

Gwyneth Walker

**Benediction:
To Hold in the Light**

for Piano Trio

To hold in the light is a Quaker phrase – a blessing offered in prayer. One entrusts another to God's care. We *hold in the light* those whom we love. And we also *hold in the light* those whom we do not know, yet wish to protect.

This music combines patterns of light (alternating pitches, spreading outward like beams of light) with tenderness (gentle melodies, often in the lower and warmer ranges of the strings). There is much close interaction between the instruments, as if comforting one another.

I *hold in the light* my fellow citizens who are in peril – either from storms, or from divisive persecution. I *hold in the light* those who are brave enough to stand up for peace and equality.

Benediction: To Hold in the Light

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Free tempo (♩ = 100), not too slowly
as beams of light, spreading outward

Piano

p

Ped. _____

rit.

Moderate tempo ♩ = 108, flowing
with warmth *LH*

mf

Ped. _____

Vln. 8

Vlc.

mf with warmth

mf with warmth

LH **A**

(mf)

LH

simile

Ped. _____

13

Vln.

Vlc.

LH

18

Vln.

Vlc.

21

Vln.

Vlc.

(mf)

3

B

B

mf

25

(a gentle, light counterpoint)

Vln.

Vlc.

p

mf

3

LH

LH

LH

[illegible]

37

Vln.

Vlc.

p *mf*

C

(mf)

with pedal

42

Vln.

Vlc.

delicately

45

Vln.

Vlc.

delicately

(mf)

48

Vln.

Vlc.

51

Vln.

Vlc.

D

f

D as light descending

f

55

Vln.

Vlc.

59

Vln.

Vlc.

Ped.

63

Vln.

Vlc.

E *gentle trem. at the tip, sul pont., shimmering gradually ascending into the Light*

p

gentle trem. at the tip, sul pont., shimmering gradually ascending into the Light

p

E

(Ped.)

Ped.

66

Vln.

Vlc.

cresc. poco a poco (to m. 78)

cresc. poco a poco (to m. 78)

cresc. poco a poco (to m. 78)

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

69

Vln. *(cresc.)*

Vlc. *(cresc.)*

(cresc.)

Red.

Red.

Red.

72 **F**

Vln. *(cresc.)*

Vlc. *(cresc.)*

F

(cresc.)

Red.

Red.

75

Vln. *(cresc.)*

Vlc. *(cresc.)*

(cresc.)

Red.

Red.

78

Vln. *f*

Vlc. *f*

harmonic Sul III
gliss. ad lib.

harmonic Sul II
gliss. ad lib.

8^{va}

f

Reo.

81

Vln. *rit.*
(harm.)

Vlc. (harm.)

long hold

Free measure, transition
slowly and peacefully

long hold

Free measure, transition
slowly and peacefully

8^{va}

rit.

long hold

p

Reo. with pedal

84

Vln. *p*

Vlc. *p*

G a tempo ♩ = 108

G a tempo ♩ = 108

as light descending

(p)

Reo.

90

Vln.

Vlc.

Trpd.

(stays through m. 103)

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 90 through 94. The Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vlc.) parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Violin part has a melodic line with a half note in m. 90, a quarter note in m. 91, and a half note in m. 92. In m. 93, it has a half note with a tremolo. In m. 94, it has a half note with a triplet. The Viola part has a half note in m. 90, a quarter note in m. 91, and a half note in m. 92. In m. 93, it has a half note with a tremolo. In m. 94, it has a half note with a triplet. The Piano (Trpd.) part has a whole note in m. 93. The Trumpet (Trpd.) part has a whole note in m. 93. The text "(stays through m. 103)" is written below the Trumpet part.

95

Vln.

Vlc.

(Trpd.)

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 95 through 99. The Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vlc.) parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Both parts feature continuous triplet patterns throughout measures 95-99. The Piano (Trpd.) part is empty. The text "(Trpd.)" is written below the Piano part.

100

rit.

Vln.

Vlc.

rit.

(Leo.)

More slowly ♩ = 80

104

Vln.

Vlc.

pp

pp

More slowly ♩ = 80

(p)

a last beam of light

pp

(Leo.)

3:15
September 10, 2017
New Canaan, Connecticut