Which Side Are You On? 2022 version *Florence Reece and others*

Come all you good people
Our comrades and our friends
Once more our backs are to the wall
We're being attacked again

Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?
Which side are you on?

The MPs and the bosses
Give themselves a rise in pay
They send us to the foodbanks
While they strip our jobs away

Hikes in gas and 'lectric
Won't affect the likes of them
It's freeze or starve for many
While their profits rise again

Ten We're on the side of refugees
Seeking a life of peace
Alto We're on the side of political prisoners
Work for their release
Sop We're on the side of climate action
Want to save the earth
Bass We're on the side of human rights
We'll fight for all we're worth
Ten We're on the side of Palestine
In the shadow of oppression
Alto We're on the side of all who stand
In the face of cruel aggression
Sop We're on the side of workers'
Good conditions and fair pay
Bass We're on the side of all who strive
To find a better way

Their plan is to divide us
For hatred's what they breed
We're black, we're white, we're gay, we're straight
We'll smash their racist creed

Don't listen to the Tories
Don't listen to their lies
Us working folk ain't got a chance
Unless we organise

Notes - structure

- The song starts with the choir in two parts sharing the chorus sung over a hum.
- into the chant: Which side are you on, I said which side are you on, building up from the bass upwards through the choir
- first verse in unison
- chorus in the new harmony we learned
- verses 2 and 3 in unison
- chorus in harmony
- spoken bit in parts (will try this in rehearsal and decide whether it's the whole part or just one or two voices for clarity) over the chant once as before, and carrying on for a second time with all the parts together, but taking it in turns to drop out and speak
- chorus in harmony
- verses 4 and 5 in unison
- chorus twice

The sound files

I've used a lot of cut and paste so apologies for the occasional bumpy bit. Note also that if the first word is before the first beat of a bar (The MPs, Their plan), it will not be on the recording, again because of cutting and pasting – sorry, but it saves so much time!

Listening through stereo headphones is highly recommended as I've panned the parts.