

Gwyneth Walker

An Instrument of Your Peace

*for SATB Chorus and Piano*

# An Instrument of Your Peace

*Duration 4:00*

## Notes

“The Prayer of Saint Francis” (*Make me an instrument of your peace*) is a timeless and much beloved text, either as a prayer to be spoken, or as lyrics for a song. The simplicity and humility of these words have a universal appeal.

This new musical setting includes a few additional phrases added to the original. With a choral composition in mind, the composer has expanded the opening lines to:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
make me a voice to calm the troubled water.*

And in this time of division and social unrest, the gesture of caring is broadened:

*Where there is hatred, let me sow love.  
Where there is danger, let me guard my brother.*

For as we protect ourselves from violence, we are also called to protect each other.

The musical interpretation features choral lines surrounded by a developing piano accompaniment. The piano starts quietly (as *calm water*), and then grows in motion beneath the words *Where there is injury, pardon*. The climax for chorus and piano comes with a forceful entreaty of *Make me an instrument of your peace*. Then the music calms to an *a cappella* closing section. At the end, the piano re-enters with a dispersed chord surrounding the chorus. This may be heard as a “protective shield” – *to guard my brother*.

## The Composer

Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer **Gwyneth Walker** is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b.1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982, in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont. She now divides her time between her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut and the musical community of Randolph, Vermont.

Further information concerning Gwyneth Walker and her works is available at:

[www.gwynethwalker.com](http://www.gwynethwalker.com)

# An Instrument of Your Peace

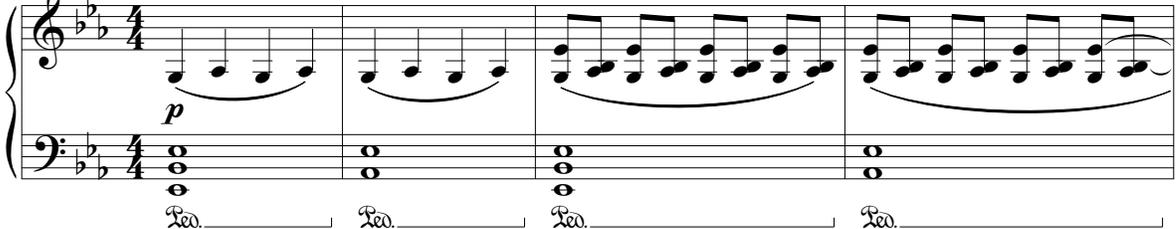
for SATB Chorus and Piano

Prayer of St. Francis  
G. W. alt.

Gwyneth Walker

Moderate tempo ♩ = 112  
(to suggest calm water)

Piano



*p*

Reo. Reo. Reo. Reo.

5 **A** *p*

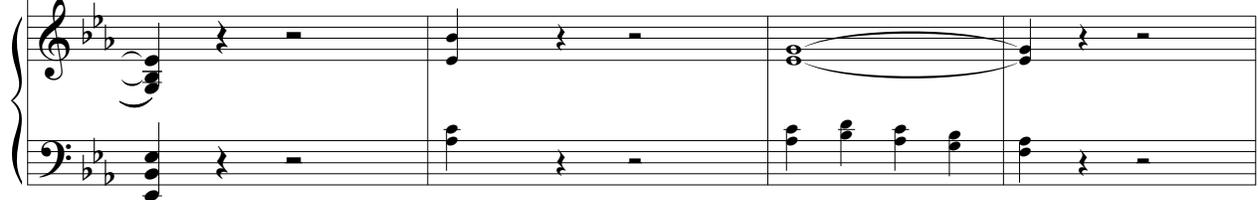
S Lord, make me an in - stru - ment of your peace. \_\_\_\_\_ Make me a

A Lord, make me an in - stru - ment of your peace. \_\_\_\_\_ Make me a

T Lord, make me an in - stru - ment of your peace. \_\_\_\_\_ Make me a

B *p*  
an in - stru - ment of your peace. \_\_\_\_\_ a

**A** *for rehearsal only* - - - - -



9

S voice to calm the trou - bled wa - ter. \_\_\_\_\_ Where there is

A voice to calm the trou - bled wa - ter. \_\_\_\_\_ Where there is

T voice \_\_\_\_\_ to calm the trou - bled wa - ter. \_\_\_\_\_

B voice \_\_\_\_\_ to calm the trou - bled wa - ter. \_\_\_\_\_

(reh. only) \_\_\_\_\_

13 **B**

S ha - tred, let me sow \_\_\_\_\_ love. \_\_\_\_\_ Where there is

A ha - tred, let me sow love. \_\_\_\_\_ Where there is

T ha - tred, let me sow \_\_\_\_\_ love. \_\_\_\_\_ Where there is

B ha - tred, let me sow love. \_\_\_\_\_

**B** (reh. only) \_\_\_\_\_

17

S dan - ger, let me guard my broth - - - er. An

A dan - ger, let me guard my broth - - - er. An

T dan - ger, let me guard my broth - - - er. An

B dan - ger, let me guard my broth - - - er. An

(reh. only) - 7 *Play*

21 C *poco cresc.*

S in - stru - ment of your peace... a voice to calm the trou - bled

A in - stru - ment of your peace... a voice to calm the trou - bled

T in - stru - ment of your peace... a voice to calm the trou - bled

B in - stru - ment of your peace... a voice to calm the trou - bled

C *poco cresc.*

25

S wa - ter. *p*

A wa - ter. *p*

T wa - ter. *p* *mp with more motion*  
Where there is

B wa - ter. *p* *mp with more motion*  
Where there is

29 **D** Slightly faster ♩ = 120

S *mp*  
Where there is

A *mp*  
Where there is

T in - ju - ry, par - - - don. *mp*

B in - ju - ry, par - - - don. *mp*

**D** Slightly faster ♩ = 120

33

S  
doubt,                      faith. \_\_\_\_\_

A  
doubt,                      faith. \_\_\_\_\_

T  
Where there is des -

B  
Where there is des -

*mf*

37 **E**

S  
Where there is

A  
Where there is

T  
pair,                      hope. \_\_\_\_\_

B  
pair,                      hope. \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

**E**

41

S  
dark - ness, light,

A  
dark - ness, light,

T

B

45

S  
light. An in - stru - ment of your peace... a

A  
light. An in - stru - ment of your peace... a

T  
light. An in - stru - ment of your peace... a

B  
light. An in - stru - ment of your peace... a

*cresc.* **F** *f*

49

S *unis.* *p*  
voice to calm the trou - bled wa - ter.

A *unis.* *p*  
voice to calm the trou - bled wa - ter.

T *unis.* *p*  
voice to calm the trou - bled wa - ter.

B *unis.* *p*  
voice to calm the trou - bled wa - ter.

53

S

A

T *(p)*  
Where there is ques - tion,

B *(p)*  
Where there is ques - tion,

**G** with increasing rhythmic energy

**G** with increasing rhythmic energy

*p*

with slight pedal

56 *(p)*

S let me show \_ trust.

A let me show trust.

T Where there is vio - lence,

B Where there is vio - lence,

60 H

S let me show re - straint.

A let me show re - straint.

T *mp* Where there is judg - ment,

B *mp* Where there is judg - ment, H

64 *mp*

S let me show ac - cept - ance.

A *mp*  
let me show ac - cept - ance.

T  
Where there is dis - sen - sion,

B  
Where there is dis - sen - sion,

68 *cresc.*

S let me bring\_ har - mo - ny, har - mo - ny, u - ni - ty and

A *cresc.*  
let me bring\_ har - mo - ny, har - mo - ny, u - ni - ty and

T *mf cresc.*  
u - ni - ty and

B *mf cresc.*  
u - ni - ty and

72 *rit.* **I Slightly slower** ♩ = 112

**f**

S love. O Ho - ly Spi - rit...

A love. O Ho - ly Spi - rit...

T love. O Ho - ly Spi - rit...

B love. O Ho - ly Spi - rit...

*rit.* **I Slightly slower** ♩ = 112

**f**

75 (**f**) *recitative, ad lib.* **mf**

S grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand,

A (**f**) *recitative, ad lib.* **mf**

T (**f**) *recitative, ad lib.* **mf**

B (**f**) *recitative, ad lib.* **mf**

grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand,

*for rehearsal only*

**f** **mf**

77 *unis. mp* *p* **J** **Slowly** ♩ = 100  
(*p*) *tenderly*

S to be loved as to love, to be comforted as to comfort... For it is in

A *unis. mp* *p* (*p*) *tenderly*  
to be loved as to love, to be comforted as to comfort... For it is in

T *unis. mp* *p*  
to be loved as to love, to be comforted as to comfort...

B *mp* *unis. p*  
to be loved as to love, to be comforted as to comfort...

(*reh. only*)\_ - - - - - **J** **Slowly** ♩ = 100

80

S giv - ing that we re - ceive,

A giv - ing that we re - ceive,

T (*p*) *tenderly*  
and it is in par - don - ing that we are

B (*p*) *tenderly*  
and it is in par - don - ing that we are

*Play*  
*p*

83 *cresc. poco a poco*

S And with com - pass - ion that we may walk in your Ho - ly

A And with com - pass - ion that we may walk in your Ho - ly

T par - doned, with com - pass - ion that we may walk in your Ho - ly

B par - doned, with com - pass - ion that we may walk in your Ho - ly

86 *(cresc.)* *rit.*

S light, light.

A light, light.

T light, light.

B light, light.

*(cresc.)* *rit.*

*cresc.* *with pedal*

**K** Slower  $\text{♩} = 88$

90 *f* with strength

S Make me an in-stru-ment of your peace, a voice to calm the trou-bled

A *f* with strength

A Make me an in-stru-ment of your peace, a voice to calm the trou-bled

T *unis. f* with strength

T Make me an in-stru-ment of your peace, a voice to calm the trou-bled

B *f* with strength

B Make me an in-stru-ment of your peace, a voice to calm the trou-bled

**K** Slower  $\text{♩} = 88$

*f*

93

S wa - ter. Where there is ha - tred, let me sow love. And *, unis.*

A wa - ter. Where there is ha - tred, let me sow love. And *, unis.*

T wa - ter. Where there is ha - tred, let me sow love. And *, unis.*

B wa - ter. Where there is ha - tred, let me sow love.

96 *, p sub., very gently*

S in this time of dan - ger, let me guard, my broth - er. —

A in this time of dan - ger, let me guard,

T in this time of dan - ger, let me guard,

B of dan - ger, let me guard,

100 *rit. to end*

S *pp*

A let me guard my, let me guard my, let me guard my broth - er. — *pp*

T let me guard my, let me guard my broth - er. — *pp*

B let me guard my broth - er. — *pp*

*rit. to end*  
*for rehearsal only* — — — — —

*p* *pp*