

Commissioned by the Northern Arizona University School of Performing Arts
for the 1999 Centennial Celebration

i thank You God for most this amazing day

dedicated with love to Anthony, Julia, and Thomas Silvestri

for S.A.T.B. Chorus, a cappella

Text
e.e. cummings

Music by
Eric Whitacre

Legato, moderato (♩ = 72-76)

S
i thank You God for most— this a - ma -

A
i thank You God for most— this a - ma - zing—

T
i thank You God for most— this a - ma -

B
i thank You God for most— this a - ma - zing—

Piano
(for rehearsal only)

5

zing — day: for the leap - ing green-ly

day: for the leap - ing green-ly

zing — day: for the leap - ing green-ly

day: for the leap - ing green-ly

5

9

spi - rits of trees and a blue true dream of

spi - rits of trees and a blue true dream of

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spi - rits of trees and a blue true dream of

9

12 *mp* *mf* *mp*

sky; and a blue true dream of sky and for

mp *mf* *mp*

sky; and a blue true dream of sky and for

mp *mf*

sky; and a blue true dream of sky

mp *mf*

sky; and a blue true dream of sky

12

16 *cresc.*

ev' - ry - thing which is na - tu - ral

cresc.

ev' - ry - thing which is na - tu -

mp *cresc.*

and for ev' - ry - thing which is na - tu - ral

mp *cresc.*

and for ev' - ry - thing which is na - tu -

16

19 Solo *f.* *tacet*

which is in - fi - nite

S *f.* *p.*
which is in - fi - nite which is

A *f.* *p.*
ral which is in - fi - nite which is

T *f.* *p.*
which is in - fi - nite which is

B *f.* *p.*
ral which is in - fi - nite which is

19

24 *con moto* *mf*

yes i who have died am a - live a - gain to -

mf
yes i who have died am a - live a - gain to -

mf
yes i who have died am a - live a - live a -

mf
yes i who have died am a - live a - live a -

24

più mosso (in 2)

28 *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *mp* *mf*

day, and this is the sun's birth-day; this is the birth-day of

cresc. *f* *dim.* *mp* *mf*

day, and this is the sun's birth-day; this is the birth-day of

cresc. *f* *dim.* *mp* *mf*

gain to-day, and this is the sun's birth-day; this is the birth-day of

cresc. *f* *dim.* *mp* *mf*

gain to-day, and this is the sun's birth-day; this is the birth-day of

28

meno mosso (in 4)

33

life and the birth-day of love love of life

life and the birth-day of love love of life

life and the birth-day of love and life and love,

life and the birth-day of love and life and love,

33

ritard. **Slowly**

38 *,dolce p* of love and this is the birth-day of wi - ngs
,dolce p of love and this is the birth-day of wi - ngs
,dolce p life, and this is the birth-day
,dolce p life, and this is the birth-day

38

42 *fp* wi - ngs
fp wi - ngs
mp espressivo 3 and of the gay great hap-pen-ing il - lim - i - tab-ly
mp espressivo 3 and of the gay great hap-pen-ing il - lim - i - tab-ly

42

*Close slowly to "n."

46

Solo *p dolce*

fp wi - ngs

fp wi - ngs

earth il - lim - i - tab - ly earth

earth il - lim - i - tab - ly earth

46

50

tacet

thank You God.

p how should tas - ting touch - ing

p how should tas - ting touch - ing

p how should tas - ting touch - ing

p how should tas - ting touch - ing

50

how should tas - ting touch - ing

50

*Close slowly to "n."

55

hear - ing see - ing breath - ing breath - ing breath - ing

hear - ing see - ing breath - ing breath - ing breath - ing

hear - ing see - ing breath - ing breath - ing breath - ing

hear - ing see - ing breath - ing breath - ing breath - ing

55

60

pp sotto voce *ritard.*

an - y lift - ed from the no of all no - thing

pp sotto voce

an - y lift - ed from the no of all no - thing

pp sotto voce

an - y lift - ed from the no of all no - thing

pp sotto voce

an - y lift - ed from the no of all no - thing

60

65 *p* *cresc.* *mf*

hu - man mere - ly be - ing doubt un - i - mag - in - a - ble You?

p *cresc.* *mf*

hu - man mere - ly be - ing doubt un - i - mag - in - a - ble You?

p *cresc.* *mf*

hu - man mere - ly be - ing doubt un - i - mag - in - a - ble You?

p *cresc.* *mf*

hu - man mere - ly be - ing doubt un - i - mag - in - a - ble You?

65 *cresc.* *mf*

69 *Solo f* *allargando* *a tempo ff*

un - i - mag - in - a - ble You

cresc. *f* *ff*

un - i - mag - in - a - ble You? un - i - mag - in - a - ble You?

cresc. *f* *ff*

un - i - mag - in - a - ble You? un - i - mag - in - a - ble You?

cresc. *f* *ff*

un - i - mag - in - a - ble You? un - i - mag - in - a - ble You?

cresc. *f* *ff*

un - i - mag - in - a - ble You? un - i - mag - in - a - ble You?

69 *cresc.* *f* *ff*

73 Solo *dim.* *con moto (in 2)* *tacet*

SI *dim.* *p* now the ears of my ears a -

SII *dim.* *p* now the ears of my ears a -

A *dim.* *p* now the ears of my ears a -

T *dim.* now the ears of my ears

B *dim.*

73

79 *molto ritard.*

wake a - wake now the eyes of my eyes of my eyes are

wake a - wake now the eyes of my eyes of my eyes are

a - wake a - wake now the eyes of my eyes are

79

84

S

o - - - - - pened o - - - - -

S

o - - - - - pened o - - - - -

A

o - - - - - pened o - - - - -

A

o - - - - - pened o - - - - -

T

o - - - - - pened o - - - - -

T

o - - - - - pened o - - - - -

B

o - - - - - pened o - - - - -

84



87

The image shows a musical score for voice and piano, measures 87-90. The score is written in 4/4 time and features a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The vocal line consists of seven staves, each with the word "pened" written below it. The piano accompaniment is shown in the bottom two staves. The music is characterized by a melodic line in the voice and piano, with a steady bass line. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The word "pened" is repeated seven times, corresponding to the seven vocal staves. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic and rhythmic foundation for the vocal line.

pened pened pened pened pened pened pened

87

90 S o - pen - (n)ed i *pp*

A o - pen - (n)ed i *pp*

T o - pened i thank

B o - pened i thank

93 thank You God

thank You God

— You God

— You God