

1 Corinthians 13: 13

*“And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love;
but the greatest of these is love.”*

No Greater Gift is a lyrical and inspired new musical setting of the beloved passage from 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13. Appropriate for performance throughout the year, it may be especially useful for stewardship, Mother’s Day or Father’s Day and weddings. Additional suggested corresponding scripture readings include Psalm 71, Jeremiah 1: 4-10 and Luke 4: 21-40. One basic homiletical theme is the greatest of God’s gifts to us: love.

In rehearsal, strive for a very lyric legato, with a strong sense of the underlying eighth note pulse. For a special prayer response or benediction, perform only measures 1-20.

Ruth Elaine Schram lives in Birmingham, Alabama, where she is a full-time composer and arranger. She is an ASCAP Special Awards recipient, with over eight hundred published works. In addition to her printed choral music, she has written numerous songs for popular children’s albums and video tapes.

Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase

for Dan and Crystie

NO GREATER GIFT

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied*

Text adapted by RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM
from 1 Corinthians 13

Music by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)

With conviction (♩ = ca. 88)

ACCOMP. *mp*

4 UNISON WOMEN *mp* ⑤

Though I speak _____ the lan - guage of

7 *cresc.*

an - gets, _____ though I know _____

cresc.

* Also available in an edition for S.A.B. or 2-part mixed voices, No. 20890.

Copyright © MMII by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
All rights reserved. Printed in USA.

10

S. *mf*
A. if I
T. *mf*
B.

all there is to know, _____

13

have no love, I am nothing at

mf

16

all. There is no gift greater than

dim.
dim.
dim.

19 *mp* (21)

love. And though I

Musical notation for measures 19-21. The vocal line starts with a whole note 'love.' followed by a half note rest, then a half note 'And' and a half note 'though'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and a more melodic line in the right hand.

mp

Piano accompaniment for measures 19-21, showing the right and left hand parts.

22

un - der - stand ev - 'ry mys - ter - y, and my

Musical notation for measures 22-24. The vocal line continues with 'un - der - stand ev - 'ry mys - ter - y, and my'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns.

Piano accompaniment for measures 22-24, showing the right and left hand parts.

25

faith could re - move an - y moun - tain,

Musical notation for measures 25-27. The vocal line continues with 'faith could re - move an - y moun - tain,'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns.

Piano accompaniment for measures 25-27, showing the right and left hand parts.

28 *mf* (29)

if I have no love, I am noth - ing at

mf

32

all. There is no gift great-er than

35 *cresc.* (37) *f*

love. Love is kind and

cresc. *f*

38

gen - tle, re - joic - ing in the truth.

This system contains the vocal line and piano accompaniment for measures 38, 39, and 40. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in bass clef. The lyrics are 'gen - tle, re - joic - ing in the truth.'

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 38, 39, and 40, featuring a flowing eighth-note melody in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand.

41

Love is not proud. Love is not rude.

This system contains the vocal line and piano accompaniment for measures 41, 42, and 43. The lyrics are 'Love is not proud. Love is not rude.'

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 41, 42, and 43, continuing the musical texture from the previous system.

45

Love nev - er fails, though all oth - er gifts will

This system contains the vocal line and piano accompaniment for measures 45, 46, and 47. The lyrics are 'Love nev - er fails, though all oth - er gifts will'.

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 45, 46, and 47, concluding the musical phrase.

48 *rall.*

cease. _____ Love hopes and en-dures, love bears and be-

rall.

52 **53** Slightly slower

lieves. Though I give all I have to the

Slightly slower

55

hun - gry, though I give my ver-y

59 61

life, if I have no

62

love, I am noth - ing at all.

65

There is no gift great-er than love.

68 69

There is hope, there is faith; — they will

71 *rall. e dim.* *mf*

al - ways re - main. — But,

dim. *mf*

rall. e dim.

74 *Slower* *rit.* *mp*

there is no gift great-er than love. —

mp

Slower *mf* *rit.* *mp*

Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



Preview Only
Legal Use Requires Purchase



alfred.com