

Thou God

Text by
Dag Hammarskjöld
from
MARKINGS

Setting for
Mixed Chorus
and
Organ

by
Dale E. Ramsey

 SWIRLY MUSIC

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Composer's Notes

I remember reading Dag Hammarskjöld's MARKINGS soon after having sung this anthem's text in a unison anthem setting by Lloyd Pfautsch. The words appealed to me immediately and still speak to me today. I enjoyed the Pfautsch setting, but felt I wanted to write an SATB version with a more significant organ accompaniment that, for me, reflected in a fuller manner the gracious, beautiful text. Therefore, this piece came into being.

Hammarskjöld was Secretary-General of the United Nations from from 10 April 1953 until 18 September 1961. He wrote this deeply personal spiritual journal beginning in 1925. His last entry was dated August 24, 1961. He was killed in a suspicious airplane crash on September 18 that same year.

This faith testament was discovered after his death, but a note was found giving an old friend permission to pursue publishing the journal "if you find them worth publishing". Indeed they are, and the volume has become an enduring and well-loved spiritual classic.

Dale Ramsey

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Requiem

**for Mixed Chorus, Soprano Soloist, and
Chamber Orchestra with Organ**

**Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis
for Mixed Chorus and Woodwind Quintet**

**God Who Touches Earth with Beauty
Anthem for SATB Chorus and Organ**

**Psalm 150
Anthem for SATB Chorus and Organ**

Thou God

Dag Hammarskjöld
From "Markings"

Dale E. Ramsey
(ASCAP)

Slowly ♩ = c.48

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Organ

Ped.

6

on us. Have mer-cy up-on our ef-forts.

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12

Have mer - cy up - on us, Have

17

mer - cy up - on our ef - forts. That we be -

mf

22

fore Thee in love and in faith, right - eous - ness and hu -

mp

27 *poco rit.* *p* *mp*
 mil - i - ty, May fol - low Thee. With self-de-
poco rit. *p* *a tempo* *mp*
a tempo *mp*

32 *f* *mf*
 ni - al, stead - fast - ness and cour - age and
f *mf*

37 *p* *pp*
 cour - age And meet Thee in the si - lence.
p *pp*

43

Musical score for measures 43-48. The score consists of two systems. The first system has two staves (treble and bass clef) with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. Both staves are empty. The second system also has two staves. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and contains the lyrics: "Grant us a pure heart that we may see Thee." The piano accompaniment (bass clef) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and features a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

49

Musical score for measures 49-53. The score consists of two systems. The first system has two staves. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and contains the lyrics: "Grant us a pure heart that we may see Thee." The piano accompaniment (bass clef) starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second system has two staves. The vocal line is empty. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) continues with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

54

Musical score for measures 54-58. The score consists of two systems. The first system has two staves. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and contains the lyrics: "A hum-ble heart That we may hear Thee, A". The piano accompaniment (bass clef) starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second system has two staves. The vocal line is empty. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) continues with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic.

59

heart of love that we may serve Thee. **f** A

mp

63

heart of faith that we may live Thee

68

mf Thou whom I do not know **f** but Whose I

mf

74 *mp*

am. Thou Whom I do not com-pre-hend,

mp

mp

80 *mf*

But Who has de - di - ca - ted me to my

mf

mf

86 *ff* *fff*

fate. Thou! Thou! Thou!

ff *fff*

no rit.

no rit.