

God's Word Shall Live Forever

Commissioned by Bethany Lutheran Church, Lindsborg, Kansas
for the 125th Anniversary of the congregation

Text: Herbert Brokering

Walter L. Pelz
tune: "Bethania"

Stately ♩:c 72-76



1. A rock that will not wear a-way, a sun to sure - ly rise, A
2. A light that nev - er will grow dim, a song that will not cease, A
3. A rain - bow for the sign of grace, a lamb to bring the peace, A
4. A spi - rit whis - per through the trees, a touch up - on the eyes, A
5. A vic - tor crown up - on the Lamb, a ci - ty made of gold, A
6. A host of saints in cir - cling spheres, a choir all robed in light, A



Refrain

sea that will not dis - a - ppear, a life that nev - er dies;
hope that knows the prom - i - ses, a love that will in - crease;
cross of Christ for ev' ry race, a joy in - side a feast; God's
life in - side a mus - tard seed, an East - er morn sur - prise;
hymn of praise: I Am I Am, a glo - ry to un - fold;
Christ to wipe a - way all tears, a light and on - ly light;



word shall live for - ev - er, a word for dark - est night; To



God all thanks and glo - ry whose word is love and light.



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(A Concertato for Brass Quartet,
Choir, Organ and Congregation)

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Introduction: Brass and Organ

Stately & Festive $\text{♩} = c. 72-76$ *ff*

Musical score for the Introduction, measures 1 through 5. The score is written for Trumpets (C), Trombones, and Organ. The tempo is marked *Stately & Festive* with a quarter note equal to approximately 72-76 beats per minute. The dynamic is *ff* (fortissimo). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The organ part features a prominent melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The brass parts provide harmonic support and rhythmic drive.

Musical score for the Introduction, measures 6 through 10. The score continues for Trumpets (C), Trombones, and Organ. Measure 6 is marked with a circled '6'. The tempo remains *Stately & Festive*. The dynamic is *mp* (mezzo-piano). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The organ part continues with its melodic and harmonic lines. The brass parts have a more active role in this section, with the trumpets playing a melodic line and the trombones providing harmonic support. The word *Espressivo* is written above the organ part in measure 8.

11

First system of musical notation, measures 11-15. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The music features melodic lines with slurs and ties, and some chords. The bass line is more rhythmic and provides harmonic support.

Second system of musical notation, measures 11-15. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains chords and some melodic fragments, with a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) in the third measure. The bass staff continues the melodic line from the first system.

Third system of musical notation, measures 11-15. It consists of a single bass clef staff. The music continues the melodic line from the previous systems, showing a steady progression of notes.

16

First system of musical notation, measures 16-20. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The music features melodic lines with slurs and ties, and some chords. The bass line is more rhythmic and provides harmonic support.

Second system of musical notation, measures 16-20. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff contains chords and some melodic fragments, with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) in the second measure. The bass staff continues the melodic line from the first system.

Third system of musical notation, measures 16-20. It consists of a single bass clef staff. The music continues the melodic line from the previous systems, showing a steady progression of notes.

Empty musical staff consisting of five lines.

Empty musical staff consisting of five lines.

Empty musical staff consisting of five lines.

21

Poco rit.

Poco rit.

Poco rit.

Stanza 1: Brass, Congregation, and Organ

$\text{♩} = c. 72-76$ 26

f

f

f

f

f

1. A rock that will not wear a-way a sun to sure-ly rise, A sea that will not

$\text{♩} = c. 72-76$

f

Ped.

31

Musical notation for measures 31-35, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

(Refrain)

dis-a-ppear a life that nev-er dies; God's word shall live for-ev-er, a

Musical notation for piano accompaniment corresponding to the refrain lyrics.

36

Musical notation for measures 36-40, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

word for dark-est night; To God all thanks and glo-ry whose word is love and light.

Musical notation for piano accompaniment corresponding to the final line of lyrics.

Stanza 2: Women; Refrain: Congregation, Trumpets and Organ

Women: (42)

mp

2. A light that nev-er will grow dim a song that will not cease, A hope that knows the

mp

man.

(47)

f All: (Refrain)

prom-i-ses a love that will in-crease; God's word shall live for-ev-er, a

f

Ped.

(52)

word for dark-est night; To God all thanks and glo-ry whose word is love and light.

Stanza 3: Congregation and Organ

58

3. A rain-bow for the sign of grace a lamb to bring the peace, A cross of Christ for

63

ev-ry race a joy in-side a feast; God's word shall live for-ev-er, a

f (Refrain) opt. descant

68

word for dark-est night; To God all thanks and glo-ry whose word is love and light.

Stanza 4: Brass and Choir

74 Cantabile

Tpt I

p

S
A

p *Espressivo*

4. A spir-it whis-per through the trees a touch up-on the eyes; A life in-side a

T
B

79

Tpt. I
II

Tbn. I
II

f

f

f

f

must-ard seed, an East-er morn sur-prise; God's word shall live for - ev - er, a

84

word for dark-est night; To God all thanks and glo - ry whose word is love and light.

* Maintain dynamic balance between brass + voices. 7

Stanza 5: Men, Trombones, Organ; Refrain: Congregation and Organ

Tbn. I
II

f

f Men:

5. A vic-tor crown up-on the Lamb a ci-ty made of gold, A hymn of praise: I

f Bright + reedy

man.

95

All: (Refrain)

Am I Am, a glo-ry to un-fold; God's word shall live for-ev-er, a

div f

Ped.

100

word for dark-est night; To God all thanks and glo-ry whose word is love and

105

Tpt. I
Tpt. II
Tbn. I
Tbn. II

light.

110

Poco rit.
Broadly
ff
fp
ff

ff Descanting trebles:

ff All:

Poco rit.
ff

115

Piano accompaniment for measures 115-120, featuring a complex texture with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes in both hands.

cir-cling spheres a choir all robed in light, A christ to wipe a-way all tears, a

cir-cling spheres a choir all robed in light, A christ to wipe a-way all tears, a

Piano accompaniment for measures 115-120, featuring a complex texture with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes in both hands.

120

Piano accompaniment for measures 120-125, featuring a complex texture with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes in both hands.

(Refrain)
light and on-ly light; God's word shall live for-ev-er, a word for dark-est

(Refrain)
light and on-ly light; God's word shall live for-ev-er, a word for dark-est

Piano accompaniment for measures 120-125, featuring a complex texture with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes in both hands.

125

Handwritten musical score for the first system, featuring treble and bass staves with notes, rests, and dynamic markings like "cresc." and "rit."

night; To God all thanks and glo - ry whose word is love and light.

Handwritten musical score for the second system, including vocal lines with lyrics and piano accompaniment.

night; To God all thanks and glo - ry whose word is love and light.

Handwritten musical score for the third system, including vocal lines with lyrics and piano accompaniment.

Handwritten musical score for the fourth system, including piano accompaniment.

sdg
3/94