

CU1030 LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

Craig Courtney

SATB

\$2.25

CAPITAL UNIVERSITY

CHORAL SERIES

CRAIG COURTNEY LYNDA HASSELER

EDITORS

LET THERE BE
PEACE ON EARTH

WORDS AND MUSIC BY

SY MILLER AND JILL JACKSON MILLER

ARRANGED BY CRAIG COURTNEY

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From the Arranger

Let There Be Peace on Earth was written by Jill Jackson Miller and Sy Miller in 1955 and is usually associated with the Christmas season. Beautiful music is often born out of loss and suffering. Such was the case with this piece. Jackson, who had been suicidal following the failure of a marriage, wrote the song when she experienced what she called the "life-saving joy of God's peace and unconditional love."

My goal as an arranger was to be guided by simplicity in the creation of a visual and aural experience of the spreading of peace. To that end, a soloist begins the anthem and as each successive recipient of that peace shares it with others, singers, choirs and audience members are added so that one has the sense of an exponential accumulation of peace that covers and changes the world. The soloist returns to sing the final phrase as a reminder that peace begins with one person. – Craig Courtney

From the Editor

Humanity has been grappling with the concept of peace since the dawn of history. When we think of peace today, certain ideas tend to come to mind: A setting uncluttered by noise, a region free of violence, or perhaps a home where family members stop their bickering. These images are striking in that they emphasize something that isn't there: conflict, war, tension, sounds, commotion. But peace is more than a lack of something. It is also a greeting: *Peace be with you*; and a benediction: *Go now in peace*; and a gift: *Peace I leave with you*. What if peace is not an absence, but a presence?

The choral ensembles at Capital University posed that question musically with each of their concert programs during the 2013-14 academic year. A commitment to promote peace through song was the impetus to ask Craig Courtney to arrange a choral setting of the beloved *Let There Be Peace on Earth*. The familiarity and simplicity of this song, together with Craig's beautiful arrangement, creates the effect of an ever-expanding community committing to peace. Each time we performed it on our concerts throughout the year, our conviction to be agents of peace in our lives and the world was renewed. – Dr. Lynda Hasseler

Written for the 2013 Capital University Christmas Festival
Let There Be Peace on Earth

For SATB Choir, Piano and Optional String Quartet* **

Words and Music by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson Miller
Arranged by CRAIG COURTNEY
(ASCAP)

Very freely ♩ = ca. 80

mp

rit.

1 2 3 4 5

Detailed description: This block contains the piano introduction for measures 1 through 5. It is written in 3/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. The dynamic is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and the tempo is 'Very freely' with a quarter note equal to approximately 80 beats per minute. A *rit.* (ritardando) marking is present at the end of measure 5. Measure numbers 1 through 5 are indicated below the staff.

Solo ♩ = ca. 94
mp a tempo

Let there be peace on earth, and

a tempo

6 7 8 9 10

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal solo and piano accompaniment for measures 6 through 10. The vocal line is a solo, with lyrics 'Let there be peace on earth, and'. The piano accompaniment is marked *a tempo*. The tempo is indicated as 'Solo ♩ = ca. 94' and the dynamic is *mp*. Measure numbers 6 through 10 are indicated below the staff.

let it be - gin with me; ————— let

11 12 13 14 15

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 11 through 15. The vocal line continues with lyrics 'let it be - gin with me; ————— let'. A ***** marking is placed above the vocal line at the end of measure 15. The piano accompaniment continues. Measure numbers 11 through 15 are indicated below the staff.

* Parts and score for 2 violins, viola and cello (CU1030A) are available.

** Parts and score for full orchestra (CU1030B) are available.

*** An additional soloist may be added in measures 15-22.

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there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to

16 17 18 19 20

Small Ensemble

be. _____ With God our cre - a - tor,

mp

21 22 23 24 25

all are we. _____

_____ chil - dren all are we. _____

all are we. _____

26 27 28 29 30

Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect

unis.

31 32 33 34 35

har - mo - ny. Let peace be -

rit. *unis.* Full Choir *mp a tempo*

rit. *unis.* *mp a tempo*

men in falsetto through measure 46

36 37 38 39 40

gin with me; let this be the mo - ment now.

41 42 43 44 45

With ev - ery step I take, — let

With ev - ery

46 47 48 49 50

unis. ♩ = ca. 98

this be my sol - emn vow: — to take each

unis.

♩ = ca. 98

51 52 53 54 55

cresc. poco a poco

mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal -

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

56 57 58 59 60

mf ♩ = ca. 94

ly. —————

Let there be peace on

Musical notation for measures 61-65, including vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a long slur over measures 61-62. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the bass line.

♩ = ca. 94

mf

Musical notation for measures 61-65, piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords in the treble.

61 62 63 64 65

rit. *a tempo* —————

earth and let it be - gin with me. —————

rit. *a tempo* —————

Musical notation for measures 66-70, including vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a long slur over measures 66-70. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the bass line.

rit. *a tempo mp*

Musical notation for measures 66-70, piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords in the treble.

66 67 68 69 70

rit. *unis. mf* ♩ = ca. 98

Let

rit. *mf*

Musical notation for measures 71-75, including vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a long slur over measures 71-75. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the bass line.

Let

♩ = ca. 98

rit. *mf*

Musical notation for measures 71-75, piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords in the treble.

71 72 73 74 75

* STILL, STILL, STILL: Austrian Carol

there be peace on earth and let it be - gin with

— there be

76 77 78 79 80

me; let there be peace on

81 82 83 84 85

Cut to m. 123

earth, the peace that was meant to be. With

86 87 88 89 90

♩ = ca. 102

God our cre - a - tor, chil - dren

♩ = ca. 102

cre - a - tor, cre - a - tor,

91 92 93 94 95

all are we. Let us walk with each

96 97 98 99 100

in per - fect har - mo - ny. rit.

oth - er in har - mo - ny, rit.

oth - er in har - mo - ny, rit.

101 102 103 104 105

audience on melody through measure 138
♩ = ca. 102
a tempo

har - mo - ny. Let peace be - gin with me, let

a tempo

♩ = ca. 102

a tempo

106 107 108 109 110

this be the mo - ment now. With

111 112 113 114 115

ev - ery step I take, — let this be my sol - emn

116 117 118 119 120

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 106$
ah

vow: We'll take each mo - ment and live each

cresc. poco a poco

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 106$

cresc. poco a poco

121 122 123 124 125

mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.

poco rit.

poco rit.

126 127 128 129 130

a tempo
f unis.

Let there be peace on earth and let it be -

a tempo
f unis.

f *a tempo*

131 132 133 134 135



choir only ♩ = ca. 98

rit. *mf*

gin with me. Let there be

rit. *mf*

♩ = ca. 98

rit. *mf*

136 137 138 139 140

rit. *mf* *rit.* Solo *p*

peace on earth and let it be - gin with

rit. *rit.*

♩ = ca. 92

rit. *rit.*

141 142 143 144 145 146

♩ = ca. 86
a tempo

me.

a tempo *rit.*

♩ = ca. 92

p a tempo *rit.*

147 148 149 150 151 152