

Gwyneth Walker

# The Tree of Peace

for SATB Chorus, Brass Quintet,  
Organ and Percussion

## Duration: 5 minutes

The text for *The Tree of Peace* has been adapted from the Quaker poem, "O Brother Man," by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892). This contemporary adaptation of the poem broadens the scope of the original with more inclusive language, opening with: "O, my brother and my sister, all who walk upon this earth, fold to your hearts each other."

A new text fragment, "Listen, listen to one another," is introduced into the poem, and serves as an interlude between stanzas. The final sentence of the original poem becomes the focal point of this work, returning many times: "Love shall tread out the fire of anger, and in its ashes plant a tree of peace."

The musical setting reflects the dual nature of the title, **Tree** (strength) and **Peace** (tenderness). The work opens with accented chords in the piano accompaniment. These chords are marked "with strength." This is the conviction of *The Tree of Peace*.

The tender aspects are introduced in the arpeggio patterns in the piano. These are marked "flowing." And the related choral phrases refer to humanity ("O, my brother and my sister"), to mercy and to the peace of the Lord. Passages of tenderness alternate and intertwine with passages of strength to form a confluence of the message: a prayer for peace.

# Tree of Peace

*for SATB Chorus, Brass Quintet, Percussion, and Organ*

John Addington Symonds (1840–1893)  
G. Walker, alt.

Gwyneth Walker

**With strength  $\text{J} = 88$**

C Trumpets 1, 2

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

Percussion (Timpani, Glockenspiel, Suspended Cymbal, Bongo)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Organ

**With strength  $\text{J} = 88$**

Tpts. 1, 2

Hn.

Tbn. Tuba

Perc.

Org.

rit.

a tempo, flowing

unis.

to Glockenspiel

rit.

a tempo, flowing

**6**

*a2*

10 A (♩ = 88)

Tpts. 1, 2  
Hn.  
Tbn. Tuba  
Perc.

S A  
O, my sis - ter and my broth - er, all who walk up - on this

T B  
O, my sis - ter and my broth - er, all who walk up - on this

Org.

14

Tpts. 1, 2  
Hn.  
Tbn. Tuba  
Perc.

S A  
earth, fold to your hearts each oth - er.

T B  
earth, fold to your hearts each oth - er.

Org.

18

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Hn.  
Tbn.  
Tuba  
Perc.  
S  
A  
T  
B  
Org.

*Glockenspiel (very soft mfts.) delicately*

*mf cantabile*

Where mer - cy dwells, the peace of the Lord is there.

22 [B]

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Hn.  
Tbn.  
Tuba  
Perc.  
S  
A  
T  
B  
Org.

(Tbn.)

*mf*

*mf cantabile*

To live right - ly is to love one an - oth - er \_\_\_\_\_

**[B]**

34 Bongo

rit.

D Slower  $\text{♩} = 72$

Perc.    
 *p*

S    
 (p)

A    
 *p*  
 Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er. in the steps of those who have

T    
 *s*  
 Walk with rev -'rence in the steps of those who have

B    
 *p*  
 Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er. Lis - ten, Walk with rev -'rence in the steps of those who have

rit.

D Slower  $\text{♩} = 72$

Org.    
 *p*

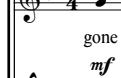
37

Tpts. 1    
 Tpts. 2 

Hn. 

Tbn. 

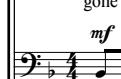
Tuba 

Perc. 

S    
 *mf*  
 gone be - fore, where for - give - ness and wis - dom has stood. So shall the wide earth be - come a tem - ple, each\_

A    
 *mf*  
 gone be - fore, where for - give - ness and wis - dom has stood. So shall the wide earth be - come a tem - ple, each\_

T    
 *s*  
 gone be - fore, where for - give - ness and wis - dom has stood. So shall the wide earth be - come a tem - ple,

B    
 *mf*  
 gone be - fore, where for - give - ness and wis - dom has stood. So shall the wide earth be - come a tem - ple,

Org.    
 *f*

41

Perc.

S lov-ing life a psalm of gra - ti - tude walk with rev - 'rence where for - give - ness and wis - dom has

A lov-ing life a psalm of gra - ti - tude walk with rev - 'rence

T each life a psalm of gra - ti - tude where for - give - ness and wis - dom has

B each life a psalm of gra - ti - tude

Org. (p)

45

Tpts. 1, 2

Hn.

Tbn. Tuba

(Bongo)

Perc. (p)

S stood. Ah,

A Lis - ten,\_\_\_\_ lis - ten to one\_ an-oth-er, lis - ten.\_\_\_\_

T stood. Lis - ten,\_\_\_\_ lis - ten to one\_ an-oth-er, lis - ten.\_\_\_\_

B Lis - ten,\_\_\_\_ lis - ten to one\_ an-oth-er, lis - ten.\_\_\_\_ lis - ten to one\_ an-oth-er,

E accel. poco a poco

Org. (p)

48 (accel.)

Tpts. 1 2 Hn. Trombone Tbn. Tuba Perc. S A T B Org.

Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er, lis - ten. Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er.  
Ah, Ah,  
lis - ten. Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er, lis - ten.  
(cresc. poco a poco (to m. 53))

51 (accel.)

Tpts. 1 2 Hn. (Tbn.) Tbn. Tuba (Bongo) Perc. S A T B Org.

(mf) Lis - ten. Ah, Lis - ten. Ah,  
Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er. Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er.  
Ah, Lis - ten, Ah, Lis - ten. Ah,  
Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er. Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er.  
Ah, Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er. Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an - oth - er.  
Ah,

(accel.)

60

Tpts. 1 2 *p* *a2*

Hn. *p*

Tbn. Tuba (Timp.) *p* *f* *a2*

Perc. *p* *p* *a2* *f*

S *unis.* *p* *f* *3* Then shall all shack - les fall. —  
an - ger, — and in its ash - es plant a tree of peace. —

A *unis.* *p* *f* *3* Then shall all shack - les fall. —  
an - ger, — and in its ash - es plant a tree of peace. —

T B *p* *p* *p* *f* *3* O, my  
an - ger, — ash - es peace. —

Org. *f* *3* *3*

**G**

65

Tpts. 1 2

Hn.

Tbn. Tuba

Perc. *mf* *f*

S *3* *3* *3* The vio-lence of war o - ver the earth shall cease. —

A *3* *3* *3* The vio-lence of war o - ver the earth shall cease. —

T B *p* *p* *f* *3* fold to your hearts each oth - er. —  
sis - ter and my broth - - - er,

Org. *3*

69

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Hn.  
Tbn.  
Tuba  
(Timpani)  
Perc.  
S  
A  
T  
B  
Org.

Love shall tread out the fire of an - ger,  
Love shall tread out the fire of an - ger,

and in its ash - es plant a tree of peace, — plant a tree of  
and in its ash - es plant a tree of peace, — plant a tree of  
where mer - cy dwells, the Lord is there. Plant a tree of peace, a tree of

*p cresc.*  
*cresc.*  
*cresc.*  
*to Glock.*  
*unis. p*  
*cresc.*

**H** Flowing  $\text{♩} = 108$

74

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Hn.  
Tbn.  
Tuba  
Perc.  
Glock.  
S  
A  
T  
B

peace... Ah,... ah,...

*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*

**H** Flowing  $\text{♩} = 108$

Org.

*f*  
*f*  
*f*

12

79 *rit.* Slower  $\text{♩} = 72$

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Hn.  
Tbn.  
Tuba  
(Glock.)  
Perc.  
S  
A  
Love shall tread out the fire of an - ger, and in its ash - es plant a tree of  
T  
B  
Love shall tread out the fire of an - ger,  
*rit.* Slower  $\text{♩} = 72$   
Org.

84 [I] *a tempo*  $\text{♩} = 108$  [Trumpet 1 answers organ solo] *mf*

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2  
Hn.  
Tbn.  
Tuba  
(Glock.) *unobtrusively* *p*  
Perc.  
S  
A  
peace.  
peace.  
T  
B  
Plant a tree of peace.  
[I] *a tempo*  $\text{♩} = 108$  Light Solo *mf*  
Org.  
*p*

96

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2 *p*

Hn. *p*

Tbn. *p*

Tuba *p*

Perc.

S *p*  
Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an-oth-er, lis - ten to one\_ an-oth-er, lis - ten to one\_ an-oth - er

A *p*  
Lis - ten, lis - ten to one\_ an-oth-er, lis - ten to one\_ an-oth-er, lis - ten to one\_ an-oth - er

T B

Org.

*rit. to end*

gliss.

99 (rit.)

Tpts. 1  
Tpts. 2

Hn.

Tbn.  
Tuba

Perc.

S *p*  
— and plant a tree of peace.

A *p*  
— and plant a tree of peace.

T B  
*(rit.)*  
— and plant a tree of peace.

Org.

*for rehearsal only*

Ossia, instead of Tuba

pp