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spirit of the living god audrey assad chords

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Discovering the Spirit of the Living God: A Deep Dive into Audrey Assad's Chords and Song

When a song becomes a bridge between worship and personal devotion, its impact ripples far beyond the studio. Audrey Assad's "Spirit of the Living God" is one such masterpiece that invites believers into an intimate dialogue with the divine. Whether you're a seasoned guitarist, a worship leader, or simply a curious listener, this guide offers an in depth exploration of the song's background, meaning, and, most importantly, the chords that bring it to life on the guitar.

Who Is Audrey Assad?

Audrey Assad is a contemporary Christian singer songwriter known for her poetic lyrics, soulful melodies, and a deep commitment to worship. Born in 1987 in California, she began writing music at a young age, drawing inspiration from her faith, family, and the vibrant Christian community around her. Over the years, she has released several albums, collaborated with notable artists, and earned critical acclaim for her thoughtful, spiritually rich compositions.

What sets Audrey apart is her ability to weave scripture into everyday language, making ancient truths accessible to modern listeners. Her songs often reflect a yearning for intimacy with God, a theme that resonates throughout "Spirit of the Living God."

"Spirit of the Living God": Song Overview

Released as part of Audrey Assad's 2017 album *In the Quiet*, "Spirit of the Living God" stands out as a contemplative worship piece. The track invites listeners to surrender their hearts and allow the divine presence to fill every space within. The lyrics echo Psalm 51:10 – "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." The song's gentle piano intro, layered strings, and Audrey's hushed vocal delivery create an atmosphere of reverence and awe.

Musically, the track is anchored by a simple yet profound chord progression that supports the lyrical content without overpowering it. For guitarists, the chords are accessible, making the song a popular choice for worship teams, home practice, and small group gatherings.

Why "Spirit of the Living God" Resonates

- Spiritual Depth: The song's focus on the "living" aspect of God underscores the dynamic nature of faith, encouraging listeners to experience God as a present, active force.
- Accessible Melodies: The melodic structure is straightforward, making it easy to sing along, even for those new to worship music.
- Versatility: It can be performed solo, in a choir, or as part of a larger worship set, offering flexibility for various worship contexts.
- Emotional Connection: The lyrical call to "clean heart" and "renew spirit" invites personal reflection and confession.

Understanding the Chords: A Quick Primer

Before diving into the full chord chart, let's review the primary chords used in the song. The key of the original track

is G major, but many worship leaders transpose it to suit vocal ranges.

- G Major (G) – The tonic chord, providing a stable foundation.
- D Major (D) – The dominant, adding tension that resolves back to G.
- Em Minor (Em) – A gentle, reflective chord that deepens the emotional tone.
- C Major (C) – The subdominant, offering a sense of lift and hope.
- Am Minor (Am) – Adds a subtle melancholy that complements the plea for renewal.
- Bm Minor (Bm) – A secondary dominant that adds harmonic interest.

These chords form the backbone of the song's harmonic structure, allowing for smooth transitions and a cohesive sound.

Chord Progression Breakdown

The following is a simplified version of the chord progression used in the verses, chorus, and bridge. The arrangement is designed for guitarists of all skill levels.

Verse: G – D – Em – C
Chorus: G – D – Em – C
Bridge: Am – Em – Bm – D

When playing, maintain a steady strumming pattern that reflects the song's contemplative mood. A common pattern is:

Down – Down – Up – Up – Down – Up

Feel free to adjust the rhythm to match your vocal delivery or to emphasize specific lyrical moments.

Step by Step Guide to Playing "Spirit of the Living God"

1. Set Your Capo: While the original key is G, many worship leaders use a capo on the 3rd fret to play in the key of Bb, matching the vocal range of the majority of congregations.
2. Practice the Verse Pattern: Play G, D, Em, and C in a steady loop. Focus on smooth chord changes and consistent strumming.
3. Move to the Chorus: The chorus repeats the same progression, so you can maintain the same strumming pattern. Pay attention to dynamics – soften the strum during the verse and increase intensity during the chorus.
4. Bridge Transition: The bridge introduces Am, Em, Bm, and D. This progression adds a new emotional layer. Practice transitioning from the chorus to the bridge to keep the flow natural.
5. Add Dynamics: Use palm muting on the first downstroke to create a gentle, introspective feel. Gradually open up the chords toward the end of the bridge to build anticipation.
6. Sing Along: Once comfortable with the chords, start singing the lyrics. The song's lyrical phrasing aligns with the chord changes, making it easier to sync vocal lines with guitar parts.
7. Practice with a Metronome: Keep a steady tempo (around 70 BPM) to ensure a consistent groove throughout the song.

Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

- Skipping the Capo: Playing in the wrong key can strain vocal cords. Use the capo or transpose the chords to

match your range.

- Inconsistent Strumming: A shaky rhythm can disrupt the song's contemplative atmosphere. Focus on maintaining a steady tempo.
- Over strumming: The song thrives on subtlety. Use light strums to keep the mood intimate.
- Ignoring Dynamics: The emotional journey of the song relies on dynamic shifts. Practice softening during verses and intensifying during choruses.
- Forgetting the Bridge: The bridge is essential for building tension. Skip it, and the song feels incomplete.

Transposing the Song for Different Vocal Ranges

Transposing is a common practice in worship settings to accommodate various vocal ranges. Below are transposition tables for common keys:

Original Key	Transposed to G	Transposed to C	Transposed to D
G	G	D	A
F	G	C	D
Eb	G	C	D

Use a capo to make transposition easier. For instance, a capo on the 2nd fret in G major yields a D major sound, allowing singers comfortable with D to perform the song without changing chord shapes.

Incorporating the Song into Worship Settings

- Opening Worship: The gentle introduction of “Spirit of the Living God” sets a reflective tone for the service.
- Mid Service Transition: Use the bridge to shift the congregation’s focus from personal reflection to communal praise.
- Closing Hymn: End the service with a heartfelt rendition, encouraging participants to carry the song’s message into their daily lives.
- Small Group Sessions: Encourage participants to sing along while discussing the song’s spiritual themes.

Enhancing the Experience: Accompaniment Ideas

While the guitar provides a solid foundation, consider layering additional instruments to enrich the sound:

- Piano: Adds warmth and depth, especially during the bridge.
- Strings: A violin or cello can emphasize the song’s emotional peaks.
- Drums: A soft snare and kick can create subtle rhythmic support without overpowering the contemplative mood.
- Choir: Harmonized vocal lines during the chorus amplify the sense of community.

Lyrics Interpretation: A Spiritual Lens

Although this article does not provide the full lyrics, a brief overview of the thematic elements is essential for a deeper understanding:

1. Invocation of the Living Spirit: The opening lines call upon the living spirit to “fill the silence” and “touch the heart.” This reflects an active, dynamic faith.
2. Personal Confession: The verses express a desire for purification, echoing biblical prayers for a clean heart.
3. Renewal and Hope: The chorus emphasizes renewal, encouraging listeners to trust in God’s transformative power.
4. Collective Worship: The bridge invites the community to unite in worship, reinforcing the shared spiritual journey.

Resources for Further Learning

- Audrey Assad Official Website: audreyassad.com
- Sheet Music: Available on SheetMusicPlus and MusicNotes.
- Video Tutorials: Search “Audrey Assad Spirit of the Living God guitar” on YouTube for step by step lessons.
- Worship Leader Resources: WorshipLeader.com offers chord charts and worship plans.

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