

December

9. Christmas/Hannukah/Winter Solstice: Credo

Credo means “I believe” in Latin. This can be looked up as the cornerstone of what makes up a person – a person’s aspirations, character, outlook, ideals.



Unitarian Universalism is a dogma-free religion. When we say, “I believe”, it is a statement of affirmation. When the Rev. Dr. Mark Belletini wrote his Credo it was also a statement of doubts:

“Was there really a stable, a star, a Gloria in the sky?
I doubt it, I guess, but I do have faith
that babes are everyday born in places
that make any stable look like a palace
and that such poverty is inconceivable.

And I do have faith that there is a Glory singing
not just in the sky, but in every handful of dust,
in every teardrop on a cheek,
and in every laughing child that has ever lived.

Did the oil last for eight days?
Did the menorah shine with a holy light?
Maybe not, the doubts are strong to be sure.
But I have faith
that love of freedom will last longer
than eight days, eight years or eight centuries.”

Credo

for soprano solo, mixed chorus and handbell choir

words with permission by
Rev. Dr. Mark Belletini

Wally Kleucker

4 Octaves
Handbells Used: 35



Handbells (4 octaves)

Handbell introduction notation in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef staff with various rhythmic patterns and accidentals.

$\text{♩} = 80$



Solo

(spoken): Was there really a Star, a Stable, a Gloria in the sky? I doubt it, I guess, but

HB

mp

Musical score for measures 1-4, including vocal line and handbell accompaniment.



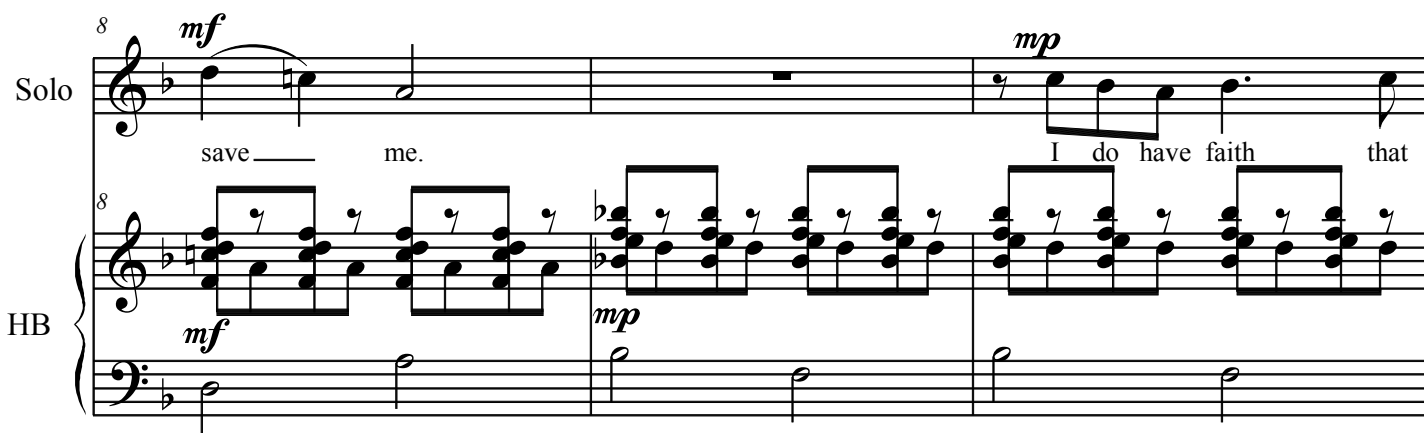
Solo

mp

I do have faith that a-ny star I see leads me to the kind of won-der that can

HB

Musical score for measures 5-7, including vocal line and handbell accompaniment.



Solo

mf *mp*

save — me. I do have faith that

HB

mf *mp*

Musical score for measures 8-10, including vocal line and handbell accompaniment.

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11

Solo

babes are ev'-ry-day born in pla-ces that make a - ny sta - ble look like a

HB

14

Solo

mf

pa - lace, and that such po-ver-ty is in-con - ceiv - a-ble. —

3

HB

mf

17

S

mp

I do have faith that babes are born in

A

mp

I do have faith that babes are born in

T

mp

I do have faith that babes are ev' - ry - day born in

B

mp

I do have faith that babes are ev' - ry - day born in

HB

mp

Credo

19

S
pla - ces (oo) (oo)

A
pla - ces (oo) (oo)

T
8
pla-ces that make a - ny sta-ble look like a pa - lace, and that such

B
8
pla-ces that make a - ny sta-ble look like a pa - lace, and that such

HB

22

Solo
and I do have faith that

S
(oo)

A
(oo)

T
8
po-ver-ty is in-con - ceiv - a-ble. (oo)

B
8
po-ver-ty is in-con - ceiv - a-ble. (oo)

HB

25

Solo

there is a Glo-ry sing-ing not just in the sky, but in ev' - ry hand - ful of dust, —

S

(oo)

A

(oo)

T

(oo)

B

(oo)

HB

28

mp

Solo

— in ev' - ry tear - drop on a cheek.

S

p

A

p

T

p

B

p

HB

mp

31 *mp*

S and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that has e - - - ver

A and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that has e - - - ver

T and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that has e - - - ver

B and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that has e - - - ver

HB

34 *f*

Solo and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that

S *mf* lived. *f* and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that

A *mf* lived. *f* and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that

T *mf* lived. *f* and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that

B *mf* lived. *f* and in ev' - ry laugh - ing child that

HB

37 *ff*

Solo has e - - ver lived.

S *ff* has e - - - ver lived.

A *ff* has e - - - ver lived.

T *ff* has e - - - ver lived.

B *ff* has e - - - ver lived.

37 *ff* SK

HB *f* SK

40 *mp* Did the

Solo *mp* Did the

HB *mf* *mp* R SK R

43

Solo

oil last for eight days? Did the me - no - rah shine with a

HB

46

Solo

ho - ly light? May - be not the doubts are strong to be sure.

HB

49

Solo

mf But I have — faith that love of free - dom will last

S

mp I have — faith that free - dom will last

A

mp I have — faith that free - dom will last

T

mp I have — faith that free - dom will last

B

mp I have — faith that free - dom will last

HB

mf

Credo

8

52

Solo

S

A

T

B

HB

long-er than eight days, eight years, or eight cen-tu-ries.

long - er than eight days, eight years or eight cen - tu-ries.

long - er than eight days, eight years, or eight cen - tu-ries.

long - er than eight days, eight years or eight cen - tu-ries.

long - er than eight days, eight years, or eight cen - tu-ries.

52

HB

55

S

A

T

B

HB

subito *p*

(ah)

subito *p*

(ah)

subito *p*

8

eight days, eight years, eight cen-tu-ries.

subito *p*

3

8

eight days, eight years, eight cen-tu-ries.

subito *p*

55

HB

58 *p*

Solo

I have faith that the light that shines in the slant win-ter

HB

61

Solo

sky on new-ly bare bran - ches on a win - ter's af - ter -

HB

64

Solo

noon is al - most un - bear - ab - ly ho - ly.

HB

SK

SK

67

Solo

(spoken): I doubt that shopping frantically will make holidays

HB

R

R

70 *p*
Solo
mean anything interesting. But I have faith that the ca-rols and can-dles will

70
HB

73 *mf*
Solo
get to me a-gain this year, in-vi-ting me to look up and wor-ship the me-no-rah of the

73
HB *mf*

76
Solo
con-stel-la-tions,

mp
S
un-til I have no room left in my heart for

mp
A
un-til I have no room left in my heart for

8
T
un-til I have no room left for

B
un-til I have no room left for

76
HB *mp*

79

S a - ny - thing less beau - ti - ful. than the light of per - fect com -

A a - ny - thing less beau - ti - ful. than the light of per - fect com -

T a - ny - thing less beau - ti - ful than the light of per - fect com -

B a - ny - thing less beau - ti - ful than the light of per - fect com -

HB

82

Solo

S pas - sion for o - thers and e - ven my - self, the

A pas - sion for o - thers and e - ven my - self, the

T pas - sion for o - thers and e - ven my - self, the

B pas - sion for o - thers and e - ven my - self. the

HB

12
85

meno mosso ♩ = 69

Credo

Solo
S
A
T
B

light of per - fect com - pas - sion for o - thers and

light of per - fect com - pas - sion for o - thers and

light of per - fect com - pas - sion for o - thers and

light of per - fect com - pas - sion for o - thers and

light of per - fect com - pas - sion for o - thers and

meno mosso ♩ = 69
85 *mf* *rit.*

Solo
S
A
T
B

e - ven my - self.

e - ven my self.

e - ven my - self.

e - ven my - self.

e - ven my - self.

87 *ff* SK

SK