

to my beloved parents, Frances and William Saylor
Commissioned by the Decatur Presbyterian Church to celebrate its 175th anniversary
Matthew McMahan, organist and choirmaster; Decatur, Georgia, October 29, 2000

Blessing

SATB with brass, timpani and organ

Choral Score

Texts from the Bible and
Jasper Newton Keith, Jr.

Bruce Saylor

Lento ♩ = 58

Organ

p

Man. 3 3 3 3

Ped.

S

p

Bless - ed be the God and Fa - ther of our Lord Je - sus

A

p

Bless - ed be the God and Fa - ther of our Lord Je - sus

T

p

Bless - ed be the God and Fa - ther of our Lord Je - sus

B

p

Bless - ed be the God and Fa - ther of our Lord Je - sus

4

p

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9

Christ! By his great mer-cy we re-ceive new birth—

Christ! By his great mer-cy we re-ceive new birth—

Christ! By his great mer-cy we re-ceive new birth—

Christ! By his great mer-cy we re-ceive new birth—

9 solo *p*

This system contains four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in G major and 4/4 time. The piano part features a solo in the right hand with triplets and a steady accompaniment in the left hand.

13 dolce

through the res-ur-rec-tion of Je - sus Christ from the

to an ev-er-last-ing hope of Je - sus Christ from the

to an ev-er-last-ing hope of Je - sus Christ from the

13 *p*

This system contains four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in G major and 4/4 time. The piano part features a solo in the right hand with triplets and a steady accompaniment in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'dolce' and the dynamics are 'p'.

17

mf
 dead, for an in-her-i-tance— which is not de-stroyed
mf
 dead, for an in-her-i-tance— which is not de-stroyed
mf
 dead, for an in-her-i-tance— which is not de-stroyed
mf
 dead, for an in-her-i-tance— which is not de-stroyed

17

p solo
 3 3
 3

20

p
 — or de - filed, — and ne - ver fades a - way, and which is
p
 — or de - filed, — and ne - ver fades a - way, and which is
p
 — or de - filed, — and ne - ver fades a - way, and which is
p
 — or de - filed, — and ne - ver fades a - way, and which is

20

p
 3 3 3

kept for you in heav'n. You are pro-tec-ted through
 kept for you in heav'n. You are pro-tec-ted through
 kept for you in heav'n. You are pro-tec-ted through
 kept for you in heav'n. You are pro-tec-ted through

mf

23

mf *f*

faith by the pow'r of God for your sal - va - tion
 faith by the pow'r of God for your sal - va - tion
 faith by the pow'r of God for your sal - va - tion
 faith by the pow'r of God for your sal - va - tion

26

f

29

f

$\text{♩} = 128$

wait -ing to be re-vealed at the end of time.

f

wait -ing to be re-vealed at the end of time.

f

wait -ing to be re-vealed at the end of time.

f

wait -ing to be re-vealed at the end of time.

Allegro feroce

29

$\text{♩} = 128$

34

f

Hast thou not known?

f

Hast thou not known?

f

Hast thou not known?

f

Hast thou not known?

Hast— thou not heard?

Hast— thou not heard?

Hast— thou not heard?

Hast— thou not heard?

40

that— the ev-er - last-ing God,— the Lord, the Cre - a - tor—

that— the ev-er - last-ing God,— the Lord, the Cre - a - tor—

that— the ev-er - last-ing God,— the Lord, the Cre - a - tor—

that— the ev-er - last-ing God,— the Lord, the Cre - a - tor—

46

mf *f*

50

— of the ends of — the earth, —

— of the ends of — the earth, —

— of the ends of — the earth, —

— of the ends of — the earth, —

50

55

mf

faint - eth not, nei - ther is wea - ry?

mf

faint - eth not, nei - ther is wea - ry?

mf

faint - eth not, nei - ther is wea - ry?

mf

faint - eth not, nei - ther is wea - ry?

55

mf

f

60

mf

There is no search - ing of his un - der - stand - ing.

mf

There is no search - ing of his un - der - stand - ing.

mf

There is no search - ing of his un - der - stand - ing.

mf

There is no search - ing of his un - der - stand - ing.

60

Man.

64

espr.

He giv-eth pow'r

He giv-eth pow'r

espr.

He giv-eth pow'r

He giv-eth pow'r

espr.

He giv-eth pow'r

He giv-eth pow'r

espr.

He giv-eth pow'r

He giv-eth pow'r

64

f

mf

Ped.

— to the faint; to them that have no might, have no might,
 — to the faint; to them that have no might, have no might,
 — to the faint; to them that have no might, have no might,
 — to the faint; to them that have no might, have no might,

69

73

he in - crease - eth strength.
 he in - crease - eth strength.
 he in - crease - eth strength.
 he in - crease - eth strength.

73

he in - crease - eth strength.

78

p and the young — men — shall

p E-ven the youths shall faint and — be wea-ry ut - ter - ly

p and the young — men — shall ut - ter - ly

78 E-ven the youths shall faint and — be wea-ry, young men shall fall,

84

ritard

a tempo

ut - ter - ly fall. _____

fall, ut - ter - ly fall. _____

fall, _____ fall.

84 ut - ter - ly — fall. _____

ritard

a tempo

90

p legato

But they _____ that wait up - on the Lord _____

p legato

But they _____ that wait up - on the Lord. _____

p legato

But they _____ that wait up - on the Lord _____

p legato

90 But they _____ that wait up - on the Lord _____

96

shall _____ re - new _____ their strength _____

_____ shall re - new their strength _____

96

legato

p

Musical score for measures 102-104. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "They shall mount up". The piano part consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *p* and *p.*

They shall mount up

They shall mount up

They shall mount up

They shall mount up

102

p.

Musical score for measures 105-107. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "shall mount up with wings as". The piano part continues with the eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *p.*

shall mount up with

with wings as

with wings as

with wings as

105

p.

108

wings _____ as _____ ea - gles _____

ea - gles _____ with wings _____

ea - gles _____ with wings _____

ea - gles _____ with wings _____

108

111

as _____ ea - gles _____

as _____ ea - gles _____

as _____ ea - gles _____

111

mf

They shall

mf

They shall

mf

They shall

mf

They shall

mf

117

f *mf*

run, and not be wea - ry; They shall run,

f *mf*

run, and not be wea - ry; They shall run,

f *mf*

run, and not be wea - ry; They shall run,

f *mf*

run, and not be wea - ry; They shall run,

mf cresc.

122

and not be wea - ry; and — they shall

and not be wea - ry; and — they shall

and not be wea - ry; and — they shall

and not be wea - ry; and — they shall

f

f

f

f

122

125

walk and — not

walk and — not

walk and — not

walk and — not

125

f

128

faint, _____ not

faint, _____ not

faint, _____ not

faint, _____ not

128

131 *dim e rit. molto*

tempo 1

faint. _____

faint. _____

faint. _____

faint. _____

131 *dim e rit. molto*

tempo 1

solo

p espr.

136

p

We are em - braced in the stead - fast love — of

We are em - braced in the stead - fast love — of

We are em - braced in the stead - fast love — of

We are em - braced in the stead - fast love — of

136

Piano accompaniment for measures 136-139, featuring a steady bass line and a treble line with sustained notes.

140

p

God — for - ev - er; We are re -

God — for - ev - er; We are re -

God — for - ev - er; We are re -

God — for - ev - er; We are re -

140

solo

Piano solo for measures 140-142, starting with a 'solo' marking and featuring triplet figures in the treble clef.

143

-deemed in the grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ;

-deemed in the grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ; now and

-deemed in the grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ; now and

- deemed in the grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ; now and

146

And we are be-ing em-pow'ed for lov-ing ser-vice and

al-ways; And we are be-ing em - pow'ed for

al-ways; And we are be-ing em - pow'ed for

al-ways; And we are be-ing em - pow'ed for

p

p

Ped.

faith - ful wit - ness by the Ho - ly

faith - ful wit - ness by the Ho - ly

8
faith - ful wit - ness by the Ho - ly

149
faith - ful wit - ness by the Ho - ly

152
Spir - it. A - men.

Spir - it. A - men.

8
Spir - it. A - men.

Spir - it. A - men.

152
p *mp*

155

p rit..... **Allegro feroce (tempo 2)**

A - men. A - men.

A - men. A - men.

A - men. A - men.

A - men. A - men.

155

rit..... **Allegro feroce (tempo 2)**

mf 3 3

mf

161

f

A - men.

A - men.

A - men.

A - men.

161

f

f

167

Four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) for measures 167-172. Each staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f*. The lyrics "A - men." are written below each staff. The music features melodic lines with some rests and a final sustained note.

167

Piano accompaniment for measures 167-172. The right hand plays a complex melodic line with many sixteenth notes and some grace notes. The left hand provides a steady bass line with eighth notes and some chords.

173

Five vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and another Bass) for measures 173-178. Each staff begins with a dynamic marking of *f*. The lyrics "A - men." are written below each staff. The music consists of long, sustained notes with some chromatic movement.

173

Piano accompaniment for measures 173-178. The right hand plays chords and some melodic fragments. The left hand plays a bass line with chords and some moving lines.

178

ff

A - men. _____

A - men. _____

A - men. _____

A - men. _____

178

cresc molto

181

181

fff

September 14, 2000