

Dedicated to Diane Chartrand, retiring Interim Minister of Music at Grace Church, Rutland, Vermont,
as a gift from the Sanctuary Choir and Eddie Wilkin, Interim Choir Director

Were You There?

for SATB Chorus and Piano

African American spiritual

Altered and with additional words by G. Walker

Gwyneth Walker

At a slow, somber tempo $\text{♩} = 100$

Piano

p - - - - simile
with pedal

VERSE 1 A
unis. *p* sorrowfully

6
T B
Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my
A

11
S A
Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my
T B
Lord?
Soprano part continues below the bass line.

4

15

B

Soprano (S) vocal line:

Lord? _____ Oh, _____ (no break)

Alto (A) vocal line:

Lord, my Lord? Oh, _____ (no break)

Tenor (T) vocal line:

— (p) Oh, _____ (no break)

Bass (B) vocal line:

— Oh, _____ (no break)

Piano accompaniment (B section):

Measures 15-18 show a harmonic progression from C major to G major. The piano part features sustained notes and chords.

19

Soprano (S) vocal line:

some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,

Alto (A) vocal line:

some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,

Tenor (T) vocal line:

some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,

Bass (B) vocal line:

some - times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,

Piano accompaniment (B section):

Measures 19-22 show a harmonic progression from G major to D major. The piano part features sustained notes and chords.

Piano accompaniment (B section):

Measures 23-26 show a harmonic progression from D major back to G major. The piano part features sustained notes and chords.

23

S *(no break)*
trem - ble. Were you there when they -

A *(no break)*
trem - ble. Were you there when they -

T *(no break)*
8 trem - ble. Were you there when they -

B *(no break)*
trem - ble. Were you there when they -

Reo.

6

C *f with intensity and urgency*

29

Soprano (S) vocal line:

My Lord, my Lord, my _____ Lord.

Alto (A) vocal line:

My Lord, my Lord, my Lord.

Tenor (T) vocal line:

Lord, Lord, my Lord.

Bass (B) vocal line:

Lord, Lord, my Lord.

Orchestra (C) dynamic markings:

- C** *f with intensity and urgency*

Orchestra (C) performance instructions:

- C** *poco rit.*
- C** *poco rit.*
- C** *poco rit.*

32

Slightly faster ♩ = 112, with motion

Soprano (S) vocal line:

, , ,

Alto (A) vocal line:

, , ,

Tenor (T) vocal line:

, , ,

Bass (B) vocal line:

, , ,

Orchestra (C) dynamic markings:

- C** *f*
- C** *f*
- C** *f*
- C** *f*

Orchestra (C) performance instructions:

- C** *mf*
- C** *mf*
- C** *mf*
- C** *mf*

VERSE 2

D (Same tempo ♩ = 112)*mf dramatically*

35

T ♯
B

Were you there when they

D (Same tempo ♩ = 112)

38

S ♯
A ♯
T ♯
B

They nailed him, they nailed him to the cross.

nailed him to the cross?

41

S ♯
A ♯
T ♯
B

(f)

They

Were you there when they nailed him, and they nailed him to the

mf

43

E

Soprano (S): nailed him, and they nailed him to the cross.

Alto (A): nailed him, and they nailed him to the cross.

Tenor (T): cross? Oh,

Bass (B): cross?

Piano: *f* E

46

(no break)

(no break)

Soprano (S): Oh, some - times it caus - es me to

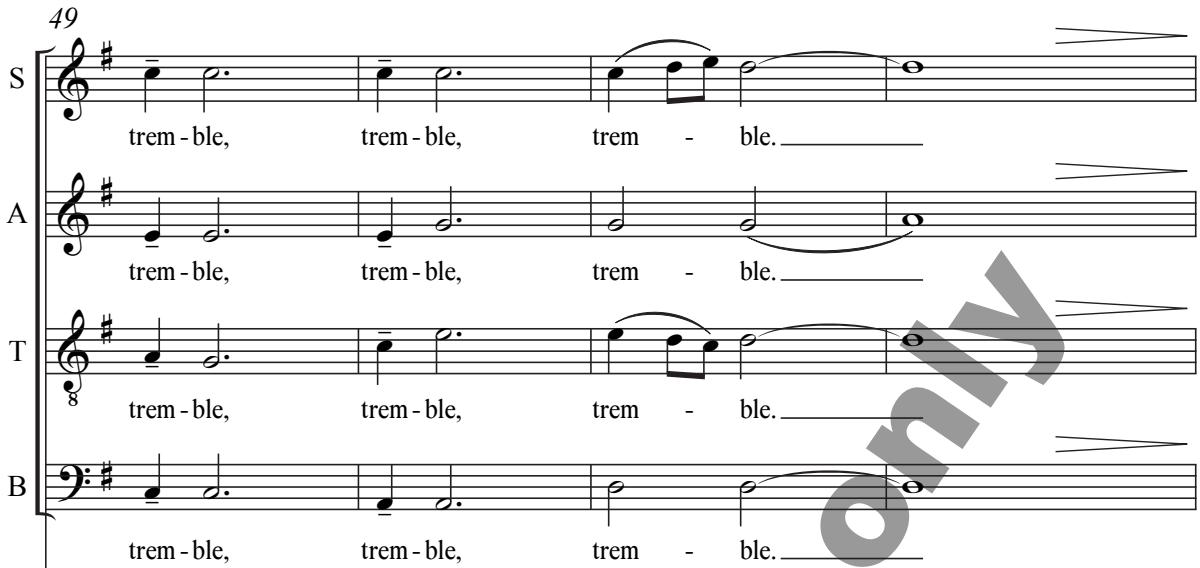
Alto (A): Oh, some - times it caus - es me to

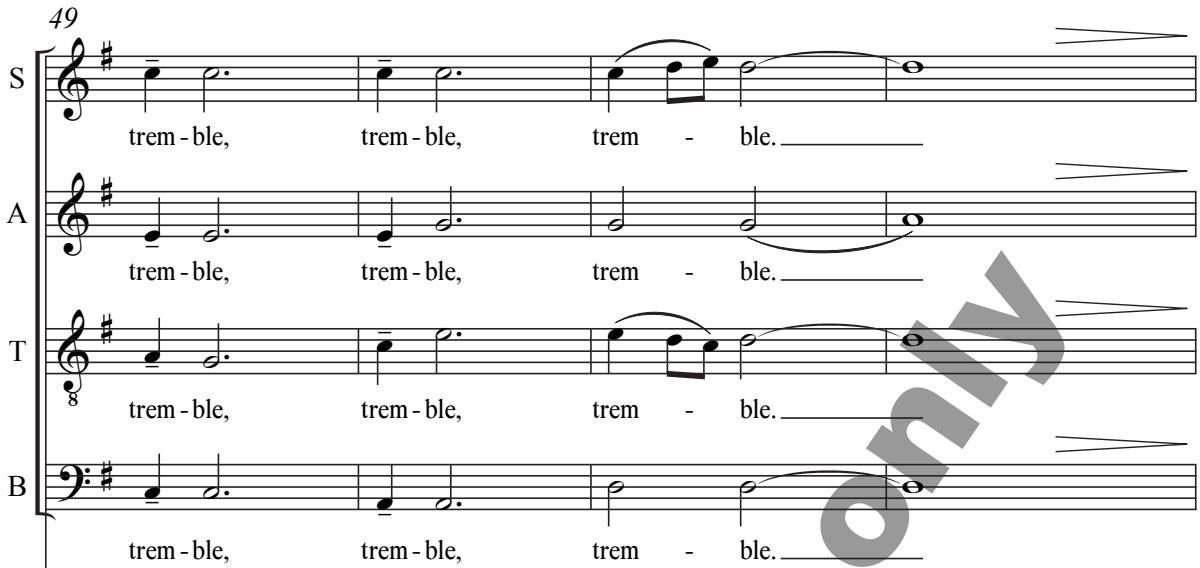
Tenor (T): ⁸ some - times it caus - es me to

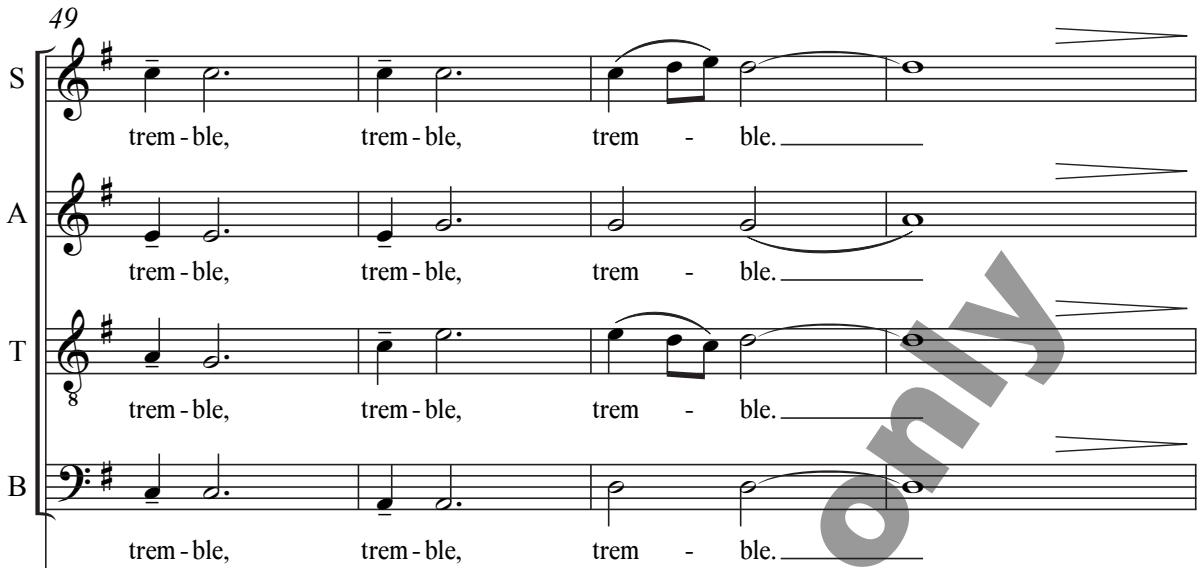
Bass (B): *f* some - times it caus - es me to

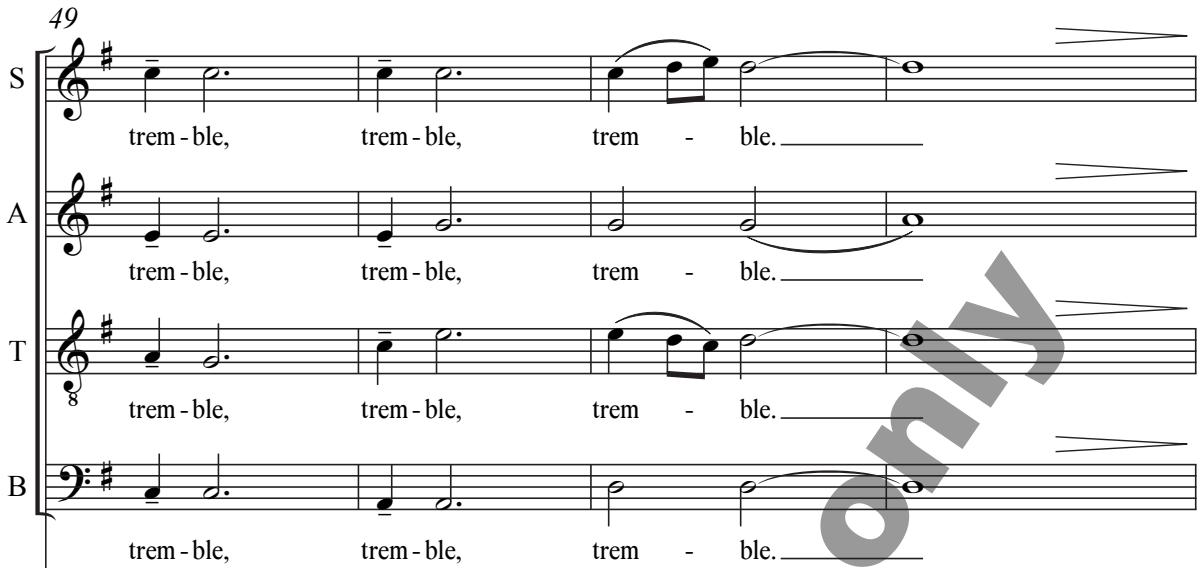
Piano: *(Rondo.)*

49

Soprano (S) 

Alto (A) 

Tenor (T) 

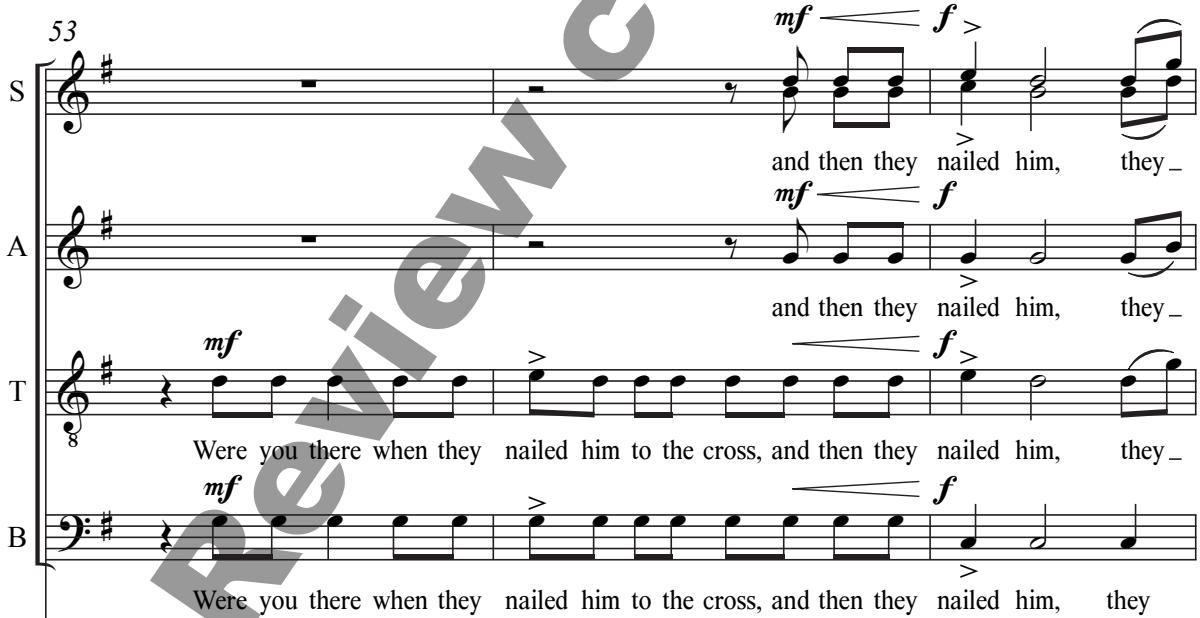
Bass (B) 

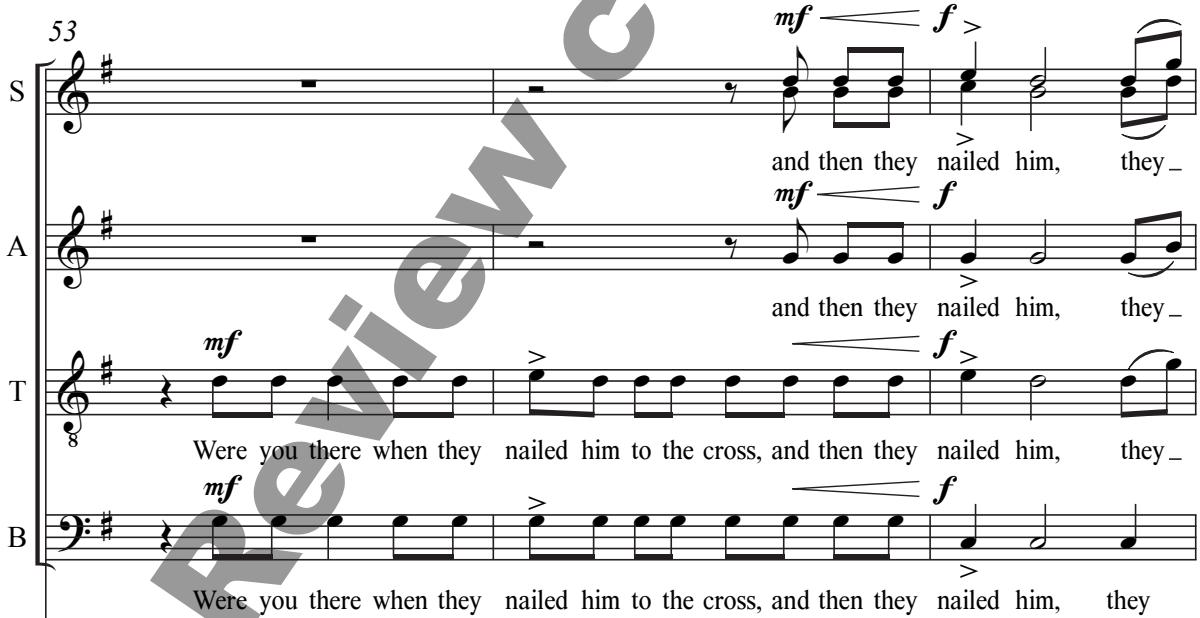


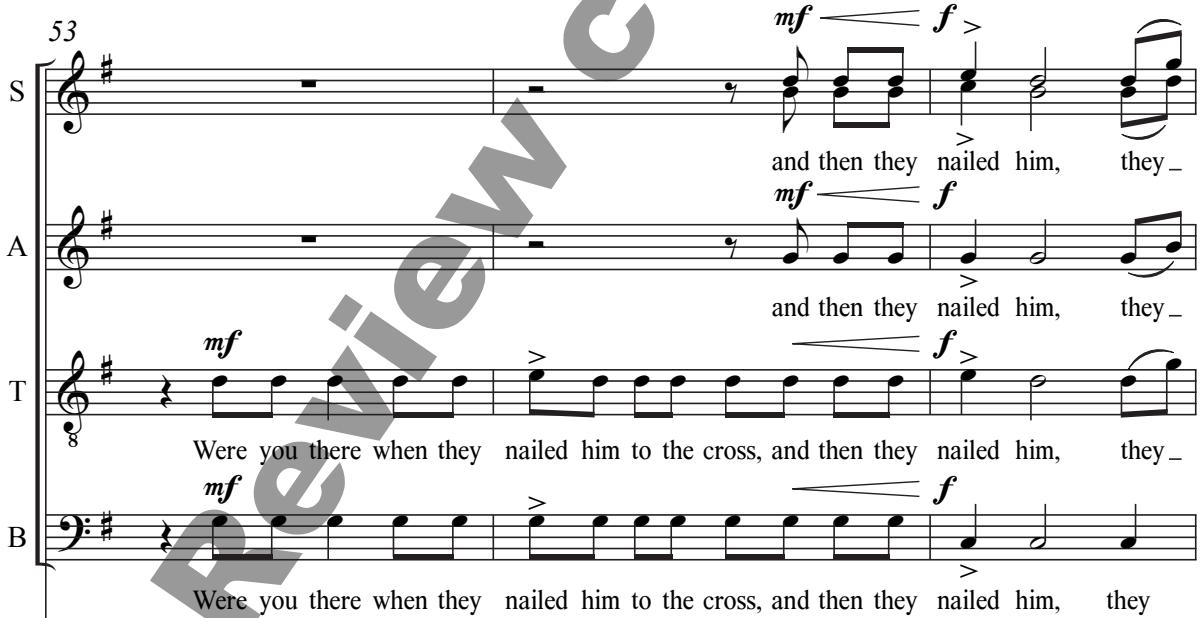


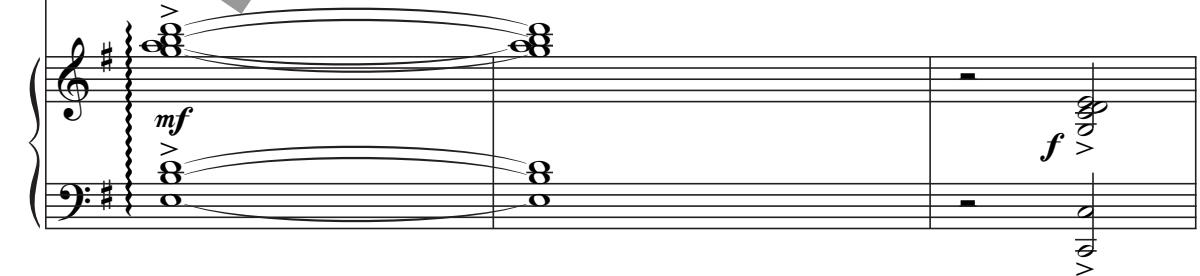
53

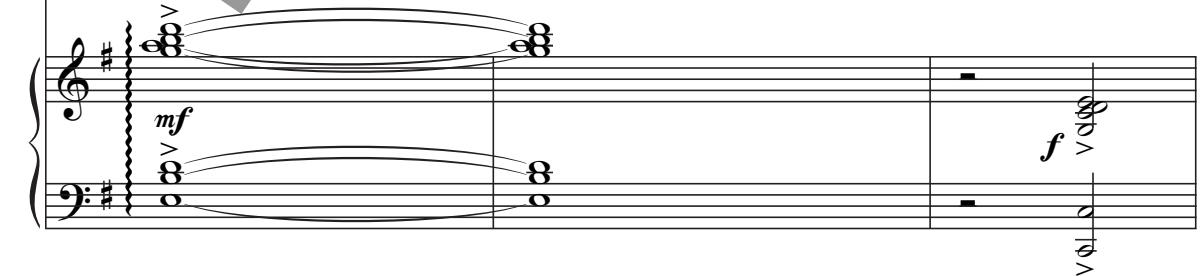
Soprano (S) 

Alto (A) 

Tenor (T) 

Bass (B) 





56

S > unis.

A

T

B

nailed him to the cross? _____

59

S

A

T

B

My _____ Lord,

(f) with intensity and urgency

My _____ Lord,

(f)

Lord,

(f)

Lord,

F

(f)

Lord,

Review Copy Only

Leo. _____ Leo. _____ Leo. _____ Leo. _____

11

Soprano (S) part:

62 my Lord, my Lord, my Lord, my

Alto (A) part:

my Lord, my Lord, my

Tenor (T) part:

Lord, my Lord, my

Bass (B) part:

Lord, my Lord, my

Piano accompaniment:

8 Leo. 8 Leo.

(maintain tempo)

Suddenly slower ♩ = 100

unis and tenderly

and tenderty
unis. **p**

S Lord, my Lord, my Lord, He was my Lord. **p**

A Lord, my Lord, my Lord, HMM **p**, (p)

T my Lord, my Lord, my Lord, HMM And then the

B my Lord, my Lord, my Lord, HMM And then the

(maintain tempo) Suddenly slower $\text{♩} = 100$
, and tenderly

p, ,

8vb ————— loco **8** —————

VERSE 3

69 **G** grandly

T 8 sun re - fused to _____

B grandly f sun re - fused to

G

p f

sub - - - - - loco

Reo

73 *f*

S sun re - fused to

A unis. *f* sun re - fused to

T

B

f

gub---- loco

75

S shine.

A shine.

T

B

3 *3* *3* *3*

Review copy only

This musical score page contains two staves of music for SATB voices and basso continuo (Bc). The top staff begins at measure 73 with a dynamic *f*. The lyrics "sun", "re-fused", and "to" are written below the notes. The bottom staff begins at measure 75 with the lyrics "shine.". The basso continuo line at the bottom features sixteenth-note patterns and measure numbers 3, 3, 3, 3. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "Review copy only" is diagonally across the page.

14

77 **H** *mf*
unis.

S Oh, some - times it caus - es me to
 A Oh, some - times it caus - es me to
 T ⁸ Oh, some - times it caus - es me to
 B Oh, some - times it caus - es me to

(no break)

H *mf*

81

S trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 A trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 T ⁸ trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 B trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Review Copy

84 *p*, **I** *f*

S And then the sun, the

A And then the sun, the

T And then the sun, the

B And then the sun, the

p, **I** *f*

S *p*

Bassoon: *8vb* *Loco.*

(*Loco.*) *Loco.*

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86

S sun, the sun

A sun, the sun

T sun, the sun

B sun, the sun

Loco.

Loco.

5 *5* *5* *5*

5 *5* *5* *5*

Review Copy Only

With motion $\text{♩} = 112$

88 *unis.* *p*

S — re-fused to shine.

A — re-fused to shine.

T — re-fused to shine.

B — re-fused to shine. *unis.*

With motion $\text{♩} = 112$

lightly, as faint touches of sunlight

poco ped.

VERSE 4

J (Same tempo $\text{♩} = 112$)

(p) with sorrow and heaviness

92

S — And then they laid him in the

A — And then they laid him in the

(p) with sorrow and heaviness

J (Same tempo $\text{♩} = 112$)

(p)

poco ped.

95

S *tomb.* And then they laid him in the

A *tomb.* And then they laid him in the

T *(p) with sorrow and heaviness*
And then they laid him in the *tomb.*

B *(p) with sorrow and heaviness*
And then they laid him in the *tomb.*

sim. *poco ped.* *poco ped.*

99

S *tomb.*

A *tomb.*

T *cresc.* And then they laid him in... My Lord, my Lord,

B And then they laid him in the *tomb.* My Lord, my Lord,

cresc.

sim. *cresc.*

103

Soprano (S): my Lord, my Lord. And then they laid him down.

Alto (A): my Lord, my Lord. And then they laid him down.

Tenor (T): my Lord, my Lord.

Bass (B): (cresc.) *poco ped.*

L With motion

107

Soprano (S): And then they laid him in the tomb.

Alto (A): And then they laid him in the tomb.

Tenor (T): And then they laid him in the tomb.

Bass (B): And then they laid him in the tomb.

L With motion

the spirit rising

Tenor (T): *the spirit rising*

Bass (B): *dim. poco a poco to end*

poco ped. *with pedal*

III

Soprano (S) vocal line: - - - o o
Alto (A) vocal line: - - - o o
Tenor (T) vocal line: p - - o o o o
Bass (B) vocal line: p - - o o o o
Piano accompaniment: (dim.) eighth-note chords, followed by eighth-note chords with a wavy line underneath.

p

o o
Hmm

p

o o
Hmm

p

8 o o o o
— Hmm

p

o o o o
— Hmm

5

(dim.)



118 (rit.) (p)

S Ah, _____ were you _____ there?

A Ah, _____ were you _____ there?

T Ah, _____ were you _____ there?

B Ah, _____ were you _____ there?

(rit.) (8va) (dim.) (Reo) let ring

4:30

This version completed: April 5, 2017
New Canaan, Connecticut

Originally for Soprano Solo and Piano and a part of the song set *Songs of the Spirit*, Catalog No. 8123.
A version for Women's Chorus (SSA) is also available, Catalog No. 8285.