

Choral Music of Karen P. Thomas

Prayer of Black Elk

SSAA and piano

by Karen P. Thomas

Published by Karen P Thomas Music
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Prayer of Black Elk

For SSAA and piano

by Karen P. Thomas

Commissioned by University Unitarian Church

Available in three voicings – SATB, SSAA, TTBB

Hear me four quarters of the world.
A relative I am!
Give me the strength to walk the soft earth.
Give me the eyes to see and the strength to understand.
Look upon these faces of children without number,
that they may face the winds
and walk the good road till the day of quiet.
This is my prayer; hear me.
- Black Elk, Sioux leader

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Prayer of Black Elk

For the Service of Installation of the Reverend Jon M. Luopa at University Unitarian Church,
Seattle, Washington, on October 24, 1999. Commissioned by the Ministerial Search Committee.

Text by
Black Elk

Music by
Karen P. Thomas

1 $\bullet = 120$

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto 1

Alto 2

Piano

mp *cresc.* *loco* *con ped.*

Sub- - - - -

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a vocal ensemble and piano. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 120. The vocal parts (Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, Alto 2) are currently silent, indicated by horizontal lines with a '1' above the first measure. The piano part begins in the first measure with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with a crescendo (*cresc.*) and a loco section. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with a 'Sub-' marking and a 'con ped.' (con pedale) instruction at the end.

2

9

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno.

15

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno.

Hear me, hear me, hear me,

hear me, hear me, hear me,

Hear me, Hear me, hear me,

Hear me, hear me, hear me,

20

S 1
four quar - ters of the world.

S 2
four quar - ters of the world.

A 1
four quar - ters of the world.

A 2
four quar - ters of the world.

Pno.

25

S 1
Hear me, hear me, hear me,

S 2
hear me, hear me, Hear me,

A 1
Hear me, Hear me, hear me,

A 2
Hear me, hear me, hear me,

Pno.

31

S 1
four quar-ters of the world.

S 2
four quar-ters of the world.

A 1
four quar-ters of the world.

A 2
four quar-ters of the world.

Pno.

36

S 1
A re-la-tive, a re-la-tive I am!

S 2
A re-la-tive, a re-la-tive I am!

A 1
A re-la-tive, a re-la-tive I am!

A 2
A re-la-tive, a re-la-tive I am!

Pno.

42

S 1
A re-la-tive, a re-la-tive

S 2
A re-la-tive, a re-la-tive a

A 1
A re-la-tive, a re-la-tive a

A 2
A re-la-tive, a re-la-tive a re-la-tive

Pno.

Red.

48

S 1
I am!

S 2
re-la-tive I am!

A 1
re-la-tive I am!

A 2
I am!

Pno.

*

54

rit. poco a poco

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

54

rit. poco a poco

Pno.

59

poco meno mosso

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

59

poco meno mosso

Pno.

dim. poco a poco

mf

mp

65 *mp*

S 1 Give me the strength,

S 2 *mp* Give me the strength,

A 1 *mp* Give me the strength,

A 2 *mp* Give me the strength,

Pno. 65 Give me the strength,

71

S 1 give me the strength, give me the strength to walk the

S 2 give me the strength, give me the strength to walk the

A 1 give me the strength, give me the strength to walk the

A 2 give me the strength, give me the strength to walk the

Pno. 71

76

S1
soft earth. Give me the eyes,

S2
soft earth. Give me the eyes,

A1
soft earth. Give me the

A2
soft earth.

Pno.

81

S1
give me the eyes, give me the

S2
give me the eyes, give me the

A1
eyes, give me the eyes,

A2
Give me the eyes, give me the eyes,

Pno.

86 *cresc.* *rit.*

S 1
eyes to see and the strength to un - der - stand.

S 2
eyes to see and the strength to un - der - stand.

A 1
and the strength to un - der - stand.

A 2
and the strength to un - der - stand.

86 *cresc.* *rit.*

Pno.

Broadly

90 *f*

S 1
Look u - pon these fa - ces of child - ren with - out num - ber, that they may

S 2
Look u - pon these fa - ces of child - ren with - out num - ber, that they may

A 1
Look u - pon these fa - ces of child - ren with - out num - ber, that they may

A 2
Look u - pon these fa - ces of child - ren with - out num - ber, that they may

90 *Broadly* *f*

Pno.

S 1 *dim.* to *p*
 face the winds and walk the good road walk the good road the day of qui - et.

S 2 *p*
 face the winds and walk the good to the day of qui - et.

A 1 *p*
 face the winds and walk the good road to the day of qui - et.

A 2 *dim.* *p*
 face the winds and walk the good road to the day of qui - et.

Pno. *dim.* *p*

S 1 *pp*
 This is my prayer, this is my prayer; hear me.

S 2 *pp*
 This is my prayer, this is my prayer; hear me.

A 1 *pp*
 this is my prayer; hear me.

A 2 *pp*
 this is my prayer; hear me.

Pno.

Tempo Primo

109

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

109

accel.

Tempo Primo

Pno.

mp

cresc.

loco

con ped.

117

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

117

Pno.

mf

cresc.

124 *f*

S 1
Hear me, hear me, hear me, four

S 2
hear me, hear me, hear me, four

A 1
f Hear me, *f* Hear me, hear me, four

A 2
f Hear me, hear me, hear me, four

Pno. 124 *f*

130

S 1
quar - ters of the world.

S 2
quar - ters of the world.

A 1
quar - ters of the world.

A 2
quar - ters of the world.

Pno. 130

135

S1
Hear me, hear me, hear me, four

S2
hear me, hear me, Hear me, four

A1
Hear me, Hear me, hear me, four

A2
Hear me, hear me, hear me, four

Pno.

141

S1
quar-ters of the world. A

S2
quar-ters of the world. A

A1
quar-ters of the world. A

A2
quar-ters of the world. A

Pno.

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Thank you for your understanding.

146

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno.

146

Detailed description: This block contains a musical score for measures 146 through 151. It features five staves: four vocal staves (S 1, S 2, A 1, A 2) and one piano (Pno.) staff. The piano staff is split into two parts, treble and bass. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a common time signature. The vocal staves contain a series of rests, indicating that the vocalists are silent during these measures. The piano part also consists of rests in both the treble and bass clefs. The measure numbers 146 and 152 are printed at the beginning of the first and last staves, respectively.

152

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno.

152

Detailed description: This block contains a musical score for measures 152 through 157. It features five staves: four vocal staves (S 1, S 2, A 1, A 2) and one piano (Pno.) staff. The piano staff is split into two parts, treble and bass. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a common time signature. The vocal staves contain a series of rests, indicating that the vocalists are silent during these measures. The piano part also consists of rests in both the treble and bass clefs. The measure numbers 152 and 157 are printed at the beginning of the first and last staves, respectively.

158 *cresc.* *ff* *rit.* *A Tempo*

S 1
a re - la - tive *cresc.* *ff* | *am.*

S 2
a re - la - tive *cresc.* *ff* | *am.*

A 1
a re - la - tive *cresc.* *ff* | *am.*

A 2
a re - la - tive *cresc.* *ff* | *am.*

Pno. *rit.* *A Tempo* *ff*

165 *poco meno mosso*

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno. *poco meno mosso* *Red.* *