

# The Gift of Life

Text: Helen Stensrud

Walter L. Pelz

Commissioned by the Trinity Lutheran Chapel Choir,  
Madison, South Dakota, in memory of Andy Stensrud.

for mixed voices, handbells, and organ

## Bells used:



## Lento espressivo (♩ = c.54)



Musical score for organ and handbells. The score is written in 4/4 time and begins with the tempo marking "Lento espressivo (♩ = c.54)".

The organ part (labeled "ORGAN") is in the bass clef and features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a *man.* (manera) section. The handbell part (labeled "BELL") is in the treble clef and features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *p*.

The score includes staves for Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), and Bass (B.) voices, which are currently blank. The organ part is written on a grand staff with treble and bass clefs.

Musical notation for the first system, including treble and bass staves with notes and rests.

*mp*  
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be a -

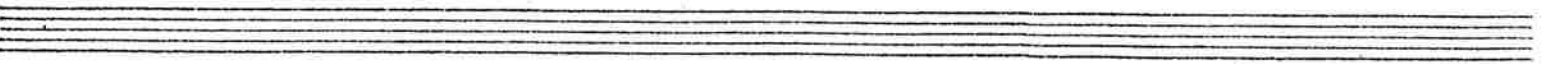
I (solo)



*mf*

fraid, For you have the gift of Life.

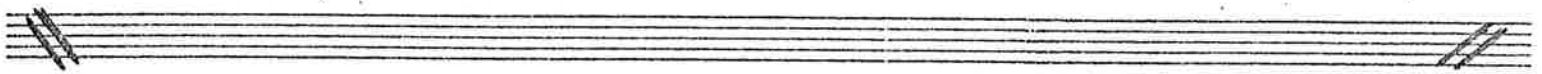
(II)



mp

(s.A.) mp  
You are on the way, the way of peace,

mp



Poco rit.  
My peace I give to you.

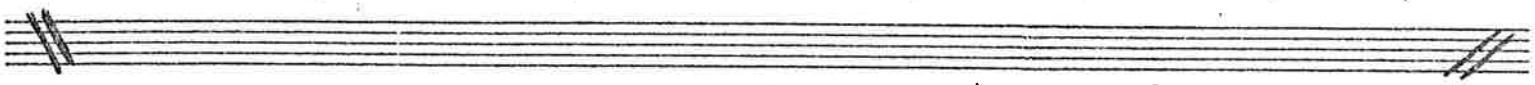
Poco rit.

Ped.

*mp*

*mp* *mp* Let not your heart be trou-bled, nei-ther let it be a-

*a tempo*



*Poco rit.* *Piu mosso* (♩. = c. 69)

*fraid* For you have the Gift of Life.

*Poco rit.* *Piu mosso* (♩. = c. 69)

*f* *non legato*

Handwritten musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. A forte (*f*) dynamic marking is present in the first measure of the bass staff.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system, consisting of two empty staves.

Handwritten musical notation for the third system, featuring a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a complex melodic line with many beamed notes. The bass staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and chords.

Handwritten musical notation for the fourth system, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature changes to one sharp (F#). The treble staff has a melodic line with some rests. The bass staff has a rhythmic accompaniment.

Handwritten musical notation for the fifth system, featuring a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melodic line with lyrics "You will" written below it. The bass staff has a rhythmic accompaniment. A forte (*f*) dynamic marking is present in the first measure of the treble staff.

Handwritten musical notation for the sixth system, featuring a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a complex melodic line with many beamed notes. The bass staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and chords.

ff  
#

Walk the path, the path of joy,

Joy! Joy! Joy! Joy! The joy my word will bring.

(♩. = ♩)

Musical notation for the first system, including treble and bass staves with chords and rests.

Musical notation for the second system, including treble and bass staves with rests.

(♩. = ♩)

Musical notation for the third system, including treble and bass staves with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking and a tempo change instruction: *gradually slowing to original tempo*.

Musical notation for the fourth system, including treble and bass staves with a long note in the bass line.

Empty musical notation for the fifth system, including treble and bass staves.

Tempo I

Musical notation for the sixth system with lyrics: *Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid, For you have the Gift of*

Tempo I

Musical notation for the seventh system with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking and a solo instruction: *(solo) (I)*.

Musical notation for the eighth system, including treble and bass staves.

*f*

Life.

*mp* You will share my

*mf*

*mf*

red.

*man.*

*mp*

house, my Father's house, the rooms I now pre- pare.

*mp*

*man.*



Musical notation for the first system, including treble and bass staves with notes and rests.

*Slower*

*p* Let not your heart be trou-bled nei-ther let it be a-

Musical notation for the second system with lyrics: "Let not your heart be troubled neither let it be a-". Includes dynamic marking *p* and tempo instruction *Slower*.

*Slower*

Musical notation for the third system, including treble and bass staves with notes and rests. Includes tempo instruction *Slower*.

Musical notation for the fourth system, including treble and bass staves with notes and rests.

*molto rit.*

*pp* *ppp*

Musical notation for the fifth system with dynamics: *pp*, *ppp*. Includes tempo instruction *molto rit.*

*pp* *Very slow*

fraid, for you have the Gift of Life.

*pp* *ppp*

Musical notation for the sixth system with lyrics: "fraid, for you have the Gift of Life.". Includes dynamics *pp*, *ppp* and tempo instruction *Very slow*.

*pp* *Very slow*

*ppp*

Musical notation for the seventh system with dynamics: *pp*, *ppp*. Includes tempo instruction *Very slow*.