at home,
Come in and make a friend or three.
Any race, any background,
We're just one big family.

Here we trust in Jesus,
Here we try to do his will,
Lifting up the down-at-heart,
Comforting the ill,
Bringing news of Christ to those who haven't found him yet,
And this message is for you
No strangers here – just friends you never met.

Chorus

Simply trusting Jesus,
Simply walking in His way.
Help me, Lord, to share your love in all I do or say.
Hang a sign around my heart
In case I should forget.
Write it clear, for all to see ...
No strangers here – just friends you never met.

... Hang a sign around my heart
In case I should forget.
Write it clear, for all to see ...
No strangers here – just friends you never met.