

**Open the Gates** is a spirited anthem with driving rhythmic energy. Its initial text: “Open the gates, that the righteous may go in,” makes it appropriate as a call to worship, while subsequent lyrics focusing on our trust in the God who always keeps His promises renders it suitable for almost any worship setting. Additionally, this anthem would be most effective in a Palm Sunday or even Advent worship service. The text for this piece is based upon Isaiah 26:2-10. Other corresponding scriptures include Psalm 24:7-10, Psalm 100, Psalm 118:19-29, Isaiah 62:10-12, and Matthew 21:1-11.

**J. Paul Williams** served as minister of music in a number of congregations before resigning in 1992 to write sacred choral lyrics on a freelance basis. Between then and his death in early 2010, over 900 of his texts were published in collaboration with many notable composers of sacred music. Since his death, more than 25 more of his creations have been published. Williams earned a bachelor’s degree in vocal performance from Oklahoma Baptist University and a master’s degree in composition and theory from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Lee Dengler** is an active composer and arranger with over 300 published choral anthems, as well books for vocal solo, solo piano, and Christmas and Holy Week cantatas to his credit. He studied choral composition and arranging with Alice Parker at Westminster Choir College as well as in her home in New England where he participated in the Melodious Accord Fellowship program. He received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from West Chester University School of Music in West Chester, PA. He is a free lance music editor and engraver. Lee and his wife, Susan, are Ministers of Music at College Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana.

# OPEN THE GATES

3

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

Words by  
**J. PAUL WILLIAMS** (ASCAP)  
based on Isaiah 26:2-10

Music by  
**LEE DENGLER** (ASCAP)

Spirited (♩ = ca. 92)

ACCOMP.

*mf* *f*

3

*rit.* *mf* *a tempo*

6 TENOR / BASS

7 *mf*

O - pen the gates, that the right-eous may go in.

9

O - pen the gates, that the faith - ful may en - ter. God keeps His prom-is - es to

\* To purchase a full-length performance recording (42511) of this piece, go to [alfred.com/downloads](http://alfred.com/downloads).

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42511

those\_ who trust in Him. O - pen the gates, \_\_\_\_\_ that the right-eous may go

15 SOPRANO / ALTO

17

*mf*

O - pen the gates, that the

in. \_\_\_\_\_

right-eous may go in. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen the gates, that the faith - ful may en - ter.

21

God keeps His prom - is - es to those\_ who trust in Him.

(who)

23

O - pen the gates, that the right - eous may go

O - pen the gates, go

25

in. Trust in the

27 *mp*

*mp*

in.

*mp*

Lord, and see His maj - es - ty.

Trust in the Lord, and He will make you free.

*cresc.*

He a - lone is God, the ev - er - last - ing.

*mf*

38

*f*

rock. He will keep His own as a

*f*

*f*

41

*rit.*

shep - herd keeps his flock.

*a tempo*  
*mp*

*rit.*

*a tempo*  
*mp*

44

45

O - pen the gates, that the right-ous may go in.



47

O - pen the gates, that the faith - ful may en - ter.

*f*

*f*

49

God keeps His prom - is - es to those who trust in Him.

God keeps His prom - is - es to those who trust in

51

O - pen the gates, that the right - eous may go

Him. O - pen the gates, go

53

55

*mp*

in.

Trust in the

in.

*mp*

56

Lord, and seek His right - eous-ness.

*mp*

Trust in the Lord, and seek His

59

Trust in the Lord, and in His mer - cy rest.

right - eous-ness.

His mer - cy



62

63

*cresc. poco a poco*

The wick-ed nev - er learn — their

*cresc. poco a poco*

rest.

*cresc. poco a poco*

65

ways will one day — cease.

*f*

Trust in the

*f*

68

Lord, and know His per - fect

*a tempo*  
*mp*

*mp*

*a tempo*

*rit.*

*mp*

72

73

O - pen the gates, that the right-eous may go in.

Trust in the Lord.

75

O - pen the gates, that the right-eous may go in.

O - pen the gates, that the right-eous may go

Trust in the Lord,

Trust in the Lord.

77

*rit.* O - pen the gates, go in.

in, go in, go in.

Trust in the Lord, go in.

*rit.*