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# By Gracious Powers

Music by Hal Hopson

Text by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Translation by Fred Pratt Green

SATBB a cappella

## Hal Hopson

*Composer, Lyricist, Church Musician, Theologian*

Hal H. Hopson is the most prolific composer of church music of his generation. With more than 1,800 published works for 30 publishers, Mr. Hopson's music is heard weekly in congregations throughout our country.

A church musician throughout his professional life, Mr. Hopson has also been conductor-clinician for workshops and choral festivals in the United States, Europe, and Asia, and professor of church music at Westminster Choir College and Scarritt Graduate School. He is also a hymn writer whose texts appear in major denominational hymnals.

Hal Hopson was born in Mound, Texas, in a family of thirteen children where music making figured prominently. His first piano teacher was his older sister, Merle, whom he holds in deep regard for her enormous musical and personal influences on his life. Hopson's well-known hymn tune, MERLE'S TUNE, is named in her honor. He first accompanied worship services at age thirteen and later graduated from Baylor University and Southern Baptist Seminary with B.A. and M.S.M. degrees, respectively. He completed additional study at universities and conservatories in the United States and Germany.

A recipient of many honors for his distinguished service to music, Mr. Hopson is listed in the *International Who's Who in Music*, Cambridge, England. He has served on the national boards of Presbyterian Association of Musicians, Choristers Guild, the Church Music Institute, and has received annual awards from ASCAP for many consecutive years. Expertise in psalmody and liturgy led to appointments on the Symposium for Church Composers sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Milwaukee and the Task Force on Psalmody sponsored by the Presbyterian Church, USA, which resulted in the official Psalter for the denomination.

In the summer of 2013, Austin, Texas, became the home of Hopson and his wife, Martha Smith Hopson, also a church musician. They have three children, six grandchildren, and enjoy living in the beautiful Texas hill country.

For the Chancel Choir,  
Redeemer Evangelical Church, St. Louis, MO  
Andy Waggoner, Director

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SATBB a cappella

Dietrich Bonhoeffer  
Trans. Fred Pratt Green

Hal H. Hopson

With a gentle flow ♩ = c. 80

S  
A *p* (won - der)  
By gra - cious powers \_\_\_\_\_ so won - der - ful - ly

T  
B  
shel - tered, and con - fi - dent - ly wait - ing (come what)

4  
may. \_\_\_\_\_ We know that God \_\_\_\_\_ is with us night \_\_\_\_\_ and

7 *mp* *mf*

10  
morn - - ing, and nev - er fails \_\_\_\_\_ to

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Slightly faster ♩ = ca. 88  
*mf* a tempo

14 rit. *p*

greet us each new day. Yet is this

(new)

17

heart by its old foe tormented, still

20

e - vil days bring bur - dens hard to bear. O give our

23 *f*

O give our fright-ened souls the sure sal -  
 fright-ened souls the sure sal -

*f* O give our souls the sure sal -

25 rit.

- va - tion for which, O Lord, you taught us to pre -

- va - tion for which, O Lord, you taught us to pre -

rit.

28 *ff* (you)

- pare — And when this cup you give is filled to

- pare.

31

brim - ming — with bit - ter suf - fering,

Tempo I (♩ = ca 80)

33 *rit. (ff)* *mp* (ful) 3

hard to un - der - stand. — we take it thank - ful - ly with - out

36 *a tempo* *dim.* *rit.* *p*

trem - bling, — out of so good and so be - loved a hand.

39 *a tempo* *p* (same)

Yet when a - gain — in this same world you

42 *mp* (your)

give us the joy we had, the bright-ness of your

45

sun we shall re-mem-ber

48 *mf* *rit.* *mp* Slower ♩ = c. 73

all the days we lived through, and our whole

51 *rit.* *pp*

life shall then be Yours a-lone.  
(a-lone.)

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