

Fayetteville State University

DigitalCommons@Fayetteville State University

Performing and Fine Arts Faculty Working
Papers

Performing and Fine Arts

May 1990

Testament

Marvin V. Curtis

Fayetteville State University, mcurtis@uncfsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.uncfsu.edu/pfa_wp

Recommended Citation

Curtis, Marvin V., "Testament" (1990). *Performing and Fine Arts Faculty Working Papers*. 18.
https://digitalcommons.uncfsu.edu/pfa_wp/18

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Performing and Fine Arts at DigitalCommons@Fayetteville State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Performing and Fine Arts Faculty Working Papers by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Fayetteville State University. For more information, please contact dballar5@uncfsu.edu.

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

Text may be duplicated for program inclusion stating that it is used by permission of the publisher, Mark Foster Music Company, Box 4012, Champaign, IL 61824-4012.

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

SOPRANO (Bible) 15

ALTO How

TENOR mp How won - der - ful,

BASS mp How won - der - ful,

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

♩ = 144 *Allegro*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 25 through 30. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in a soprano, alto, tenor, and bass clef, respectively. The lyrics are 'one peo - ple.' The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 144 beats per minute. The dynamic marking 'Forte and Accented' is present in the piano part. The score is written in a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D-flat minor).

30

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 30 through 35. It is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music consists of rhythmic patterns in both hands, primarily using eighth and sixteenth notes. The key signature remains one flat. The tempo is consistent with the previous section.

35

Musical notation for measures 35 and 36. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measure 35 contains a melodic line in the treble and a bass line with chords. Measure 36 continues the melodic line and bass line.

Musical notation for measures 37 and 38. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Measure 37 features a melodic line with a slur and a bass line with chords. Measure 38 continues the melodic line and bass line.

40

(Declaration of Independence)

Musical notation for the 'Declaration of Independence' section, measures 40-43. It consists of four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats and the time signature is 4/4. 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. For we hold to the truth that all'. The piano accompaniment is shown in the bottom two staves.

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!

♩ = 100 rit.

Tempo primo

Four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are marked with "joy!". The piano part is marked with "ff". The tempo is "Tempo primo".

(Curtis)

NARRATION BEGINS: For this is a testament—

55

Piano accompaniment for the narration. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a harmonic accompaniment in the left hand. A dynamic marking of *p* is present.

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

60

Piano accompaniment for the second part of the narration. It continues the melodic and harmonic lines from the previous section.

tend to cherish those things that divide us and reject those

Piano accompaniment for the first system, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two flats. The music consists of a melodic line in the treble and a harmonic accompaniment in the bass.

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

65

Piano accompaniment for the second system, continuing the melodic and harmonic lines from the first system.

of hatred, seeds of injustice, seeds of despair.

NARRATION ENDS

70

Piano accompaniment for the third system, concluding the piano part with a final chord.

SOPRANO

Soprano vocal line and piano accompaniment for the final system. The soprano part begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics "Cry free - dom!". The piano accompaniment includes the instruction "Forte and Accented" and continues with a melodic line.

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.)

$\text{♩} = 144$

85

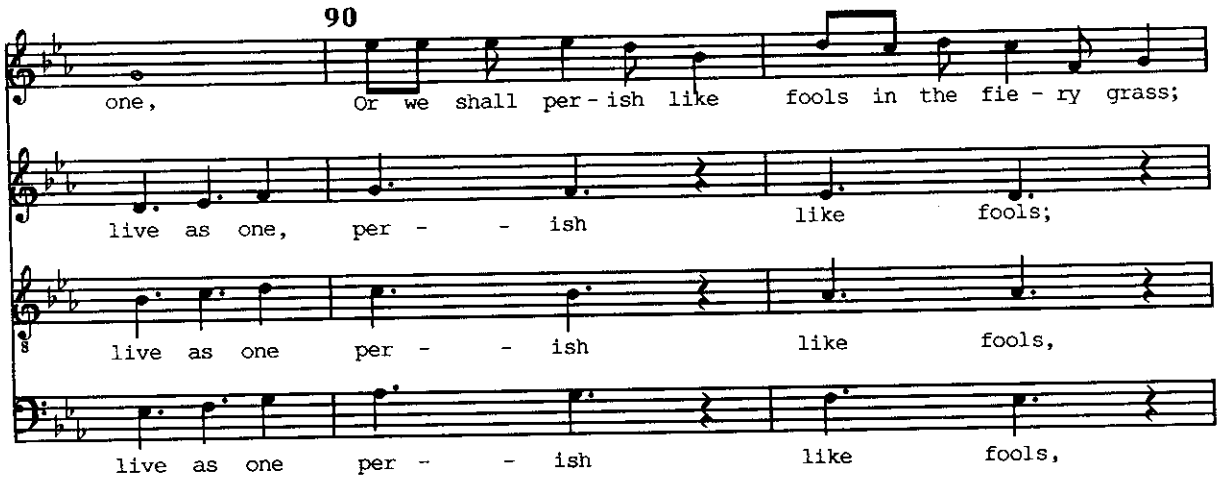
f

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

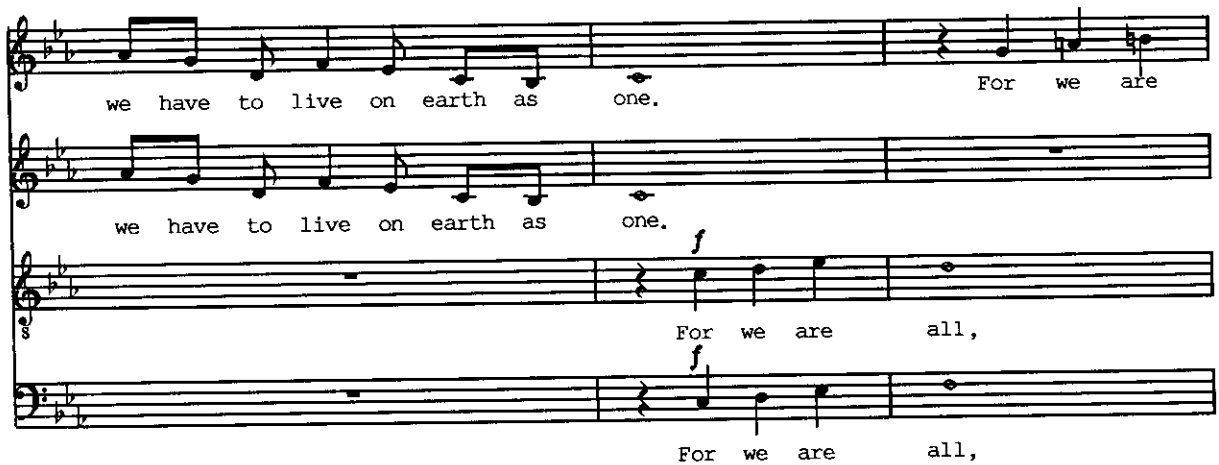


learn to live— on earth as one. We must learn to live— on earth as
 live as one, live as one, live as one,
 live as one, live as one live as one,
 live as one, live as one, live as one,

90



one, Or we shall per-ish like fools in the fie-ry grass;
 live as one, per - - ish like fools;
 live as one per - - ish like fools,
 live as one per - - ish like fools,



we have to live on earth as one. For we are
 we have to live on earth as one. For we are all,
 For we are all,

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.

♩ = 63 *Larghetto* (Gandhi)
 110 *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

♩ = 63 *Larghetto*

free who has bro-ken out of the e-go cage of I and mine, 115

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,

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

♩ = 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-

♩ = 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.

Piano accompaniment for measures 153-154. The music is in a minor key with a 3/4 time signature. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes.

155 *legato* ♩ = 84 (Bible) *p*

True jus -

True jus -

True jus -

True jus -

p *rit.* ♩ = 84

10

Vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 155-159. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) enter with the lyrics "True jus -". The piano accompaniment is in a minor key with a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is marked "legato" and "rit." (ritardando). The tempo indicator shows a quarter note equals 84 beats per minute. A rehearsal mark "10" is present at the end of the system.

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

Vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 160-163. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics "tice is the har - vest reaped by peace - ma - kers". The piano accompaniment is in a minor key with a 3/4 time signature.

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.

Detailed description: This block contains a vocal score for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) across measures 165 to 170. The lyrics are: "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," and "from seeds sown in the spi- rit of peace." The music is written on four staves. The Soprano part has a long note on "seeds" in measure 165. The Alto part has a rest in measure 165. The Tenor part has a long note on "seeds" in measure 165. The Bass part has a rest in measure 165. The lyrics are aligned with the notes on each staff.

170

♩ = 108

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 170 to 175. It consists of two staves: the right hand (treble clef) and the left hand (bass clef). The music is in a minor key and features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and a more complex melodic line in the right hand. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 108.

175

Accel.

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 175 to 180. It consists of two staves: the right hand (treble clef) and the left hand (bass clef). The music is in a minor key and features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and a more complex melodic line in the right hand. The tempo is marked as "Accel." (Accelerando).

♩ = 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

180

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