

John 14: 27

*“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you. I give to you not as the world gives.
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*

John 17: 1-3

*After Jesus spoke these words, He looked up to heaven and said,
“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, so that Your Son may glorify You,
as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life
to all whom You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You
the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”*

The Blessing Riddle poignantly combines a traditional folk melody commonly known as *The Riddle Song* with new lyrics that convey the promise of Christ’s peace. An alternate benediction text is provided on the reproducible songsheet for choir and/or congregation (please see page 11). Suitable for worship throughout the year, **The Blessing Riddle** may be especially appropriate for Eastertide or Ascension, graduation, farewell services and funerals.

Suggested corresponding scripture readings include Psalm 67, Matthew 19: 16-29, John 14: 25-31 & 17: 1-5, and 1 John 5: 1-13. One basic homiletical theme is the promise of peace and eternal life for all true believers.

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THE BLESSING RIDDLE

for 2-part mixed voices, accompanied,
with opt. congregation*

Words by
PEPPER CHOPLIN

TRADITIONAL FOLK MELODY

Arranged by
PEPPER CHOPLIN (ASCAP)

Smoothly (♩ = ca. 88-92) *mp* ③

WOMEN

I hope you will find

Smoothly (♩ = ca. 88-92) *mp*

ACCOMP.

4

peace — through ev — 'ry trial; I

7

hope you will find cour - age for ev - 'ry

* Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 21607. Reproducible benediction for congregational singing may be found on page 11.

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11

10

mile; And when you are a - lone, — you'll

13

find a friend; And may you live for -

16

ev - er life with - out end.

19 WOMEN

MEN *mp*

The first system of music features a vocal staff for 'WOMEN' with a whole rest, and a vocal staff for 'MEN' with a whole rest followed by a quarter note. The piano accompaniment consists of a treble and bass clef with chords and moving lines.

But

The piano accompaniment for the first system, showing chords and melodic lines in both hands.

22

how will I find peace through ev - 'ry

The second system includes vocal staves for 'WOMEN' and 'MEN' with rests, and piano accompaniment. The lyrics 'how will I find peace through ev - 'ry' are written below the vocal staves.

The piano accompaniment for the second system, showing chords and melodic lines in both hands.

25

mp
And how will I find cour - age for
(mel.)

The third system includes vocal staves for 'WOMEN' and 'MEN' with rests, and piano accompaniment. The lyrics 'And how will I find cour - age for' are written below the vocal staves, with '(mel.)' under the 'And'.

trial;

And

The piano accompaniment for the third system, showing chords and melodic lines in both hands.

28 *(mel.)* 30

ev - 'ry mile; And when I am a -

31 *mf*

lone, where is my friend? How

mf

mf

34 *mp*

can I live for - ev - er, life with - out

mp

mp

37

end?

40

mf (41)

Well, God will give you peace — through

mf

43

ev-ery-thing; And God will give you

46

cour - age for ev - 'ry mile; And

49

when you are a - lone, He'll be a

52

friend and give you life e - ter - nal, life

mf

mf

55 *mp*
 with - out end. He'll

mp

58
 give you life e - ter - nal, He'll give you life e -

He'll give you life e - ter - nal, He'll

61 *p*
 ter - nal, life with - out end,

give you life with - out end,

64 *mp* *p* *mp*

with - out end, a -

67 *p* *rit. e dim. al fine*

men, a men. (nn)

p *rit. e dim. al fine*

THE BLESSING RIDDLE

A Benediction for Congregation

Words by
PEPPER CHOPLIN

TRADITIONAL FOLK MELODY

Arranged by
PEPPER CHOPLIN (ASCAP)

Smoothly (♩ = ca. 88-92)

mf

UNISON
VOICES



May God give you peace through ev - 'ry trial. May

Smoothly (♩ = ca. 88-92)

mf

ACCOMP.



5

God give you cour - age for ev - 'ry mile May

Musical notation for Unison Voices and Accompaniment, second system. The Unison Voices staff continues with quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, and a quarter rest. The lyrics are: "God give you cour - age for ev - 'ry mile May". The Accompaniment part continues with chords: G4-Bb4, A4-C5, Bb4-D5, C5-E5, D5-F5, E5-G5, D5-C5, Bb4-A4, G4. The left hand continues with the same bass line.

9

God give you com - fort and be your friend, and

Musical notation for Unison Voices and Accompaniment, third system. The Unison Voices staff continues with quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, and a quarter rest. The lyrics are: "God give you com - fort and be your friend, and". The Accompaniment part continues with chords: G4-Bb4, A4-C5, Bb4-D5, C5-E5, D5-F5, E5-G5, D5-C5, Bb4-A4, G4. The left hand continues with the same bass line.

13

give you life e - ter - nal, life with - out end.

Musical notation for Unison Voices and Accompaniment, fourth system. The Unison Voices staff continues with quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, and a quarter rest. The lyrics are: "give you life e - ter - nal, life with - out end.". The Accompaniment part continues with chords: G4-Bb4, A4-C5, Bb4-D5, C5-E5, D5-F5, E5-G5, D5-C5, Bb4-A4, G4. The left hand continues with the same bass line.

* Optional: keyboard introduction.

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