

"Chester"

Original tune and lyrics by William Billings (1746–1800), Boston, Massachusetts,
adapted for mixed chorus, percussion (optional) and piano by Gwyneth Walker

Gwyneth Walker

A *f* sturdily
B *f* sturdily
C *f* sturdily
with energy ♩ = 132

Soprano

1. Let ty - rants shake their i - ron — rod, and slav - 'ry
2. The Foe comes on with haugh - ty — stride. Our troops ad -
3. What grate - ful off - 'ring shall we — bring? What shall we

Alto

1. Let ty - rants shake their i - ron rod, and slav - 'ry
2. The Foe comes on with haugh - ty stride. Our troops ad -
3. What grate - ful off - 'ring shall we bring? What shall we

Tenor

1. Let ty - rants shake their i - ron — rod, and slav - 'ry
2. The Foe comes on with haugh - ty — stride. Our troops ad -
3. What grate - ful off - 'ring shall — we — bring? What shall we

Bass

1. Let ty - rants shake their i - ron — rod, and slav - 'ry
2. The Foe comes on with haugh - ty — stride. Our troops ad -
3. What grate - ful off - 'ring shall we — bring? What shall we

Percussion

Tenor Drum

f

A *f* sturdily
B *f* sturdily
C *f* sturdily
with energy ♩ = 132

Piano

f

Performance suggestion: Sing verses 1 and 3 as written, verse 2 men only, singing the melody (Soprano line), and divisi (Soprano and Alto lines) for the last 4 measures (Bases ending in lower C). Percussion rests during 2nd verse.

6

S. 
 clank her gall - ing chains. We fear them not; we
 vance with mar - tial noise. Their Vet-'rans flee be -
 ren - der to this Lord? Loud Hal - le - lu - - - ia

A. 
 clank her gall - ing chains. We fear them not; we
 vance with mar - tial noise. Their Vet-'rans flee be -
 ren - der to this Lord? Loud Hal - le - lu - - - ia

T. 
 clank her gall - ing chains. We fear them not; we
 vance with mar - tial noise. Their Vet-'rans flee be -
 ren - der to this Lord? Loud Hal - le - lu - - - ia

B. 
 clank her gall - ing chains. We fear them not; we
 vance with mar - tial noise. Their Vet-'rans flee be -
 ren - der to this Lord? Loud Hal - le - lu - - - ia

Perc. 

6 

11

S.

trust in God. New Eng-land's Soul for - e - ver reigns.
 fore our Youth, and Gen - 'rals yield to beard - less boys.
 let us sing. And praise Thy Name on ev - 'ry chord.

A.

trust in God. New Eng-land's Soul for - e - ver reigns.
 fore our Youth, and Gen - 'rals yield to beard - less boys.
 let us sing. And praise Thy Name on ev - 'ry chord.

T.

8

trust in God. New Eng-land's Soul for - e - ver reigns.
 fore our Youth, and Gen - 'rals yield to beard - less boys.
 let us sing. And praise Thy Name on ev - 'ry chord.

B.

trust in God. New Eng-land's Soul for - e - ver reigns.
 fore our Youth, and Gen - 'rals yield to beard - less boys.
 let us sing. And praise Thy Name on ev - 'ry chord.

Perc.

11

[Some Choreography might be nice here, rather than standing still—marching, or military formations in Colonial American style.]

17 **D**

Perc. Triangle

mf (l.v.)

Musical score for measures 17-21. The percussion part (Triangle) has a single note on the 4th staff. The piano part (measures 17-21) features a rhythmic melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A dynamic marking of *mf* (l.v.) is present.

22

Perc. *sim.*

Musical score for measures 22-26. The percussion part (Triangle) has a rhythmic pattern on the 4th staff. The piano part (measures 22-26) features a more complex rhythmic melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A dynamic marking of *sim.* is present.

27

Perc.

Musical score for measures 27-31. The percussion part (Triangle) has a rhythmic pattern on the 4th staff. The piano part (measures 27-31) features a rhythmic melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

32 **E** (*f*)

S. Let ty - rants shake their i - ron — rod,

A. Let ty - rants shake their i - ron rod,

T. Let ty - rants shake their i - ron — rod,

B. Let ty - rants shake their i - ron — rod,

Perc. Tenor Drum
p < *f*

37

S. and Slav - 'ry clank — her — gall - - ing chains.

A. and Slav - 'ry clank her gall - ing chains.

T. and Slav - 'ry clank her gall - - ing chains.

B. and Slav - 'ry clank — her — gall - ing — chains.

Perc.

41

S. We fear them not; we trust in God.

A. We fear them not; we trust in God.

T. We fear them not; we trust in God.

B. We fear them not; we trust in God.

Perc.

45

S. *ritard.*
ff triumphantly
New Eng - land's Soul for - e - - - ver reigns!

A. *ff triumphantly*
New Eng - land's Soul for - e - - - ver reigns!

T. *ff triumphantly*
New Eng - land's Soul for - e - - - ver reigns!

B. *ff triumphantly*
New Eng - land's Soul for - e - - - ver reigns!

Perc.

ritard.
ff triumphantly