

Malcolm Dedman

Prayer for Unity

for SSAA choir, *a cappella*

1987 rev. 2008

This is a setting of the following two prayers revealed by Bahá'u'lláh:

O my God! O my God! Unite the hearts of Thy servants, and reveal to them Thy great purpose. May they follow Thy commandments and abide in Thy law. Help them, O God, in their endeavour, and grant them strength to serve Thee. O God! Leave them not to themselves, but guide their steps by the light of Thy knowledge and cheer their hearts by Thy love. Verily, Thou art their Helper and their Lord.

(Compilations, Bahá'í Prayers, p. 203)

God grant that the light of unity may envelop the whole earth, and that the seal, "the Kingdom is God's", may be stamped upon the brow of all its peoples.

(Compilations, Bahá'í World Faith, p. 11)

Duration 4 mins

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Bahá'u'lláh

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Andante, ♩ = 80
molto legato

Soprano 1 *p* 5
U - nite the hearts of Thy

Soprano 2 *p* *mf* *mf* *p* *mf*
O my God! O my God! O my God!

Alto 1 *p* *mf* *mf* *p* *mf*
O my God! O my God! O my God!

Alto 2 *p*
U - nite the hearts of Thy

S. 1 *mf* *p* 10 *f* *rit.* *p*
ser - vants, and re - veal to them Thy great pur - pose.

S. 2 *mf* *p* *mf* *f*
O my God! O my God! O my God!

A. 1 *mf* *p* *mf* *f*
O my God! O my God! O my God!

A. 2 *mf* *p* *f* *p*
ser - vants, and re - veal to them Thy great pur - pose.

Più mosso, ♩ = 96 15 *p* *mf*

S. 1 May they fol - low Thy com - mand - ments and a - bide

S. 2 *p* *mf*
May they fol - low Thy com - mand - ments and a - bide in Thy

A. 1 *p*

A. 2 *p*

20

S. 1 in Thy law, Thy

S. 2 law, a - bide in Thy

A. 1 May they fol - low Thy com - mand - ments and a - bide in Thy law, Thy

A. 2 May they fol - low Thy com - mand - ments and a - bide in Thy

p *mf* *p* *mf*

25

S. 1 law. Help them, O God, in their

S. 2 law. Help them, O God, in their en - dea - vour,

A. 1 law. Help them, O God, in their en - dea - vour,

A. 2 law. Help them, O

p *pp* *p* *pp*

30

S. 1 en - dea - vour, and grant them strength to serve Thee,

S. 2 and grant them strength to serve Thee, strength to serve

A. 1 and grant them strength to serve Thee,

A. 2 God, in their en - dea - vour, and grant them strength to serve Thee.

p *p* *p* *p*

rit. 35 Tempo primo, ♩ = 80

S. 1 *pp* serve Thee. *pp* O God!

S. 2 *pp* Thee. *p* O my God! *p* O my God! *pp*

A. 1 *pp* serve Thee. *p* O my God! *p* O my God! *pp*

A. 2 *pp* serve Thee. *pp* O God!

40 poco accel. .

S. 1 *p* Leave them not to them - selves, *p* but guide their steps

S. 2 *p* Leave them not to them - selves, *pp* guide

A. 1 *p* Leave them not to them - selves, *pp* guide

A. 2 *p* Leave them not to them - selves but guide their

45 Più mosso, ♩ = 96

S. 1 *mf* by the light, *mf* by the light of Thy know - ledge

S. 2 *mf* their steps by the light, *f* by the light of Thy know -

A. 1 *mf* their steps by the light, *f* by the light of Thy know -

A. 2 *mf* steps by the light, *mf* by the light of Thy know - ledge

50 *rit.* *più f* *ff* *p* **Tempo primo,** = 80

S. 1 and cheer _____ their hearts by Thy love. _____ Ve - ri - ly, _____

S. 2 ledge, cheer their hearts _____ by Thy love. _____ Ve - ri -

A. 1 ledge, cheer their hearts _____ by Thy love. _____

A. 2 _____ and cheer _____ their hearts by Thy love. _____

55 *pp* *p* *pp*

S. 1 _____ Thou art their Hel - per and their Lord. _____

S. 2 ly, _____ Thou art their Hel - per and _____ their Lord. _____

A. 1 Ve - ri - ly, _____ Thou art their Hel - per and their Lord. _____

A. 2 Ve - ri - ly _____ Thou art their Hel - per and their

60 *solo pp* 65 *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

S. 1 _____ God grant that the light of u - ni - ty

S. 2 _____ O my God! _____ O my God! _____

A. 1 _____ O my God! _____ O my God! _____

A. 2 _____ Lord. _____

70 *Tutti pp*

S. 1 may en-ve-lop the whole earth, God grant that the light of

S. 2 *pp* God grant that the light of u-ni-ty may en - ve-lop the

A. 1 *pp* God grant that the light of u - ni - ty

A. 2 *pp* God grant

75

S. 1 u - ni - ty may en - ve-lop the whole earth, and

S. 2 whole earth, and that the seal,

A. 1 may en - ve-lop the whole earth, and that the

A. 2 that the light of u - ni - ty may en - ve-lop the whole earth,

80

S. 1 that the seal, "the King-dom is God's", "the King - dom is God's",

S. 2 "the King-dom is God's", "the King - dom is God's",

A. 1 seal, "the King-dom is God's", "the King - dom is God's",

A. 2 and that the seal, "the King-dom is God's", "the King - dom is God's",

85

S. 1 *p* *mf* *p*
 may be stamped u - pon the brow of

S. 2 *p* *mf* *p*
 may be stamped u - pon the brow

A. 1 *p* *mf* *p*
 may be stamped u - pon the brow

A. 2 *p* *mf* *p*
 may be stamped u - pon the brow of

rit. *f* *p*

S. 1
 all its peo - ples.

S. 2 *f* *p* *pp*
 of all its peo - - ples.

A. 1 *f* *p* *pp*
 of all its peo - - ples.

A. 2 *f* *p*
 all its peo - ples.