

Arranger's Note

“The Prayer” is a Golden Globe, Academy, and Grammy Award winner, famous since its first appearance in the 1998 film *Quest for Camelot*, and as a duet by Celine Dion and Andrea Bocelli. It has been covered by many popular artists and remains a favorite all over the world.

As a conductor, I have always wanted to program this piece with a youth choir. With this in mind, I have arranged a setting that can be sung easily and emotionally by children and young voices.

I invite you to use rubato throughout, reflecting the text with ebb and flow of tempo as well as color in dynamics. The written page is just a guide. Please be the artist and paint with lots of musical shade and light based on my written expression marks.

As a creative option, a soloist may be used at the beginning, with the choir entering at measure 17. Without a soloist solo, this unison passage should be sung simply and with clarity. Innocence in sound. At measure 23, the tempo should be a bit steadier with fuller singing. As you begin measure 49, sing fully, with the violin echoing each phrase, then back off dynamically at measure 57 with “let this be our prayer,” gently, tenderly. Measure 65 is marked “Grandioso,” so take your time and build to the fermata and caesura, giving silence for several seconds.

I hope you’ll enjoy learning and performing this popular classic!

— Greg Gilpin

Pronunciation Guide

So-gua-mo un mon-do sen-za più vio-len-za.

(Soh-NYAH-moh oon MOHN-doh SEHN-tzah pyoo veeyaw-LEHN-tzah.)

[so:n:na-mo un mon-do sen-tsa pju vio-len-tsa]

Un mon-do di giu-sti-zia e di spe-ran-za.

(Oon MOHN-doh dee joo-STEET-tseeyah eh dee speh-RAHN-tzah.)

[un mon-do di dzu-stit:tsja e di spe-ran-tsa]

O-gnu-no dia la mano al suo vi-ci-no

(ohn-NYOO-noh DEE-ah lah MAH-noh ahl sooaw vee-CHEE-noh)

[o:n:nu-no di-a la ma-no al suo vi:tʃi-no]

sim-bo-lo di pa-ce, di fra-ter-ni-tà.

(SEEM-baw-loh dee PAH-cheh, dee frah-TEHR-nee-tah.)

[sim-bɔ-lo di pa:tʃe di fra-tɛr-ni-ta]

Note that [r] is trilled, while [ɾ] is flapped.

Please see *Alfred's IPA Made Easy* (42789) for further explanation of the International Phonetic Alphabet.

THE PRAYER

for 2-part voices and piano
with optional violin and SoundTrax*

Performance time: approx. 4:00

Arranged by
GREG GILPIN

Words and Music by
CAROLE BAYER SAGER and DAVID FOSTER

With expressive rubato ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72$)

VIOLIN (optional) *mf*

PIANO *mf*

3 ALL VOICES (unison) *rit.* *p*

I pray you'll be our

rit. *p*

* SoundTrax CD available (48511). Visit alfred.com for digital scores and audio.

Please visit alfred.com/choralparts to download an extracted violin part.

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6

a tempo

eyes, and watch us where we go,

a tempo

This block contains measures 6, 7, and 8 of the musical score. It features a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs. The tempo marking 'a tempo' appears above the first staff and below the piano part. The lyrics 'eyes, and watch us where we go,' are written below the vocal line.

9

and help us to be wise in times when we don't

This block contains measures 9, 10, and 11. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'and help us to be wise in times when we don't'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

12

14

know. Let this be our prayer,

This block contains measures 12, 13, and 14. Measure 12 ends with a long note in the vocal line. Measure 14 begins with the lyrics 'Let this be our prayer,'. The piano accompaniment features a more active melody in measure 14.

15

when we lose our way.

This block contains measures 15, 16, and 17. Measure 15 begins with the lyrics 'when we lose our way.' and features a long note in the vocal line. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady rhythm.

18

PART I

Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.

PART II

Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.

20

Give us faith so we'll be safe.

Give us faith so we'll be safe.

I pray we'll find your

*poco rit.**mp**mp poco rit.*

23

*a tempo**mp*

I pray we'll find your light,

light,

and hold it in our

VIOLIN

*a tempo**mp**a tempo*

25

and hold it in our hearts

hearts

when stars go out each

This block contains the musical notation for measures 25 and 26. It features a vocal melody in the upper staves and a piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "and hold it in our hearts" for measure 25, and "hearts" and "when stars go out each" for measure 26.

27

when stars go out each night,

night,

re - mind us where you

This block contains the musical notation for measures 27 and 28. It features a vocal melody in the upper staves and a piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "when stars go out each night," for measure 27, and "night," and "re - mind us where you" for measure 28.

29

poco rit.

re - mind us where you are.

are. _____

Let this be our

*poco rit.**poco rit.*

31

a tempo

Let this be our prayer,

prayer,

when shad - ows fill our

*a tempo**a tempo*

33

when shad - ows fill our day.

day. _____

This musical system contains measures 33 and 34. It features a vocal melody in the upper staves and piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The lyrics are 'when shad - ows fill our day.' and 'day. _____'.

35

Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.

Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.

This musical system contains measures 35 and 36. It features a vocal melody in the upper staves and piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The lyrics are 'Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.' and 'Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.'.

37

Give us faith so we'll be safe.

Give us faith so we'll be safe.

39

with more passion

40

So - gna - mo un mon - do sen - za più vio -

So - gna - mo un mon - do sen - za più vio -

with more passion

41

len - za. Un mon - do di giu - sti - zia e di spe -

len - za. Un mon - do di giu - sti - zia e di spe -

43

ran - za. O gnu - no dia la ma - no al suo vi -

ran - za. O - gnu - no dia la ma - no al suo vi -

rit. *mf*

mf

rit. *mf*

rit. *mf*

45 *a tempo*

ci - no sim - bo - lo di pa - ce, di fra - ter - ni -

a tempo

a tempo

47 *molto rit.* ***f***

tà. We ask that life be

f

We ask that life be

molto rit.

molto rit. ***f***

49

a tempo

kind,

and watch us from a - bove.

kind,

and watch us from a - bove.

*a tempo**f**a tempo*

52

We hope each soul will find

an-oth-er soul to

We hope each soul will find

an-oth-er soul to

55 *decresc.* *poco rit.* *mp*

love. _____ Let this be our

decresc. *mp*

love. _____ Let this be our

decresc. *poco rit.* *mp*

decresc. *poco rit.* *mp*

57 *a tempo*

prayer, just like ev - 'ry

prayer, let this be our prayer, just like ev - 'ry

a tempo *mp*

a tempo

59

child _____

child _____

61

needs to find a place guide us with your grace.

needs to find a place, guide us with your grace.

63 *rit.*

Give us faith so we'll be safe.

Give us faith so we'll be safe.

rit.

rit.

65 **Grandioso** (♩ = ca. 66)

f *rit.*

Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.

Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace.

f *rit.*

Grandioso (♩ = ca. 66)

f *rit.*

67 *slower, freely*
mp

poco mosso

Give us faith so we'll be safe.

mp

Give us faith so we'll be safe.

slower, freely

poco mosso *mp*

slower, freely
mp

poco mosso

69 *rit.*

rit. *p*

rit. *p*