LUX

THE DAWN FROM ON HIGH

DAN FORREST

for SATB choir with full orchestra, small orchestra
with organ, or chamber ensemble with organ

For Preview Only

INSTRUMENTATION

LUX: The Dawn From On High is available in three different instrumentations (see below). All scores and parts for performance are available on rental only from The Music of Dan Forrest (rentals@danforrest.com). Full scores for all three versions are also available for purchase from Beckenhorst Press (www.beckenhorstpress.com) or through participating music retailers.

1. **Full Orchestra**

Flute 1, 2 (one doubling on Piccolo)
Oboe 1, 2
Clarinet in B-flat 1, 2
Bassoon 1, 2
Horn in F 1, 2 (or 1-4*)
Trumpet in B-flat 1, 2
Trombone 1, 2
Tuba
Percussion 1, 2**
Harp
Strings***

**If performing with a large choir, horn lines may be doubled by a second player on each part*

***Two players. Perc 1: Vibraphone, Sus. Cym. Perc 2: Sus. Cym, Timpani, Snare Drum, Glock.*

****Suggested minimum 4.4.3.3.2, but larger is preferred*

2. **Small Orchestra** (with organ): combines the flute (doubling on piccolo), oboe, horn, harp, and organ parts from the chamber ensemble version (see below) with the strings and percussion parts from the full orchestral version (see above).

3. **Chamber Ensemble** (with organ): flute (doubling on piccolo), oboe, horn, violin, cello, and harp (all solo players; parts not identical to orchestral parts), percussion 1, 2 (identical to orchestral parts), and organ.

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Duration: c. 35 minutes

Proofing: Cathy Lawton
Cover Design: J4 Studios
Special thanks to Tony Silvestri for assistance with Latin text

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TEXTS

I. Illuminare

Per viscera misericordiae
Dei nostri
in quibus visitavit
nos oriens ex alto
illuminare his qui in tenebris
et in umbra mortis sedent
ad dirigendos pedes nostros
in viam pacis.
Lux ex alto,
veni nos illuminare.

By the mercy of our God
the dawn from on high
will break upon us,
to give light to those
who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet
into the way of peace.
Light from on high,
come illumine us.
(based on Luke 1:78-79)

Lux de luce apparuisti Christe,
cui Magi munera offerunt,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

You appeared as Light from light,
O Christ, to whom
the Magi offered gifts,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
(*Antiphon for Epiphany, 14th c.)*

II. Lux in Tenebris

Lux fulgebit hodie super nos,
quia natus est nobis Dominus.

A light will shine on us today,
for the Lord is born unto us.
(Introit for Christmas Dawn, 10th c.)

Lux in tenebris lucet
et tenebrae eam non superaverunt.

The light shines in darkness;
and the darkness has not overcome it.
(John 1:5)

III. The Sun Never Says

Even
After
All this time
The sun never says to the earth,

"You owe
Me."

Look
What happens
With a love like that,
It lights the
Whole
Sky.

(Daniel Ladinsky, from "The Gift",
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IV. Gloria in excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax.

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace. (from Luke 2:14)

V. Creator of the Stars of Night

Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting Light,
O Christ, Thou Savior of us all,
now hear Thy servants when they call.

Creator alme siderum
aeterna lux credentium
Christe redemptor omnium
exaudi voces supplicum.

O Blest Creator of the light,
Who made the day with radiance bright,
and o'er the newborn world did call
the light from darkness first of all.

When the whole world drew on toward night,
Thou camest, not in splendor bright
as sovereign, but the humble Child
of Mary, virgin mother mild.

To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
laud, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen.
(7th c. chant, various translations)

(*… It lights the Whole Sky …)*

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Commissioned by Sarah and Gordon Herring for the Greenville Chorale
(Greenville, South Carolina), Bingham Vick, Jr., Artistic Director and Conductor

LUX: THE DAWN FROM ON HIGH

I. Illuminare

…The dawn from on high will break upon us; Light from on high, come illumine us…
…You appeared as Light from light, O Christ. Alleluia.

Where feasible, an interpretive approach to lighting is recommended- perhaps opening in darkness, or with only one candle, or minimal stage lighting; then gradually increase candles/lighting as the music expands. Creative approaches unique to each performance/space are encouraged.

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II. Lux in Tenebris

A light will shine on us today, for the Lord is born unto us. (Introit for Christmas Dawn, 10th c.)
The light shines in darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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D **A bit slower, deliberately, with courage** ♩ = c. 94

80

SOPRANOS and ALTOS

mp *(with persistent hope and courage; eighth notes should be sung, not "punched" or shouted)*

Et lux in te - ne - bris lu - cet, et lux in te -

TENORS and BASSES

mf *legato*

Et lux

D **A bit slower, deliberately, with courage** ♩ = c. 94

sub. *mp*

83

ne - bris lu - cet, et te - ne - brae e - am non su -

in te - ne - bris

86

per - a - ve - runt.

f *legato*

Et lux

(with persistent hope and courage; eighth notes should be sung, not "punched" or shouted)

mf

lu - cet

Et lux in te - ne - bris lu - cet,

mf

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to Addy

III. The Sun Never Says

Mm. 1-6 are optional for choir; mm. 7-39 are optional doubling/accompaniment in all three scorings, although a cappella is preferred. Note that solo cello always plays mm. 20-39, whether or not the optional string doubling is used.

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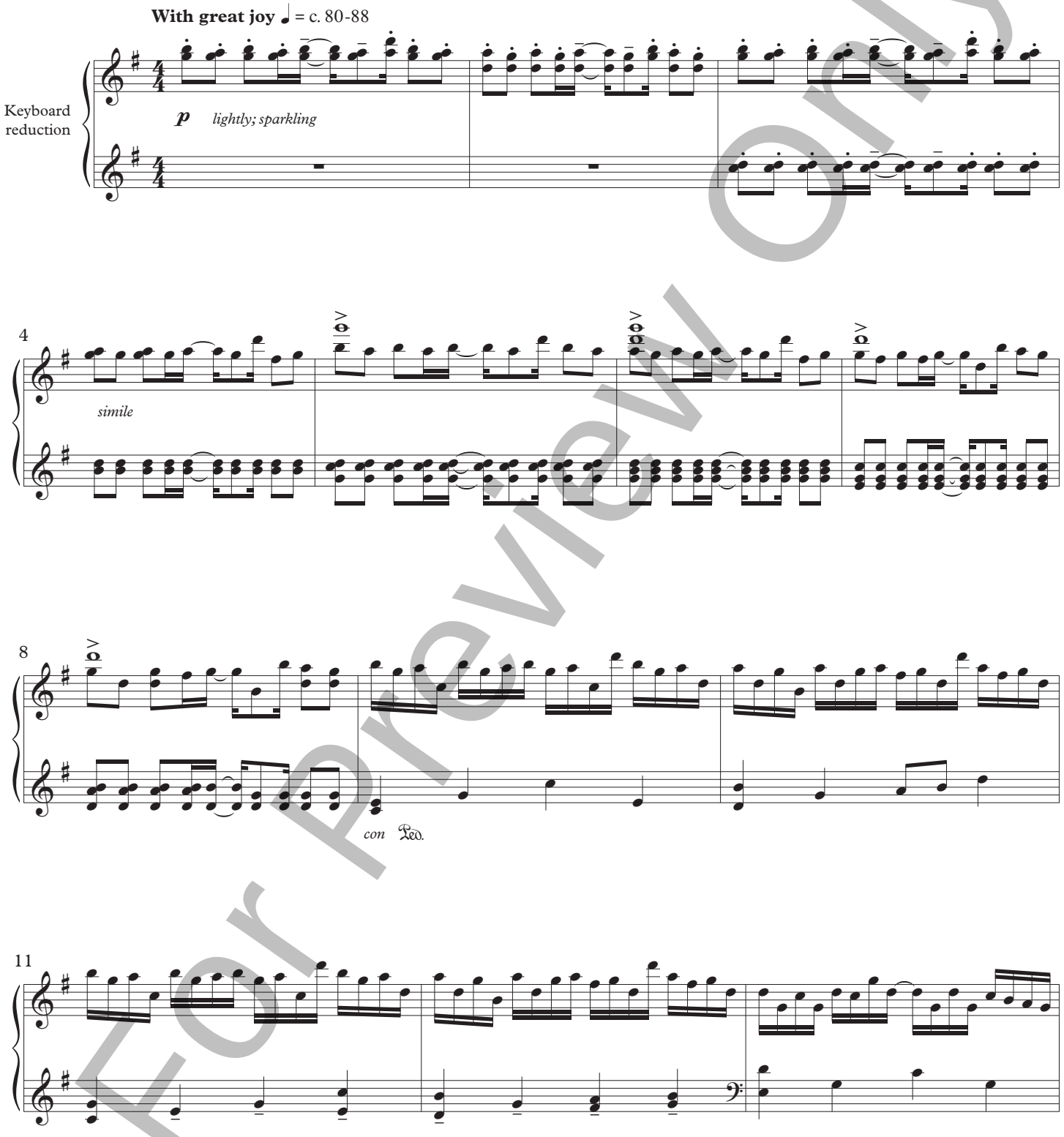
IV. Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.



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V. Creator of the Stars of Night

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09.26.17
Greenville, SC
S.D.G.