SEVEN PRINCIPLES

in nine movements

for narrator, soloists, mixed chorus, children/youth choir, and orchestra

by
Loyd Dillon and Wally Kleucker

CHORAL SCORE

Seven Principles

in nine movements

for narrator, soloists, mixed chorus, children/youth chorus and orchestra

Background

For the past two decades I have enjoyed being a part of the music staff at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Charlotte in various roles (music director, organist, pianist and children's choir director). This work inspired me to write over 110 choral works for UU services, and several years ago I began to work on a piece called **The Seven Principles** for mixed chorus, clarinet and piano. At first, my idea was to write a single-movement fugal piece using the UUA's official text. However, after completing this piece, I realized that it didn't say all the things I wanted it to say about our UU principles.

About this same time, my friends Loyd Dillon and Dr. Henry Berne were working on a book about UU poets through the ages. They gave me a copy to read before it was sent off to publishers. I was enthralled, and started to investigate the writings referenced in their book. Many of these writings gave me musical ideas which led to other musical ideas which eventually led to the idea of writing a large work for choir, orchestra, and speaker. Loyd Dillon agreed to collaborate and after a year or so of hard work, **Seven Principles** in nine movements for speaker, soloists, mixed choir, children/youth choir, and orchestra, is completed.

Each movement is preceded by narration, written by Loyd Dillon. The first seven movements examine each of the principles individually, using text by the following UU writers.

- 1) Rev. Sarah York, author of Pilgrim Heart
- 2) **Isaac Watts** (1674-1748), author of our doxology, which is interwoven and sung in Spanish and English to a bossa nova beat

- 3) **Margaret Fuller** (1810-1850), brilliant member of the Transcendentalist group and author of "Woman in the 19th Century"
- 4) Walt Whitman (1819-1892), transcendentalist poet
- 5) **Nelson Mandela**, former President of South Africa, who will be celebrating his 90th birthday in June, 2008
- 6) Children from Lincoln School, who were asked to write what the word "peace" meant to them
- 7) Ralph Waldo Emerson, Unitarian minister and Transcendentalist.

The eighth movement is a summation of the Seven Principles using the actual UUA text. The ninth movement, the finale, is "You Can't Stop the Music!" to a poem by Henry Berne.

This document includes the narration and the choral parts only. A full score and individual instrumental parts are also available.

January 18, 2008

Wally Kleucker

First Movement

The First Principle

The inherent worth and dignity of every person

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When You Hear the Distant Music

from "Pilgrim's Heart"

by Rev. Sarah York

When we hear the distant music, the music from the soul's true home, Communitas is what happens, the music of our human purpose.

Such moments are intimations of a unity and harmony that offers hope for our survival as a species.

They are peak experiences that cannot be sustained but are sustaining in the hope they offer for what is possible among people.

They point to a larger truth that says that in spite of our differences we share something of the Spirit with each other.

We know it in our souls because once in a while it in overwhelms us with a sense something of communion or connection.

Narrator:

I am dying. You are dying. We all must die, and we all will die. That fact, that <u>fate</u> is inescapable and undeniable.

But while we still live, we can do something noble, ethical, moral and righteous. What can we do? We can strive to live <u>principled</u> lives. That's part of being a good human being. And always <u>has</u> been.

Confucianists talk about reciprocity – treating others with the dignity and respect with which <u>we</u> would want to be treated. Christians talk about following the Golden Rule to demonstrate how we regard others. Virtually all the world's religions include some variation of "doing unto others as you would have them do unto you."

We Unitarian Universalists have our Seven Principles as guidelines. These Principles include and incorporate many other religious traditions but they also are uniquely our own. Consider the first principle – our belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person. If we truly believe that every person has worth and dignity, then we will follow the Golden Rule. Naturally!

Sarah York, an author and Unitarian Universalist minister for over twenty years, has served congregations in London, England, California, Massachusetts, Florida, New York, Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina, where she currently resides. The Unitarian Universalist hymnal, *Singing the Living Tradition*, includes three of her responsive readings.

Her book from 2001, *Pilgrim Heart: The Inner Journey Home*, is a guide for spiritual pilgrims and seekers to use in their own sacred journeys. In it she speaks about *communitas*. This Latin term means an unstructured community in which people are equal, the very spirit of community, and the feeling of solidarity and togetherness, where all recognize the inherent worth and dignity of every person. As Ms. York explains, "Communitas is ... the music of our human purpose. Such moments are intimations of a unity and harmony that offers hope for our survival as a species."

1. When We Hear the Distant Music

for speaker, soloist, mixed chorus and orchestra

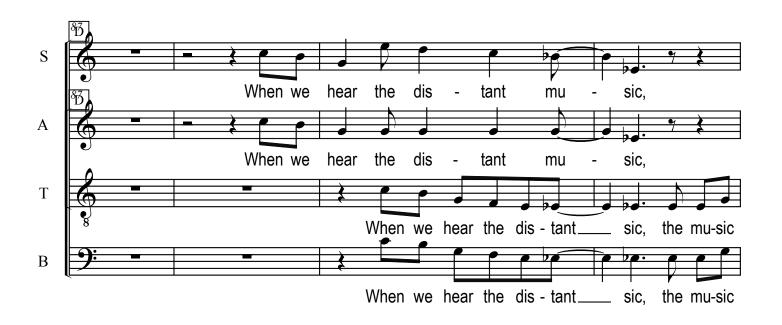


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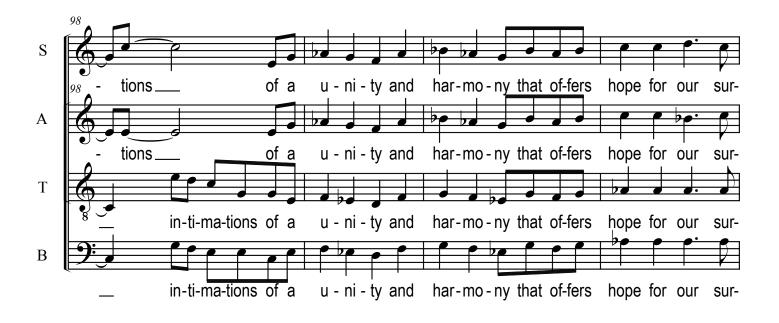


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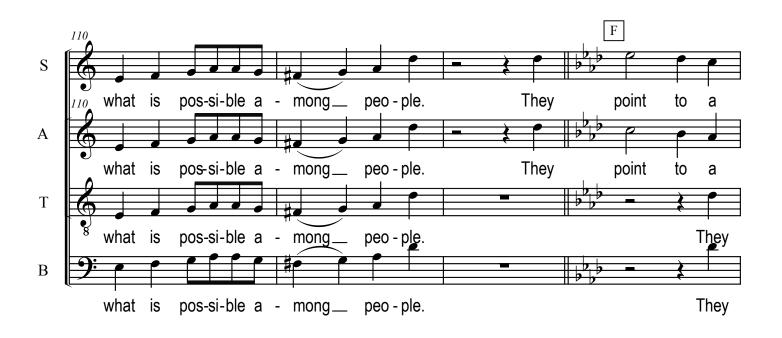


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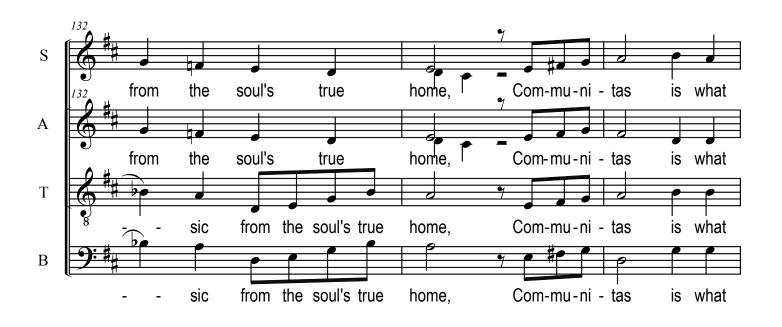


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Second Movement

The Second Principle

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations

II.

Justice, Equity and Compassion

text from the 2nd Principle of the UUA and Isaac Watts (1674-1748) (Doxology – Spanish and English)

We affirm and promote justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

De todos bajo el gran sol Surja esperanza, fe, amor, Verdad, y belleza cantando, De cada tierra, cada voz.

From all that dwell below the skies Let songs of hope and faith arise; Let peace, good will on earth be sung Through every land, by every tongue.

Narrator:

Yes, hope! Hope for our survival, indeed hope for <u>all</u> humanity! Words of hope are found many places, including in our Doxology, written by Isaac Watts, a 17th century English religious nonconformist. "De todos bajo el gran sol surja <u>esperanza</u>, fe, amor" or "From all that dwell below the skies let songs of <u>hope</u> and faith arise!"

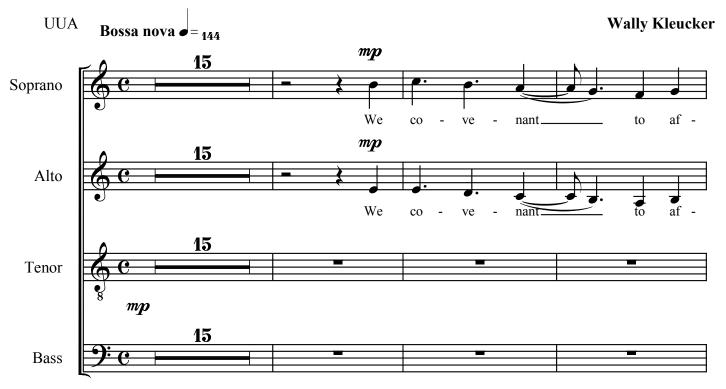
To paraphrase the 17th century poet John Donne, no one is an island. We are not alone. We are all connected. When someone else dies, the bell – the death knell - tolls for us too. When someone else suffers injustice, we suffer injustice too. We are one family. Literally. Poets and some theologians have long said this. But now

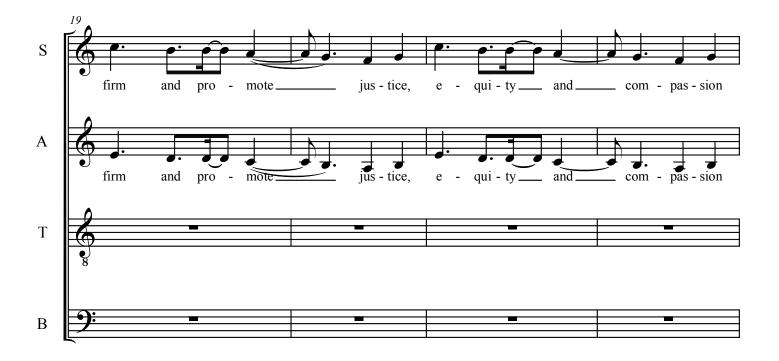
scientists do, too. Studies of mitochondrial DNA show that we truly are one family – that the most distantly related you can be to anyone who ever lived is 50th cousin. So, let's care for our cousins. Let's care for our family. We need to remember that as we consider our second principle of justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

"...justice, equity and compassion in human relations"

2. Justice, Equity and Compassion

for mixed chorus and orchestra























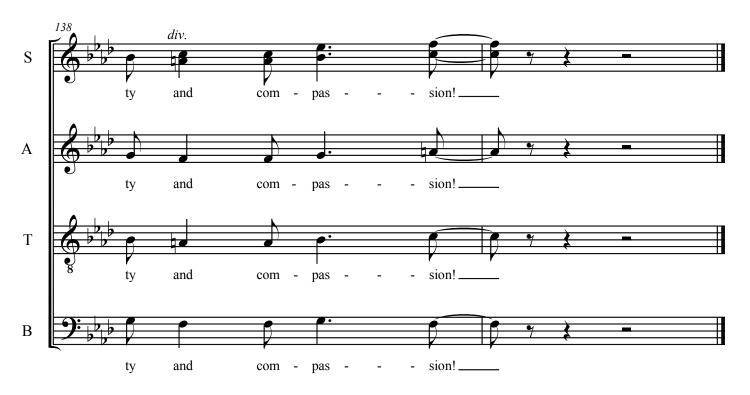












Third Movement

The Third Principle

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth

Only To Grow

by Margaret Fuller (1810 – 1850)

Very early I knew that the only object in life was to grow.

There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly.

Be what you would like to be.

A house is no home without food and fire for the mind as well as the body.

If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it.

Narrator:

Do you have friends of a different race? Do you have friends of a different faith? One very important Unitarian Universalist principle is that of accepting one another... not just tolerating differences, but accepting and respecting them. Respect is so much more important than tolerance. Tolerant persons can still look down at the others they are "tolerating." A respectful person looks at others eye-to-eye. A respectful person also encourages others to growth — intellectual growth, moral growth, ethical growth and spiritual growth. We do not have to send missionaries out to groups of "others." We can begin by accepting and encouraging others in our own congregation, our own immediate family.

Margaret Fuller was a journalist, critic, and women's rights activist in the first half of the nineteenth century. Fuller became friends with Ralph Waldo Emerson and became one of the leaders of the transcendentalist movement. After living several years in France and Italy, she died tragically in 1850 when the ship on which she was returning home to the United States slammed into a sandbar just off the coast of Fire Island, New York. In her many writings she encouraged women writers and declared, "Very early I knew that the only object in life was to grow... If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it."

3. Only To Grow for mixed chorus (SATB) and orchestra



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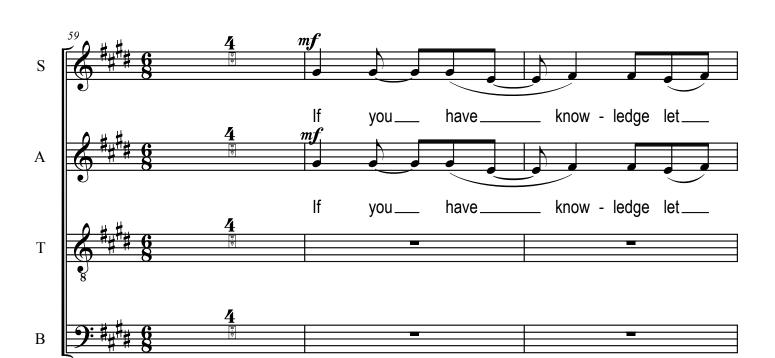
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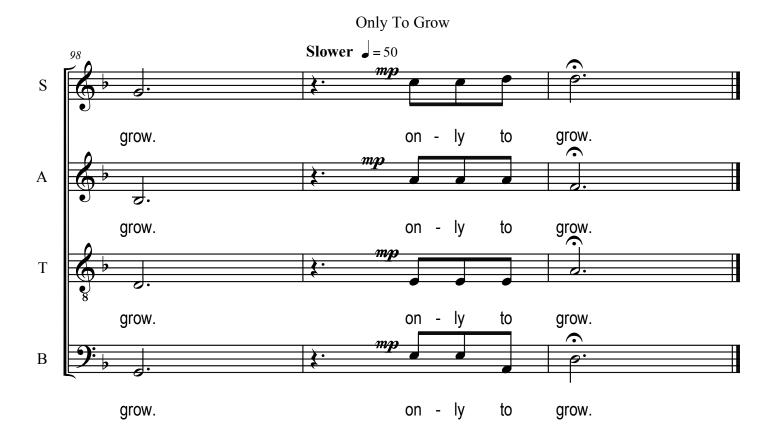




a house is no home with - out food and fire for the mind







Fourth Movement

The Fourth Principle

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning

IV.

Song of the Open Road

by (1910

Walt Whitman (1819 –1892)

Afoot and light-hearted, I take to the open road, Healthy, free, the world before me, The long brown path before me, leading wherever I choose.

Henceforth I ask not good-fortune—I myself am good fortune; Henceforth I whimper no more, postpone no more, need nothing, Strong and content, I travel the open road.

Narrator:

The etymological root – the original meaning- of the word *heresy* is "to choose." We Unitarian Universalists are people who choose. We can look at all the world views and religions and choose what fits. We are heretics. But we are not a rabid, irresponsible mob of heretics. Our search for truth and meaning includes both freedom and responsibility. Freedom! How great that can feel! Responsibility. How good that can be!

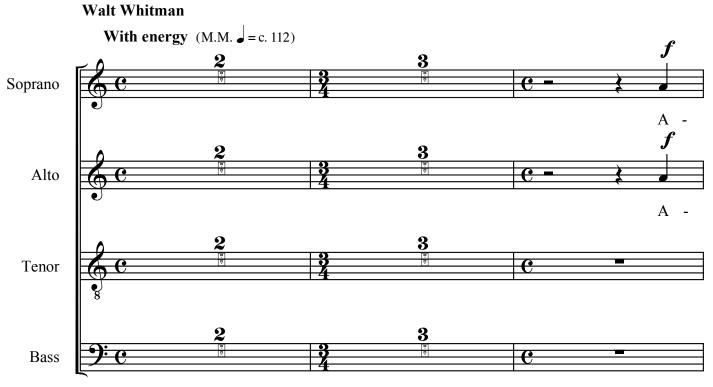
Walt Whitman was an American poet, transcendentalist, essayist, journalist, and humanist. He is one of the most influential and controversial poets of the nineteenth century. In his "Song of the Open Road," the road is a metaphor for the search for truth and meaning. For him the open road is a choice.

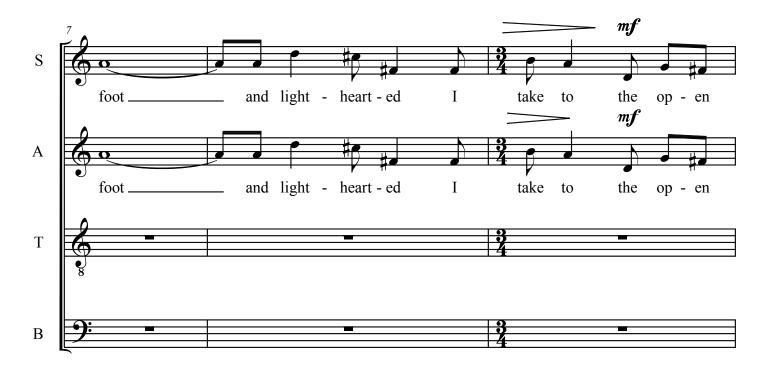
"Afoot and light-hearted, I take to the open road, Healthy, free, the world before me, The long brown path before me, leading wherever I <u>choose</u>."

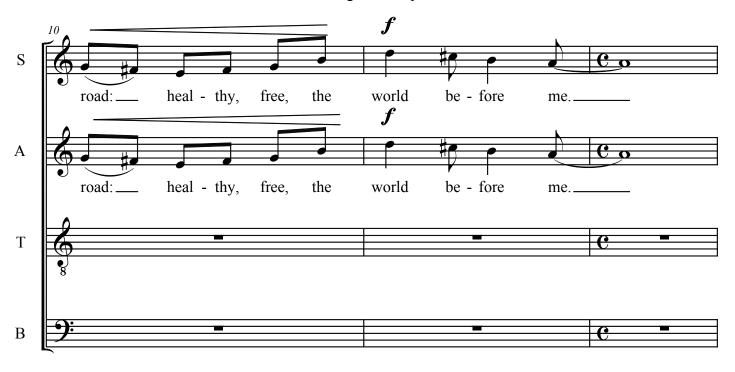
4. The Song of the Open Road

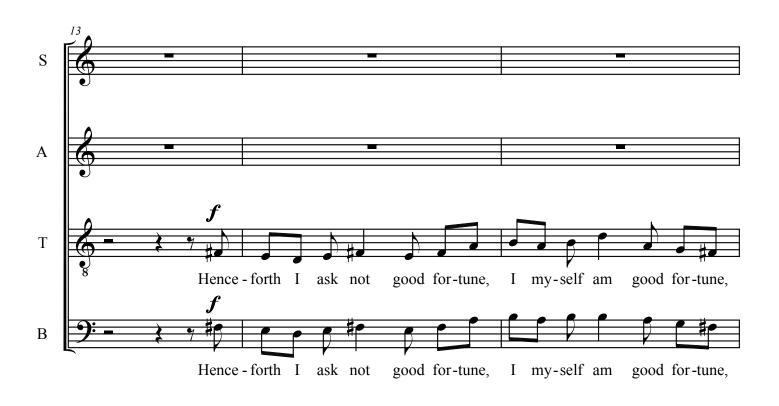
for mixed chorus and orchestra

Wally Kleucker

















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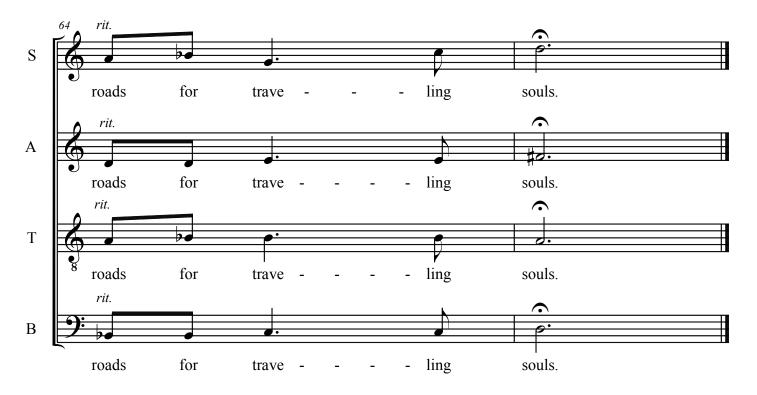
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Fifth Movement

The Fifth Principle

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process

Let Freedom Reign!

by Nelson Mandela (1918 -)

Let freedom reign. The sun never set on so glorious a human achievement.

Never, never and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another.

Only free men can negotiate; prisoners cannot enter into contracts. Your freedom and mine cannot be separated.

The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

Narrator:

Avowed Unitarian Thomas Jefferson wrote in a letter to Universalist Benjamin Rush a line that much later became engraved in the stone of the Jefferson Memorial and in the minds of lovers of democracy everywhere: "I have sworn upon the altar of God, eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man." Jefferson was hostile to religious tyranny as well as political tyranny. We Unitarian Universalists deeply believe in the democratic process both within our congregations and in the world at large. Yes, we believe in democracy. But we believe in a democracy that rises up from the human spirit, not from coercion or military force.

Nelson Mandela is a former President of South Africa, the first to be elected after apartheid ended. Before his presidency, Mandela was an anti-apartheid activist and leader of the African National Congress. He spent 27 years jailed as a political prisoner before he was finally released in 1990. His words echo the fifth principle: "Let freedom reign! The sun never set on so glorious a human achievement."

"...the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process"

5. Let Freedom Reign!

for mixed chorus and orchestra



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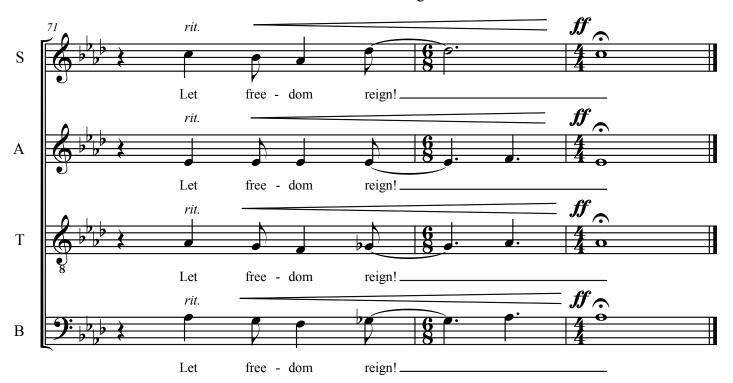












Sixth Movement

The Sixth Principle

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all

VI

Alleluia: In Praise of Peace

by
Children from Lincoln School

Peace means the beginning of a new world. It means that nations are friends; It means joy to the world. Peace is quiet and calm; it is rest; It is silence after a storm. It is love and friendship; It is the world's dream of dreams. Peace brings comfort and happiness; It brings bread to the hungry; It brings prosperity to the nations. It means the strong respect the weak, the great respect the small, the many respect the few. It is like spring after winter: It brings sunshine into the world; It is like sweet music after harsh sounds.

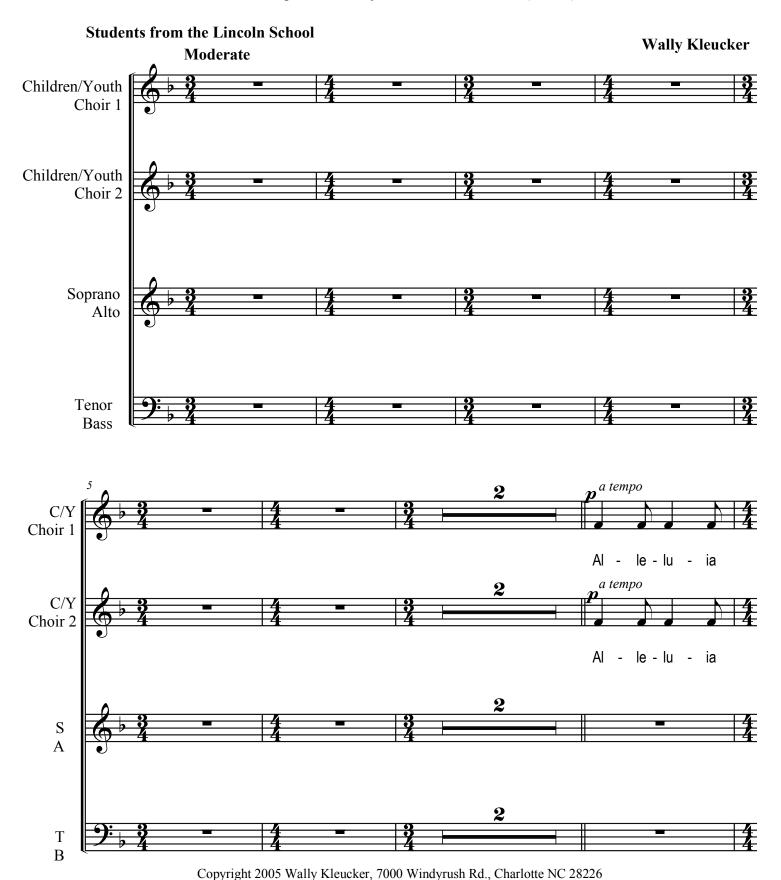
Narrator:

Yes, science does confirm what many poets, pacifists, priests and parsons have said for ages – we are truly one family. We are the world. That's not just a feel-good popular song. That's not just a verse. It's a verity. Therefore, if we are one family, isn't it just natural that we should want peace, liberty and justice for everyone? For our entire family?

Children have a good understanding of what peace is all about. When the pupils of the Lincoln School in New York City were asked what peace meant to them, they wrote, "Peace means the beginning of a new world. It means that nations are friends; it means joy to the world."

6. Alleluia: In Praise of Peace

for two part children/youth choir, adult choir (SATB) and orchestra





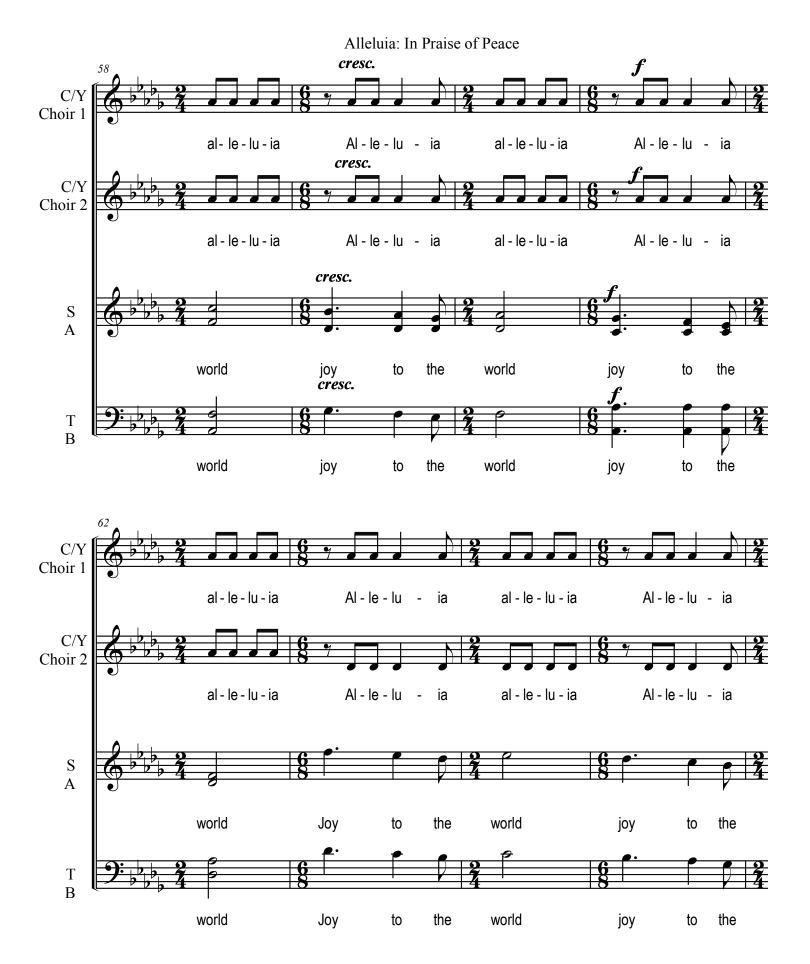




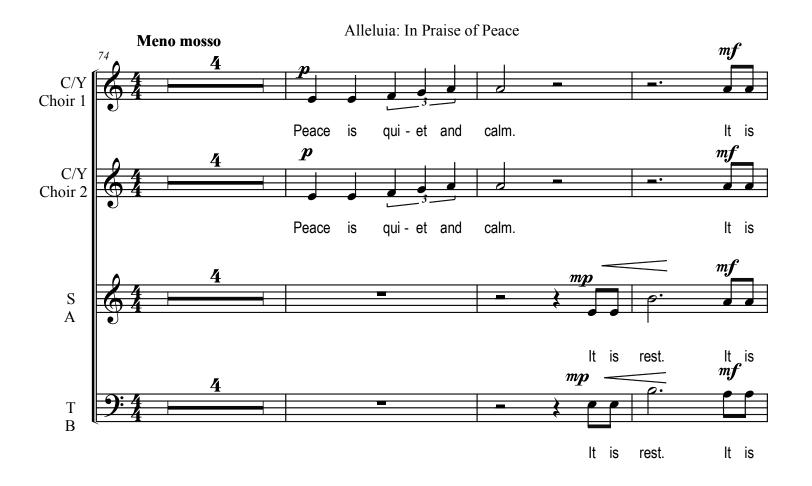


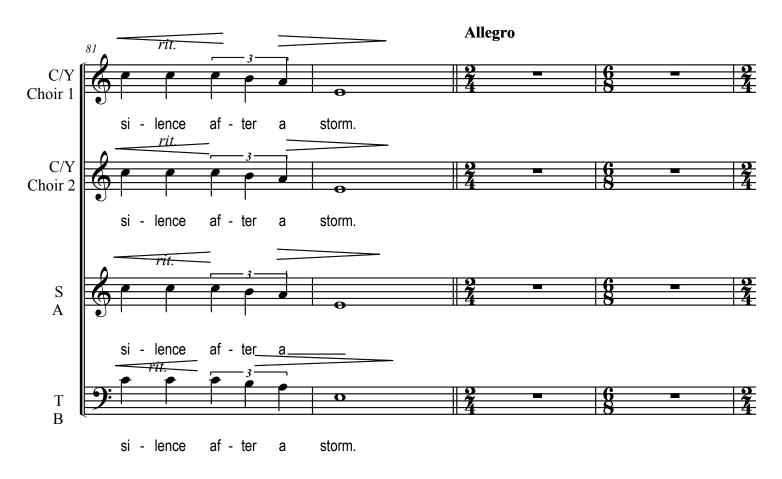


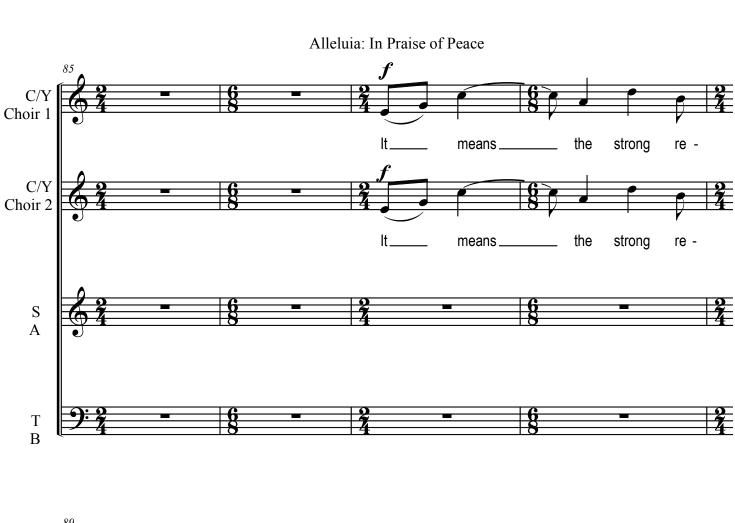


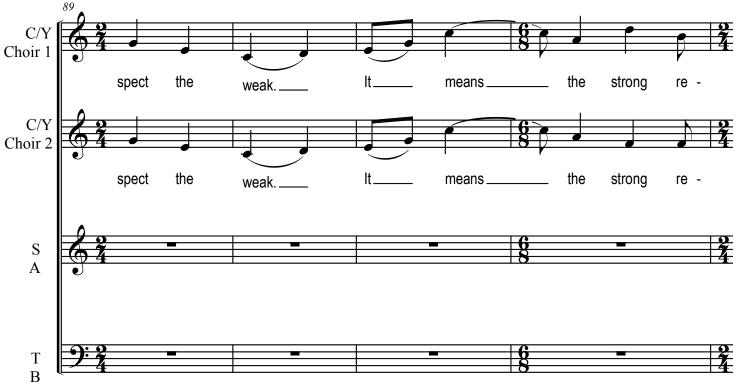




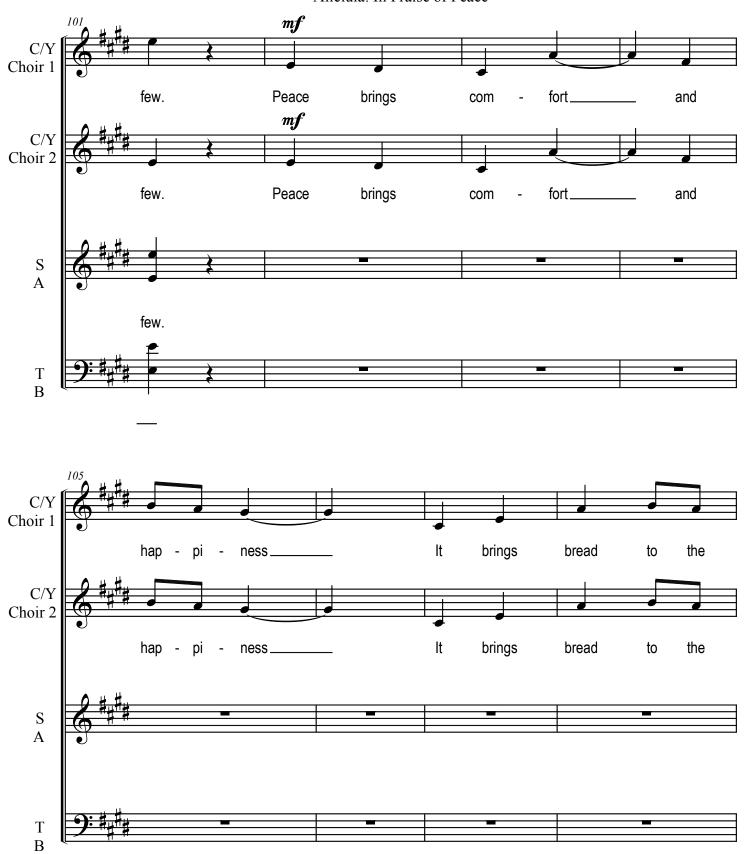






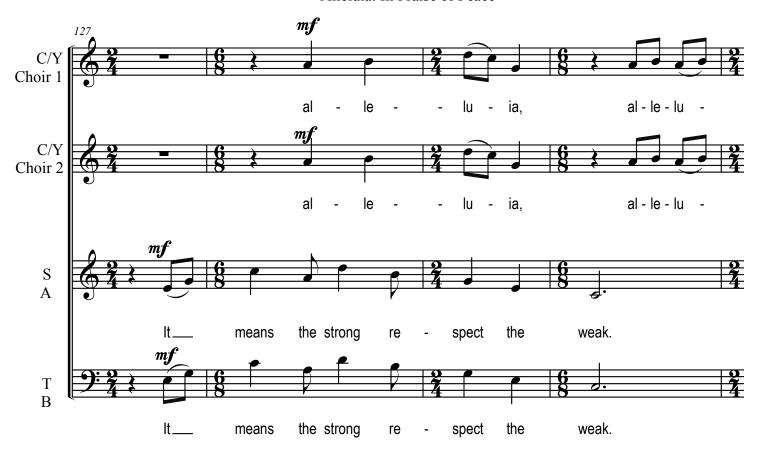


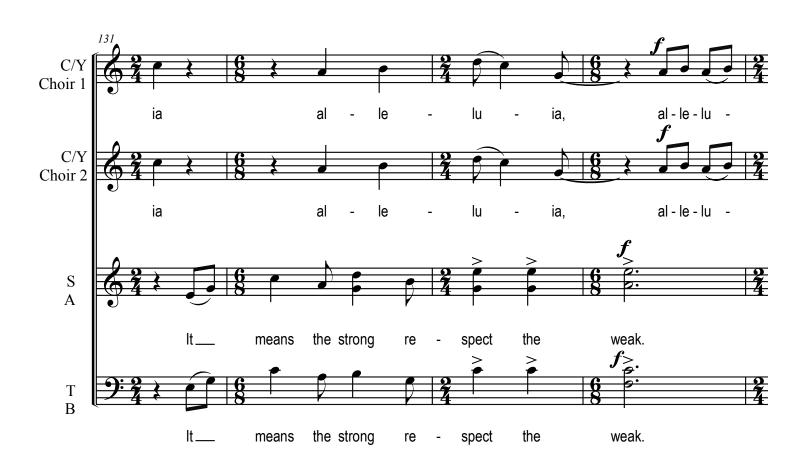




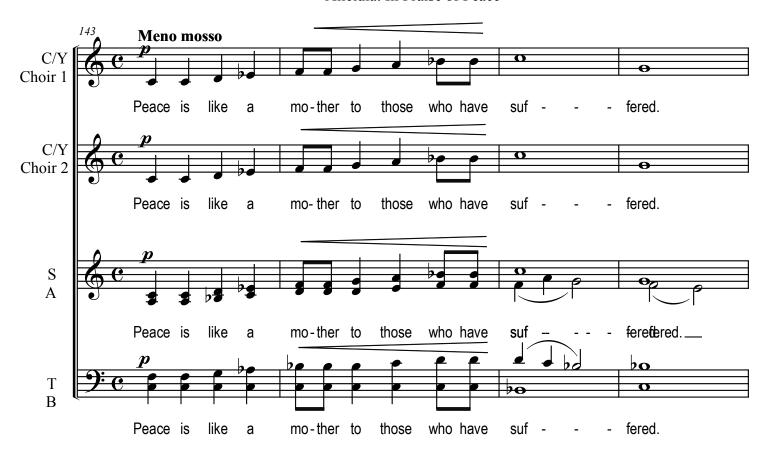


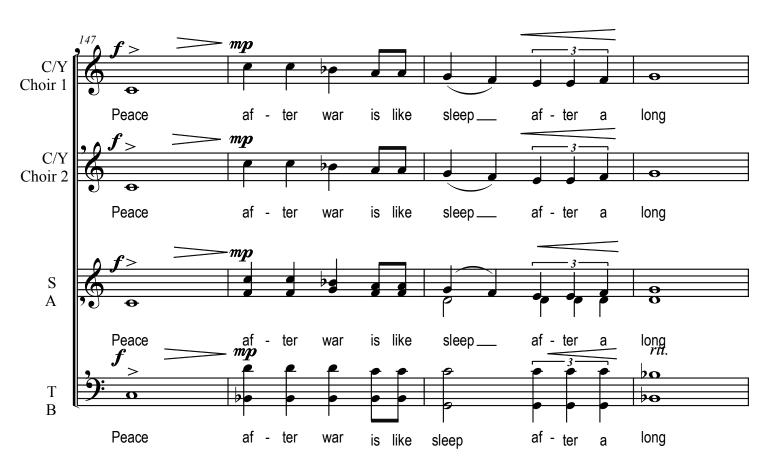




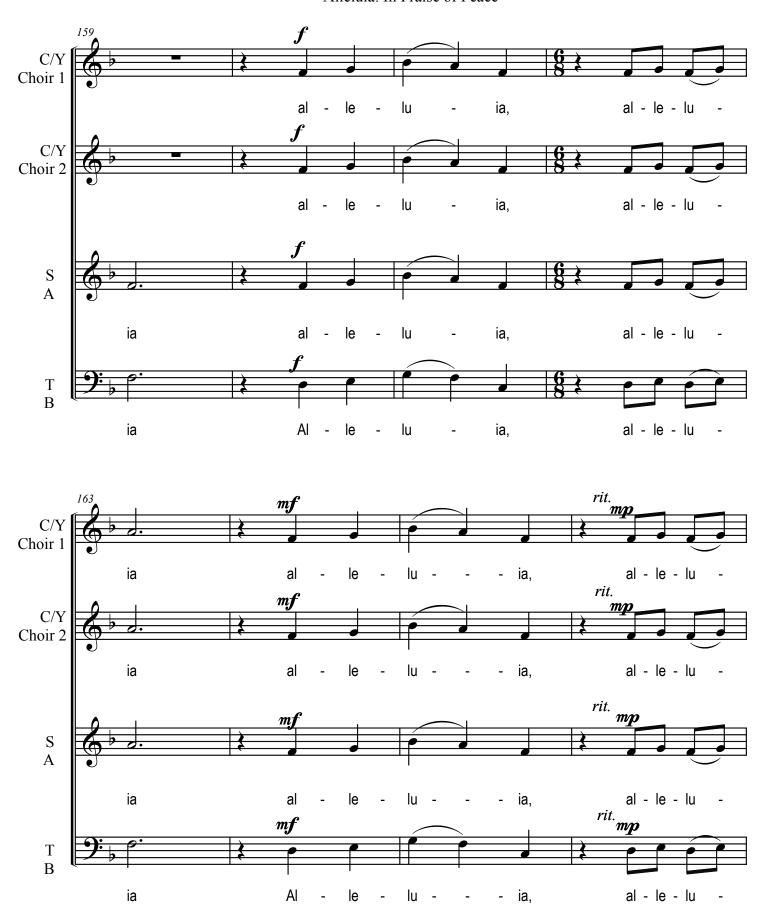


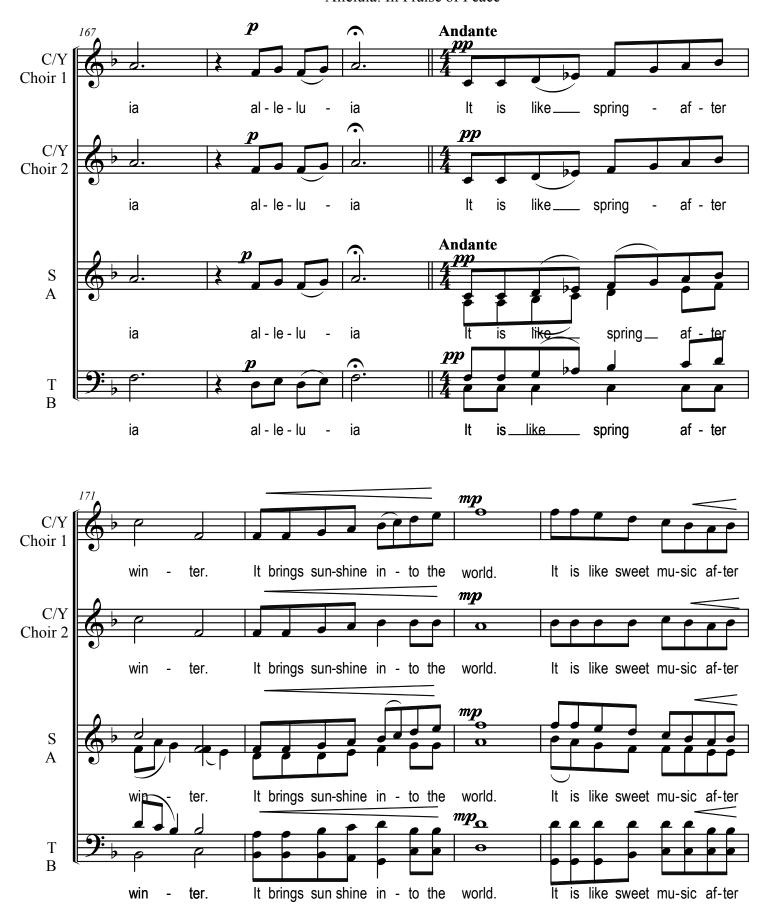




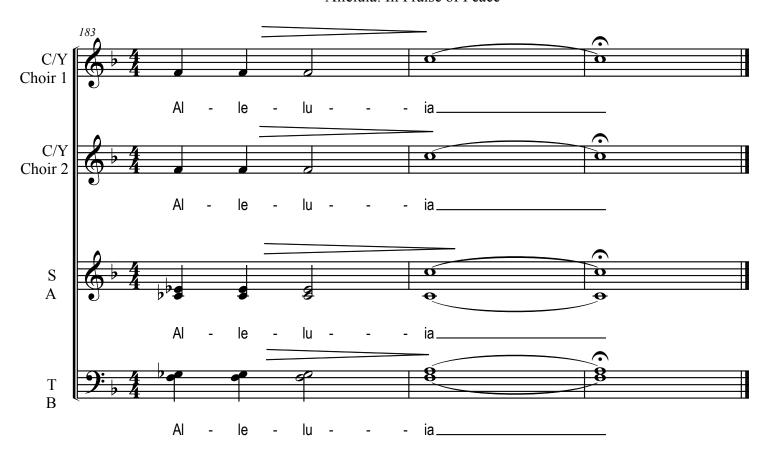












Seventh Movement

The Seventh Principle

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

VII.

In the Woods We Return

by

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 – 1882)

In the woods, we return to reason and faith. There I feel that nothing can befall me in life ...which nature cannot repair. Standing on the bare ground, — my head bathed by the blithe air, and uplifted into infinite space, — all mean egotism vanishes. I become a transparent eye-ball; I am nothing; I see all; the currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part or particle of God. ..I am the lover of uncontained and immortal beauty.

Narrator:

The late Carl Sagan in his television documentary and book, COSMOS, told us that we are all "star stuff." All things, including humans and stars and rocks and trees and oceans and aardvarks – all of us come from the matter released in the big bang, whether we are distant planets, duckbilled platypi, or deliciously diverse people. We are interconnected. We are also interdependent, whether we are caterpillars, caribou, comets or cowboys. Let's respect our relatives. All of our relatives. Let's respect the universe of which we are just one part.

Ralph Waldo Emerson was a Unitarian minister, essayist, poet, and leader of the Transcendentalist movement in early 19th century America. The Unitarian Universalist Historical Society has called him "...the most recognized and revered figure in the Unitarian movement." His belief in the interconnectedness of all things is reflected in his words: "In the woods, we return to reason and faith."

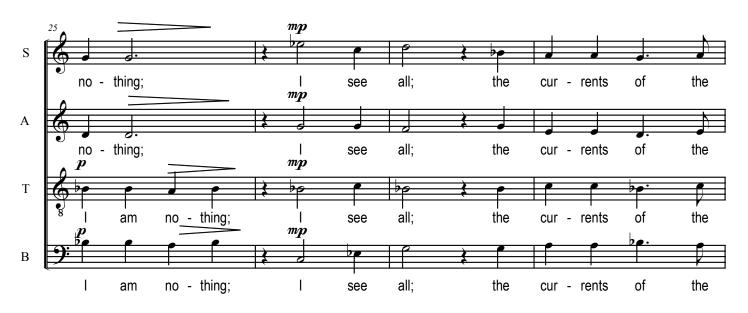
7. In the Woods We Return

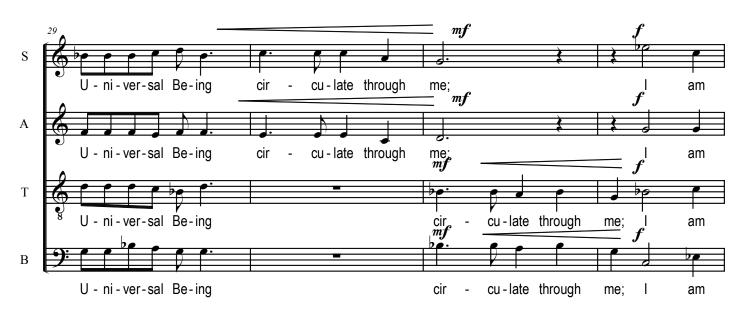
for a cappella mixed chorus (SATB)

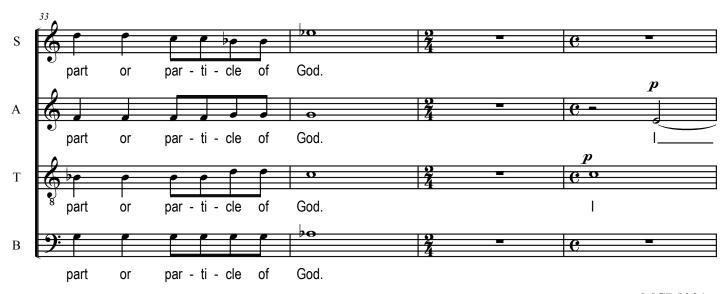




MCP5001







MCP5001



MCP5001

Eighth Movement

VIII.

The Seven Principles

of

Unitarian Universalist Association

The inherent worth and dignity of every person
Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth
A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process
The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

Narrator:

And so we have our seven principles. They are not commandments given to Moses by God on Mt. Sinai on two tablets of stone, nor are they the divine revelations which form the verses of the Qur'an that Mohammed received in a cave near Mecca. These seven principles are guidelines, which, while including and incorporating many other religious traditions, are uniquely our own:

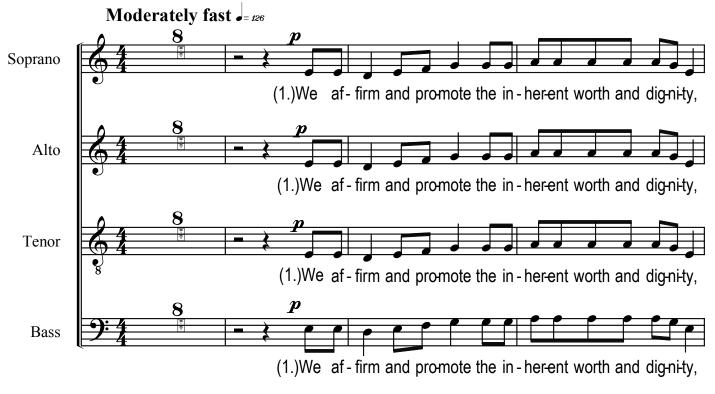
- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

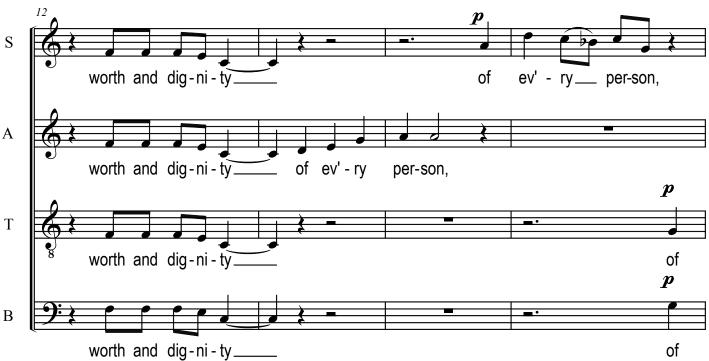
8. The Seven Principles

for mixed chorus, clarinet solo and orchestra

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Wally Kleucker





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Ninth Movement

An Eighth Principle?

Celebrate Life!

IX.

You Can't Stop the Music by Henry Berne

No matter what you do, you can't stop the music. It's the bird song and the wind song like 100 strings. --you're invited to the dance--

Heartbeats lay down a rhythm line, calling feet and hips and strumming bass, moving in a stream of blood and heat: life is singing, swaying, calling the moments that live inside everything that lives. --and all is music--

Can you hear the sea's call in the crashing waves? Water mates with wind and casts treasures ashore --even shells that contain the ocean's roar, even that-a hidden lion speaks into my ear from an empty shell. --that's the music and the magic--

Even the hiss of snowfall, faintest brushing on the drum, cracking of the ice--rifle shots and screams--take their turns sitting in, veteran jazz musicians in a harmony so old it plays our breath back to us.

Narrator:

I am dying. You are dying. We all must die, and we all will die. That fact, that fate, is inescapable and undeniable.

But while we still live, we can do something noble, ethical, moral and righteous. What can we do? We can <u>all</u> strive to lead lives of principle. We Unitarian Universalists can strive to lead lives guided by our Seven Principles. Just imagine how it could be. Imagine

reciprocity. Imagine dignity. Imagine justice. Imagine equity. Imagine compassion. Imagine acceptance. Imagine encouragement. Imagine freedom. Imagine acceptance of responsibility. Imagine true Democracy. Imagine peace, liberty and justice for all. Imagine respect for others, for the planet, for all that is. Just imagine. Then help, in a principled way, to make this dream of ours come true. We can do it. It can happen. Celebrate life! So may it be.

9. You Can't Stop the Music

for mixed choir and orchestra

