

commissioned for the Centennial Celebration (1896-1996),  
College Hill Presbyterian Church, Easton, PA

# WE, THE PEOPLE OF GOD

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied,\*  
with optional congregational refrain\*\*

Words Inspired by  
MATTHEW 25: 31-46, ROMANS 15: 13  
and PHILIPPIANS 2: 5-11

Words and Music by  
JEAN ANNE SHAFFERMAN

Moderately (♩ = ca. 84-88)

(+ opt. congregation)

UNISON  
VOICES

ACCOMP.

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is for Unison Voices, starting with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a whole rest followed by a quarter rest, then a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The bottom staff is for the Accompaniment, starting with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a forte (f) dynamic marking and features a bass line with quarter notes and a treble line with chords and moving lines.

We are God's

The second system of the musical score continues from the first. The top staff for Unison Voices begins with a measure rest marked with a circled 5. The lyrics "peo - ple, we are His church, we are dis - ci - ples of Je - sus Christ, our" are written below the staff. The accompaniment continues with a steady bass line and harmonic support in the treble.

peo - ple, we are His church, we are dis - ci - ples of Je - sus Christ, our

The third system of the musical score continues the piece. The top staff for Unison Voices begins with a measure rest marked with a circled 8. The lyrics "Lord. Hand in hand through-out the a - ges, in ser-vice to His word, we" are written below the staff. The accompaniment continues with a steady bass line and harmonic support in the treble.

Lord. Hand in hand through-out the a - ges, in ser-vice to His word, we

\* Also available for S.A.B. voices, No. 16180.

\*\* The words ONLY of this anthem may be reprinted as necessary for purposes of congregational singing.

11 S.,A. unis.

13 (end congregation)

*mf*

stand as one, the peo-ple of God.

Called by God to be His

T.,B. unis.

*mf*

*mf*

14

peo - ple, \_\_\_\_\_

to build His church with lov - ing hands;

17

*unis.*

Called by God to gath - er to - geth - er in His name,

up - on this rock we all will

*unis.*

Called by God to gath - er in His name, \_

(+ opt. congregation)

20 *f* (21) *f*

stand. We are God's peo - ple, we are His church, we are dis -

The first system of the musical score consists of two vocal staves (treble and bass clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The vocal lines begin at measure 20 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "stand. We are God's peo - ple, we are His church, we are dis -". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

23 Hand in hand through-out the a - ges, in

ci - ples of Je - sus Christ, our Lord. Hand in hand, in ser - vice

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal and piano parts. It begins at measure 23. The vocal lines have a forte (*f*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "Hand in hand through-out the a - ges, in ci - ples of Je - sus Christ, our Lord. Hand in hand, in ser - vice". The piano accompaniment continues with harmonic support.

26 ser-vice to His word, we stand as one, the peo-ple of God. (end congregation)

to His word, we stand as one, the peo-ple of God.

The third system of the musical score concludes the piece. It begins at measure 26. The vocal lines end with a fermata over the final note. The lyrics are: "ser-vice to His word, we stand as one, the peo-ple of God. (end congregation) to His word, we stand as one, the peo-ple of God." The piano accompaniment also concludes with a final chord.

29 *mp unis.*

Joined as one to work for jus - tice, \_\_\_\_\_ for peace and char - i - ty we

32

pray. *mf unis.* Joined as one to hon - or the Fa - ther and the Son,

35 *mf*

the Ho - ly Spir - it guides our way.

*cresc.*

39 Majestically (♩ = ca. 76-80)

38 *rit.*

*f*

Jour-ney forth to build God's king-dom,

*rit.*

*f*

Majestically (♩ = ca. 76-80)

41 *unis.*

God's ho-ly name by all a-dored. Jour-ney forth to praise Him with

Jour-ney forth to praise with

44

voic-es clear and strong, a hymn pro-claim-ing, "Christ is Lord, Christ is

*unis.*

voic - es strong, —

49

DESCANT (a few high voices)

47

Lord!" \_\_\_\_\_ We are God's peo-ple,

UNISON VOICES (+ opt. congregation)

We are God's peo - ple, we are His

50

we are His church, we are dis-ci-ples of our Lord.

church, we are dis - ci - ples of Je-sus Christ, our Lord. Hand in

53

Hand in hand we serve His word, we stand as one, the peo-ple of

hand through-out the a-ges, in ser-vice to His word, we stand as one, the peo-ple of

56 S., A. unis. (57) word, we

God. Hand in hand through-out the a-ges, in ser-vice to His word, we  
(end congregation) T., B. unis.

God.

59 *cresc.* stand as one, the peo-ple of God. *ff rit.*

*cresc.* *ff*

*cresc.* *ff rit.*

*rit.* \* *rit.*

The image shows a musical score for a choral piece. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system has two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and a piano accompaniment. The second system has two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The third system has two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The score includes lyrics, musical notation, and performance instructions such as 'cresc.', 'ff', and 'rit.'. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

**We, the People of God** is a general anthem that may be especially appropriate for Christ the King, Pentecost or Trinity Sunday, church or choir dedication services, or stewardship. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Psalm 31, Psalm 95, Matthew 16: 13-20, Matthew 25: 31-46, Romans 15: 13 and Philippians 2: 5-11. One basic homiletical theme is dedicating the church through Christian discipleship as a living witness to the glory of God.

In rehearsal, strive for sensitive text declamation: speak the text in rhythm, listening carefully for the naturally accented syllables and words. Sing the text with equal sensitivity, with all voices on the melody. This anthem was originally conceived as a congregational hymn. To that end, the words ONLY of this anthem may be reprinted as necessary for the purpose of congregational singing.

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