

for Dianne Norton, Organist, Dawson Memorial Baptist Church,
in appreciation of 25 years of music ministry

O THE DEEP LOVE OF JESUS

A General or Baptism Anthem

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied, with optional C-Instruments*

Words by
SAMUEL TREVOR FRANCIS (1834-1925)
Adapted by ANNA LAURA PAGE

Music by
ANNA LAURA PAGE

Expressively (♩ = ca. 76-80)

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

C-INSTR. I
C-INSTR. II
(optional)

ACCOMP.

Expressively (♩ = ca. 76-80)

mp

mp

mp

mp

4

7

mp unis.

O the deep_ love of

(*tacet*)

4

7

mp

mp

*Part for two C-Instruments may be found on p 12 While any combination of C-Instruments is acceptable, the composer recommends assigning a flute to C-Instrument I and an oboe to C-Instrument II.

8 *mp*

Roll - ing like a might - y

Je - sus, vast, un - mea - sured, bound - less, free!

12 *cresc.* (15)

o - cean in its full - ness o - ver me, — All be - neath me, all a -

cresc.

16 *mf*

round me is the cur - rent of His love; — Lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing

mf

20 *poco rit.* *a tempo*
mp
 home - ward to that glo - rious home a - bove.
mp

(C-INST.) *poco rit.* *a tempo*
mp I. *mp* II.
 20 *poco rit.* *a tempo*
mp

24 *mf* (26)
 O the deep love of Je - sus, sing His

24 *mp* (26) *mp*

28 *mf*

praise from shore to shore! How He loves us, al - ways

28 *mf*

31 *mp* *cresc.* *unis.* *cresc.* *mp unis.* *cresc.*

loves_ us, and He chang - es nev - er - more, Watch - ing

Al - ways watch - ing o'er His

31 *mp* *cresc.* *cresc.*

34

35 *f* *rit.* *mp*

loved_ ones, and He died_ for_ His own. _____

f *mp* *mf unis.*

loved_ ones, and He died_ for_ His own. _____ O the

rit. *mp* I. only

35 *f* *rit.* *mp* *mf*

39 Slower, freely *mf unis.* *mp* Tempo I

lifts me to His glo - rious throne.

deep_ love of_ Je - sus lifts me to His glo - rious throne.

Slower, freely *mp*

39 Slower, freely *mp* *cresc.* Tempo I

mp *cresc.*

43

f

O the

f

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal staves for measures 43 through 46. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a common time signature. The vocal line begins with a whole rest in measure 43, followed by a half rest in measure 44. In measure 45, there is a sharp sign indicating a key change to D major. The vocal line resumes in measure 46 with a half note G4 and a quarter note A4, marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment also has whole rests in measures 43 and 44, and resumes in measure 46 with a half note G3 and a quarter note A3, also marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

cresc.

f

f

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 43 through 46. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A crescendo (*cresc.*) marking is placed over the first two measures. The music transitions to a key with one sharp (D major) in measure 45. The dynamic is marked as forte (*f*) throughout. The piano part concludes in measure 46 with a half note G3 and a quarter note A3, marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

47

deep love of Je - sus, grant - ing pow - er in His

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal staves for measure 47. The music is in a key with one sharp (D major). The vocal line consists of a half note G4 and a quarter note A4, with the lyrics "deep love of Je - sus, grant - ing pow - er in His" underneath. The piano accompaniment consists of a half note G3 and a quarter note A3. The dynamic is marked as forte (*f*).

47

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measure 47. The piano part consists of a half note G3 and a quarter note A3 in the right hand, and a half note G2 and a quarter note A2 in the left hand. The dynamic is marked as forte (*f*).

50

name, _____ From the trea - sures of His glo - ry to His

50

53

chil - dren all the same. _____ O the deep love of _____

55 *cresc.*

53

55 *cresc.*

56

f

Je - sus, vast, un - mea - sured, bound-less love, _____ Nev - er

56

f

59

fail - ing, lead - ing on - ward to that glo - rious home a -

59

mp

63 *mp* *rit. poco a poco*

bove. Love, deep love, my

mp

63 *mp* *rit. poco a poco*

mp *rit. poco a poco*

66 *dim. poco a poco* *p*

Sav - ior's love.

dim. poco a poco *p*

66 *dim. poco a poco* *p*

dim. poco a poco *p*

O the Deep Love of Jesus is a general anthem that may be especially appropriate for services of baptism. It may also serve early Lent and Pentecost. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include 2 Samuel 12: 1-14, Psalm 32, John 6: 1-15, and Ephesians 3: 14-21. One basic homiletical theme is the immeasurable love of Christ that, through the Holy Spirit, dwells in our hearts through faith, always guiding and strengthening us.

In rehearsal, strive for fluid four-measure phrases, sensitive text declamation, and uniformly focused tone. Introduce the anthem by asking the choir to sing the opening melody (m. 6-22) on a focused neutral syllable such as “noo,” shaping the line dynamically with the natural rise and fall of its contour. Repeat this process, this time articulating a constant eighth note pulse that is perfectly aligned with the constant eighth notes of the accompaniment. The singers should be especially careful to shape the melody’s dotted quarter note figures in this manner. Next, speak the text, circling the words or syllables that receive stress. Finally, add the text to the music. Unaccompanied rehearsal of the rich harmonies in places such as m. 10-22, preferably on a focused neutral syllable, will improve intonation, balance, and blend.

Anna Laura Page is Handbell Editor for Alfred Publishing Company. She received her B.M.E. in vocal music education and M.M. in music theory from the University of Kentucky. Active as a composer, clinician, and organ recitalist, she has served on the Music Committee of the Southern Baptist Hymnal Committee and received the 1995 ASCAP Hymnal Award. Ms. Page currently resides in Clarksville, Tennessee.

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C-INSTRUMENTS I & II*

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34 I. only Slower, freely

3
rit. mp II. mp

42 Tempo I cresc.

Tempo I I. mp cresc. II. mp cresc.

45 f 47 55 7

f 47 55 7

62 I. mp 63 II. mp rit. poco a poco

62 I. mp 63 II. mp rit. poco a poco

66 dim. poco a poco p

66 dim. poco a poco p

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