

Gwyneth Walker

The Tree of Peace

for SATB Chorus, Brass Quintet,
Organ and Percussion

Duration: 5 minutes

The text for *The Tree of Peace* has been adapted from the Quaker poem, "O Brother Man," by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892). This contemporary adaptation of the poem broadens the scope of the original with more inclusive language, opening with: "O, my brother and my sister, all who walk upon this earth, fold to your hearts each other."

A new text fragment, "Listen, listen to one another," is introduced into the poem, and serves as an interlude between stanzas. The final sentence of the original poem becomes the focal point of this work, returning many times: "Love shall tread out the fire of anger, and in its ashes plant a tree of peace."

The musical setting reflects the dual nature of the title, **Tree** (strength) and **Peace** (tenderness). The work opens with accented chords in the piano accompaniment. These chords are marked "with strength." This is the conviction of *The Tree of Peace*.

The tender aspects are introduced in the arpeggio patterns in the piano. These are marked "flowing." And the related choral phrases refer to humanity ("O, my brother and my sister"), to mercy and to the peace of the Lord. Passages of tenderness alternate and intertwine with passages of strength to form a confluence of the message: a prayer for peace.

Tree of Peace

for SATB Chorus, Brass Quintet, Percussion, and Organ

John Addington Symonds (1840–1893)
G. Walker, alt.

Gwyneth Walker

With strength ♩ = 88

a2
f

C Trumpets 1
2

Horn in F

Trombone
Tuba

Percussion
(Timpani,
Glockenspiel,
Suspended Cymbal,
Bongo)

f *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Organ

With strength ♩ = 88

6

a2 *rit.* *a tempo, flowing*

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbn.
Tuba

Perc. *to Glockenspiel*

Org. *rit.* *a tempo, flowing* *f*

10 A (♩ = 88)

Tpts. 1 2 *p* *mp*

Hn. *p* *mp*

Tbn. Trombone *mp*

Tuba *p* *mp*

Perc.

S
A *p* *mp*
O, my sis - ter and my broth - er, all who walk up - on this

T
B *p* *mp*
O, my sis - ter and my broth - er, all who walk up - on this

Org. *p*

14

Tpts. 1 2 *mf* *(mf)*

Hn. *mf* *(mf)*

Tbn. (Tbn.) *mf* *(mf)*

Tuba *mf* *(mf)*

Perc.

S
A *mf* *p*
earth, fold to your hearts each oth - er.

T
B *mf* *p*
earth, fold to your hearts each oth - er.

Org.

18

Tpts. 1 2 *p* *mf* *p*

Hn. *p*

Tbn. Tuba *p*

Perc. Glockenspiel (very soft mlt.) *delicately* *pp*

S A *mf cantabile*
Where mer - cy dwells, the peace of the Lord is there.

T B

Org.

22 **B**

Tpts. 1 2 *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. Tuba (Tbn.) *mf*

Perc.

S A *mf*
each kind - ness a gift,

T B *mf cantabile*
To live right - ly is to love one an - oth - er

Org. **B**

34 Bongo *rit.* **D** Slower $\text{♩} = 72$

Perc. *p*

S *(p)*
Walk with rev-'rence in the steps of those who have

A *p*
Lis - ten, ___ lis - ten to one ___ an - oth - er. ___ in the steps of those who have

T *(p)*
Walk with rev-'rence in the steps of those who have

B *(p)*
Lis - ten, ___ lis - ten to one ___ an - oth - er. Lis - ten, ___ Walk with rev-'rence in the steps of those who have

Org. *p* *rit.* **D** Slower $\text{♩} = 72$

37

Tpts. 1 *sf*

Hn. *sf*

Tbn. Tuba *sf*

Perc. *sf*

S *mf* gone be - fore, where for - give - ness and wis - dom has stood. *f* So shall the wide earth be - come a *p* tem - ple, each -

A *mf* gone be - fore, where for - give - ness and wis - dom has stood. *f* So shall the wide earth be - come a *p* tem - ple, each -

T *mf* gone be - fore, where for - give - ness and wis - dom has stood. *f* So shall the wide earth be - come a *p* tem - ple,

B *mf* gone be - fore, where for - give - ness and wis - dom has stood. *f* So shall the wide earth be - come a *p* tem - ple,

Org. *f* *p*

41

Perc.

S
lov - ing life a psalm of gra - ti - tude walk with rev - 'rence where for - give - ness and wis - dom has

A
lov - ing life a psalm of gra - ti - tude walk with rev - 'rence

T
p each life a psalm of gra - ti - tude where for - give - ness and wis - dom has

B
p each life a psalm of gra - ti - tude

Org.

45

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbn.
Tuba

(Bongo)
Perc.

S
f stood. _____ *p* Ah, _____

A
f Lis - ten, _____ *p* lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, lis - ten. _____

T
f stood. _____ *p* Lis - ten, _____ *p* lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, lis - ten. _____

B
p Lis - ten, _____ *p* lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, lis - ten. _____ *p* Lis - ten, _____ *p* lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er,

Org.

E *accel. poco a poco*

48 (accel.)

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn. Trombone

Tuba

Perc.

S

A

T

B

Org.

Lis - ten, _____ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, _____ lis - ten, _____ Lis - ten, _____ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er.

Ah, _____ Ah, _____

ah, _____ ah, _____

lis - ten, _____ Lis - ten, _____ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, _____ lis - ten, _____

cresc. poco a poco (to m. 53)

51 (accel.)

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn. (Tbn.)

Tuba

Perc. (Bongo)

S

A

T

B

Org.

Lis - ten, _____ Ah, _____ Lis - ten, _____ Ah, _____

Lis - ten, _____ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er. _____ Lis - ten, _____ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er.

Lis - ten, _____ Ah, _____ Lis - ten, _____ Ah, _____

Lis - ten, _____ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er. _____ Lis - ten, _____ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er.

(accel.)

60 *a2* **G** *a2*

Tpts. 1 *p* *f*

Hn. *p* *f*

Tbn. *p* *f*

Tuba *p* *f*

Perc. (Timp.) *p* *(p)* *f*

S. *unis. p* *f*

A. *unis. p* *unis. f*

T. *f*

B. *f*

Org. *f*

an - ger, and in its ash - es plant a tree of peace. Then shall all shack - les fall. O, my

65

Tpts. 1 *mf* *f*

Hn. *mf* *f*

Tbn. *mf* *f*

Tuba *mf* *f*

Perc. *mf* *f*

S. *mf* *f*

A. *mf* *f*

T. *f*

B. *f*

Org. *f*

The vio - lence of war o - ver the earth shall cease. sis - ter and my broth - - - er, fold to your hearts each oth - er.

69

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn. Tuba

(Timp.) Perc.

S

A

T B

Org.

mf *p* *p cresc.* *cresc.*

to Glock.

mf *unis. p* *cresc.*

Love shall tread out the fire of an-ger, and in its ash-es plant a tree of peace, plant a tree of

Love shall tread out the fire of an-ger, and in its ash-es plant a tree of peace, plant a tree of

where mer-cy dwells, the Lord is there. Plant a tree of peace, a tree of

mf *p*

H Flowing ♩ = 108

74

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn. Tuba

Perc. Glock.

S

A

T B

Org.

f *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f*

peace. Ah, ah,

peace. Ah,

H Flowing ♩ = 108

79 *rit.* Slower ♩ = 72

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbn.
Tuba

(Glock.)

Perc.

S
A

T
B

Org.

Love shall tread out the fire of an - ger, and in its ash - es plant a tree of

Love shall tread out the fire of an - ger,

rit. Slower ♩ = 72

p sub.

84 I *a tempo* ♩ = 108 [Trumpet 1 answers organ solo]

Tpts. 1
2

Hn.

Tbn.
Tuba

(Glock.)
unobtrusively

Perc.

S

A

T
B

Org.

peace.

peace.

pp gently, as a background

Plant a tree of peace.

I *a tempo* ♩ = 108

Light Solo

mf

p

96 *rit. to end*

Tpts. 1 2 *p*

Hn. *p*

Tbn. Tuba *p*

Perc. *p* gliss.

S *p*
Lis - ten, ___ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er

A *p*
Lis - ten, ___ lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er, lis - ten to one_ an - oth - er

T B *p*

Org. *rit. to end*

99 *(rit.)*

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn. Tuba *pp*

Perc. *pp* Timp.

S *(p)*
— and plant a tree of peace.

A *(p)*
— and plant a tree of peace.

T B *(p)*
— and plant a tree of peace.

Org. *(rit.)* *for rehearsal only* *pp* *Ossia, instead of Tuba*