

God Bless You

Commissioned by:
British European Specialty Tours for the
International Children's Choir 1999 Festival
Henry Leck, Director

Text
Anonymous

Music by:
James Mulholland

Slow ♩ = 60

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It begins with a piano introduction in D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Slow' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The piano part consists of two staves. The right hand starts with a melodic line of eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment of chords. Dynamics range from mezzo-piano (mp) to mezzo-forte (mf). The vocal part, labeled 'S' for Soprano and 'A' for Alto, enters at measure 5. The lyrics 'I seek in prayer - ful words, dear friend,' are written below the vocal line. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines, including a key signature change to C major (one flat) in the final measures. Dynamics include piano (p) and mezzo-piano (mp).

1

mp *mf*

1

5 *p* *mp*

S
A

I seek in prayer - ful words, dear friend,

5 *p* 5

(b)

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7 *mf mp mf*

My heart's true wish to send you, That you may know that, far or

7 *mp mf mp mf*

10 *rit. mp A Tempo mf*

near, My lov-ing thoughts at-tend you. I can-not find a tru-er

10 *rit. A Tempo*

10 *l.h. mp*

13 *f (div.)*

word, — Nor bet-ter to ad - dress you; —

13 *f*

13

(b)

16

Nor song, nor po - em have I heard is sweet-er than God bless—

19

f

you! — Nor song, nor po-em have I

19

f

19

22

f

heard — Is sweet - er than God bless

22

f

22

24

you! _____

24

rit.

27

Faster (♩ = 66-69) *p*

God bless you! — So I've wished you all Of bright-ness

27

Faster (♩ = 66-69) *p*

no breath

30

move tempo

life pos - sess - es; God bless you! So I've wished you all —

30

move tempo

33 *no breath* *f* *rit.* 1

Of bright - ness life pos - ses - es; God bless you! —

33 *rit.* *f* 1

33

36 (Slower) short

So I've wished you all Of bright - ness life pos - ses - es;

36 (Slower) 1

36

39 *Faster* ($\bullet = 76$) *mp* *mf* ,

For can there an - y joy at all

39 *faster* *mp* *mf*

39

f

41 Be yours un-less God bless - es? _____

f

43 For can there an-y joy at all Be yours un-less God bless - es?

molto rit.

molto rit.

(unison)

45 God bless you! So I breathe a charm

45

47 *f*

Lest grief's dark night op - press you,

47 *f*

47

49

For how can sor - row bring you harm If 'tis God's

49

49

51 *rit.* *A Tempo (unison)*

way to bless you? And so, "through all thy

51 *rit.* *A Tempo*

51

53 *(div.)*

days ————— May shad-ows touch thee nev - er" —

56

But this a-lone, — God bless thee, Then art thou safe for - ev -

59

er ————— Nor song, nor po-em have I

59 *rit. (Slower)*

62 *f* *molto rit.* *A Tempo*

heard Is sweet-er than God bless you!

62 *f* *molto rit.* *A Tempo*

62

65 (Slower) (still slower) *f* *mf* *mp*

65

69 *p*

God bless you!

69 *p*

69