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Testament

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SATB with keyboard
Vocal Score
MF 3024



Testament

By Marvin D. Eurtis

Specialists in Choral Music



MUSIC COMPANY
PO Box 4012
Champaign, IL 61824-4012

TESTAMENT

How wonderful to live, to dwell as if we lived as one people.

For we hold to the truth that we all are equal with certain rights: life! liberty!

For this is a testament-words of hope to live by, but our testament is void. For we tend to cherish those things that divide us and reject those things that bring us together. For our testament has sown seeds of hatred, seeds of injustice, seeds of despair.

Cry Freedom! Equality! Marching in the Streets! We Want Freedom Now!

We must learn to live on earth as one, or we shall perish like fools in the fiery grass. For we all are one. We must learn to be free.

He is forever free who has broken out of the Ego cage of I and mine, to be united with the Lord of Love. This is the supreme state. Attain thou this and pass from death to immortality.

For the torch has been passed to a new generation. And our testament shall be out of the mountain of despair; there shall be a stone of hope, to change our discord into a symphony of unity.

True justice is the harvest reaped by peacemakers from seeds sown in the spirit of peace. For this shall be our Testament!

Text from:

Thomas Jefferson
John F. Kennedy
Martin Luther King, Jr.
The Bible
Mohandas K. Gandhi
Marvin V. Curtis

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Optional orchestral accompaniment available on direct rental only from publisher.


Commissioned by the All City High School Performing Groups
of Chicago, Illinois for their 25th Anniversary.

Testament

MARVIN V. CURTIS

♩ = 88 Andante

KEYBOARD



p

Introduction for keyboard, marked *p* (piano) and Andante. The tempo is indicated as ♩ = 88. The music is in 3/4 time and consists of two staves (treble and bass clef).



Measures 5-8 of the keyboard accompaniment. Measure 5 is marked with a '5' above the staff. The music continues in 3/4 time.



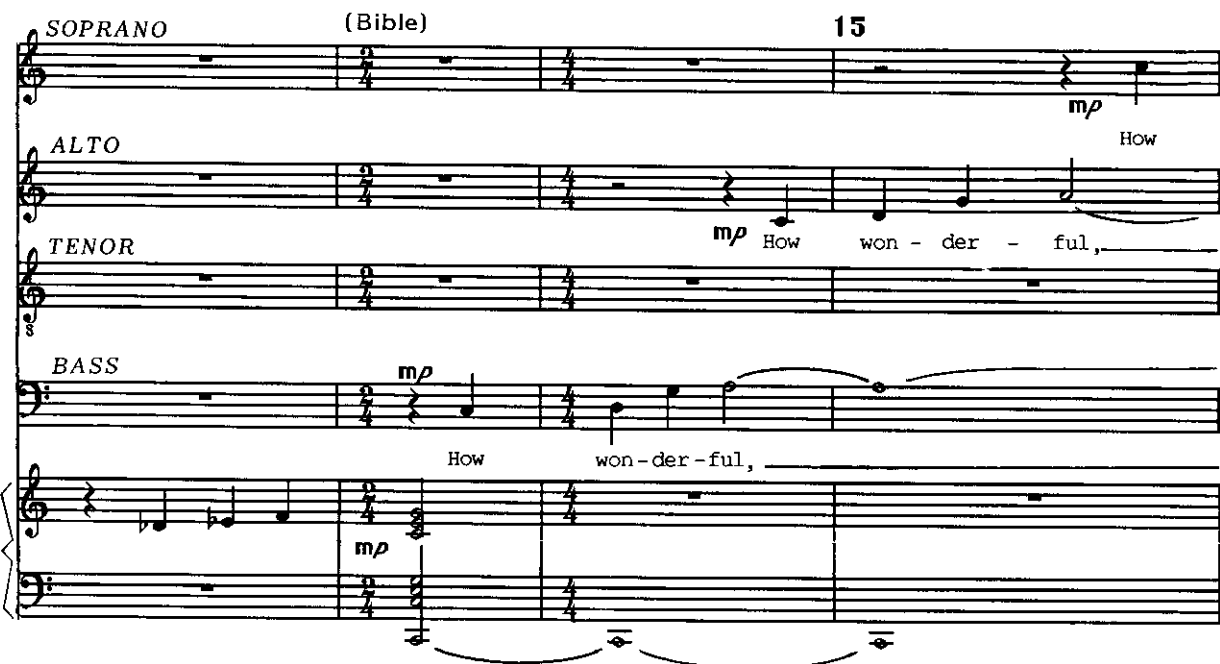
Measures 9-12 of the keyboard accompaniment. Measure 10 is marked with a '10' above the staff. The music continues in 3/4 time.

SOPRANO (Bible) 15

ALTO How

TENOR *mp* How won - der - ful,

BASS *mp* How won - der - ful,



Vocal staves for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, and keyboard accompaniment. The vocal parts enter at measure 15. The Soprano part is marked (Bible). The Alto part has the lyrics "How". The Tenor part has the lyrics "How won - der - ful,". The Bass part has the lyrics "How won - der - ful,". The keyboard accompaniment is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The music is in 3/4 time.

won-der-ful, as one, one, to live as one, To live as one, to live, live as one,

dwell as one, one peo-ple, dwell, to live as one peo-ple, dwell as if we liv-ed as one, one peo-ple, lived as one, one peo-ple,

25

♩ = 144 *Allegro*

one peo-ple.

one peo-ple.

one peo-ple.

one peo-ple.

Forte and Accented

30

35

Musical notation for measures 35-39, piano accompaniment. The score is in 2/4 time and features a treble and bass clef. The melody in the treble clef consists of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Musical notation for measures 40-43, piano accompaniment. The score continues in 2/4 time. The treble clef part has a more active melody with some slurs, and the bass clef part continues with a steady accompaniment.

40

(Declaration of Independence)

Musical notation for the vocal line and piano accompaniment of the 'Declaration of Independence'. The score is in 2/4 time and includes four vocal staves and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'For we hold to the truth that all, For we hold to the truth that all, For we hold to the truth that all, that we all are.' The piano accompaniment is in the bass clef and provides a simple harmonic support for the vocal line.

45 rit. ♩ = 76

all are e - qual, life!

all are e - qual, life!

e - qual, e - qual, life!

are, are e - qual with cer - tain rights: life!

rit. ♩ = 76

♩ = 100 50 rit.

li - ber - ty!

li - ber - ty!

li - ber - ty!

li - ber - ty!

li - ber - ty!

♩ = 100 rit.

Tempo primo

joy!

joy!

joy!

joy!

Tempo primo

ff

(Curtis)

NARRATION BEGINS: For this is a testament—

55

p

words of hope to live by, but our testament is void. For we

60

mf

tend to cherish those things that divide us and reject those

Piano accompaniment for the first system, featuring a treble and bass staff with chords and melodic lines.

things that bring us together. For our testament has sown seeds

65

Piano accompaniment for the second system, continuing the musical accompaniment.

of hatred, seeds of injustice, seeds of despair.

NARRATION ENDS

70

Piano accompaniment for the third system, concluding the piano part.

SOPRANO

Soprano vocal line and piano accompaniment for the final system. The vocal line includes the lyrics "Cry free - dom!" and is marked with a forte *f* dynamic. The piano accompaniment includes the instruction "Forte and Accented".

75

Cry free - dom! Cry free - dom!

f E - qual - i - ty! — E - qual - i - ty! —

f Mar - ching in the streets!

We want free - dom now!

Cry free - dom! Cry free - dom!

E - qual - i - ty! — E - qual - i - ty! —

Mar - ching in the streets! Mar - ching in the streets!

We want free - dom now! We want free - dom now!

80

Cry free - dom!
e - qual - i - ty!
Mar - ching in the streets!
We want free - dom now!

(Martin Luther King Jr.)

$\bullet = 144$

85

f

We must
mf Live as one, live as one,
mf Live as one, live as one,
mf Live as one, live as one,
mf Live as one, live as one,
rit. 15

95

all, yes, we all are one,
f
 We are one, one,
 all, one, one,
 all, yes we all are one. We must

live as one,
 live as one,
 live as, we live as one,—
 learn to live on earth as one. We must

100

learn to live as one,
 we must learn to live as one,
 learn to live as one,
 learn to live as one,

f

Or we shall per - ish like fools in the fie - ry grass,
 Or we shall per - ish like fools in the fie - ry grass,
 Or we shall per - ish like fools in the fie - ry grass,
 Or we shall per - ish like fools in the fie - ry grass,

mf

105

Or we shall per - ish like fools in the fie - ry grass.

Or we shall per - ish like fools in the fie - ry grass.

Or we shall per - ish like fools in the fie - ry grass.

Or we shall per - ish like fools in the fie - ry grass.

rit.

We have to learn to be free.

We have to learn to be free.

We have to learn to be free.

We have to learn to be free.

rit.

110 $\text{♩} = 63$ *Larghetto* (Gandhi)
p semi-chorus

He is for-ev-er free, He is for-ev-er

He is for-ev-er free, He is for-ev-er

He is for-ev-er free, He is for-ev-er

He is for-ev-er free, He is for-ev-er

$\text{♩} = 63$ *Larghetto*

p

115

free who has bro-ken out of the e-go cage of I and mine,

free, e-go cage of I and mine,

free, e-go cage of I and mine,

free who has bro-ken out of the e-go cage of I and mine,

MF

cresc.

120

To be u - ni - ted with the Lord of Love. _____

To be u - ni - ted with the Lord of Love. _____

To be u - ni - ted with the Lord of Love. _____

To be u - ni - ted with the Lord of Love. _____

To be u - ni - ted with the Lord of Love. _____

mf

This is the su-preme state. _____ At-tain thou this. _____

This is the su-preme state. _____

This is the su-preme state. _____ At-tain thou this, _____

This is the su-preme state. _____ At-tain thou this. _____

125

and pass from death.

At- tain thou this, from death.

from

and pass,

dim. 130

♩ = 100

to im - mor - tal - i - ty.

to im - mor - tal - i - ty.

death to im - mor - tal - i - ty.

pass from death to im - mor - tal - i - ty.

Forte and Accented

135

140

$\text{♩} = 116$ (John F. Kennedy)

ff

For the torch has been passed to a new ge - - ner-

ff

For the torch has been passed to a new ge - - ner-

ff

For the torch has been passed to a new ge - - ner-

ff

For the torch has been passed to a new ge - - ner-

$\text{♩} = 116$

(Martin Luther King Jr.)

145

a-tion. And our test-a-ment shall be _____

a-tion. And our test-a-ment shall be _____

a-tion. And our test-a-ment shall be _____ *mf* Out of the

a-tion. And our test-a-ment shall be _____ *mf* Out of the

Mezzo Forte and Accented

Out of the

Out of the

moun-tain of des-pair; there shall be a stone of hope,

moun-tain of des-pair; there shall be a stone of hope,

moun - tain of des - pair; there shall be a stone of hope,
 moun - tain of des - pair; there shall be a stone of hope,
 to change our

150

sym - pho - ny of u - ni - ty.
 sym - pho - ny of u - ni - ty.
 in - to a sym - pho - ny of u - ni - ty.
 dis - cord in - to — sym - pho - ny of u - ni - ty.

155 *legato* ♩ = 84 (Bible) *p*

True jus -

True jus -

True jus -

True jus -

p *rit.* ♩ = 84

10

160

tice is the har - vest reaped by peace - ma - kers from

tice is the har - vest reaped, reaped by peace - ma - kers

tice is the har - vest reaped by peace - ma - kers

tice is the har - vest reaped by peace - - ma - kers

165

seeds _____ sown in the spi- rit of peace,
from seeds sown in the spi- rit of peace,
from seeds _____ sown in the spi- rit of peace,
from seeds sown in the spi- rit of peace.

170

♩ = 108

175

Accel.

♩ = 100
full chorus

For this shall be our —
For this shall be our —
For this shall be our —
For this shall be our —

Broaden For this shall be our —
♩ = 100

ff

Detailed description: This system contains five staves. The top four are vocal staves, each with the lyrics "For this shall be our —" and a fermata. The fifth staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a piano introduction and then joining the vocalists with the lyrics "For this shall be our —". The piano part includes a "Broaden" instruction and a tempo marking of "♩ = 100". Dynamics include "ff" (fortissimo) for the vocalists and piano accompaniment.

180

test - a - - ment!! —
test - a - - ment!! —
test - a - - ment!! —
test - a - - ment!! —

Detailed description: This system contains five staves. The top four are vocal staves, each with the lyrics "test - a - - ment!!" and a fermata. The fifth staff is the piano accompaniment, providing harmonic support for the vocalists. The tempo marking "180" is placed at the beginning of the system.