

Mixed Choir **A Song for the Season of Creation**

(Sopranos, Altos, Men)

Piano/Organ

a song for everyone for Creationtide 2019
commissioned by the Church of England's Environment Working Group

dedicated to Nina Bennet and The Choir of St Bride's Church, London

try to avoid taking breaths where dotted slurs are shown

words **Malcolm Guite**
music **Ian Stephens**

Spacious, slow ♩ = 54

Soprano

Alto

Men

Piano or Organ

Spacious, slow ♩ = 54

pp

p



6

pp 3 3 3 3

Ev-ry-thing holds to-ge-ther, ev-ry-thing, ev-ry-thing, From stars that pierce the dark like li-ving

pp 3 3 3 3

Ev-ry-thing holds to-ge-ther, ev-ry-thing, ev-ry-thing, From stars that pierce the dark like li-ving

pp 3 3 3 3

Ev-ry-thing holds to-ge-ther, ev-ry-thing, ev-ry-thing, From stars that pierce the dark like li-ving

pp

9

sparks, To se - cret seeds that o - pen ev - 'ry spring, From
 sparks, To se - cret seeds that o - pen ev - 'ry spring,
 sparks, To se - cret seeds that o - pen ev - 'ry spring,



12

ga - la - xies, spin - ning quarks, Ev -
 span-ning ga - la - xies to spin-ning quarks,
 ga - la - xies, spin - ning quarks,

15

- 'ry-thing holds to-ge-ther and co - heres, co - heres, Un - fold ing from the cen-tre whence it

Ev-'ry-thing holds to-ge-ther, and co - heres, co-heres, Un-fold - ing from the cen-tre whence it

Ev-'ry-thing holds to-ge-ther, and co - heres, co - heres, Un - fold ing from the cen-tre whence it

The musical score for measures 15-17 consists of three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is two sharps (D major) and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal parts feature triplets of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.



18

came. And now that hid-den heart, and now that hid-den heart, that

came. And now that hid-den heart, and now that hid-den heart

came. And now that hid-den heart, and now that hid-den heart, that

The musical score for measures 18-20 continues with three vocal staves and piano accompaniment. The key signature remains two sharps (D major) and the time signature is 4/4. Dynamic markings of *p* (piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte) are used. The piano accompaniment features a prominent melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

21 *f* *p*

hid-den heart of things ap - pears, of things ap- pears,

f *mp*

of things ap - pears, ap - pears,

f *p*

hid-den heart of things ap - pears, ap- pears,



24

The first - born of cre - a - tion takes a name, of cre - a - tion takes a

The first born of cre - a - tion takes a name, takes a

The first born of cre - a - tion takes a name, of cre - a - tion takes a

28 *mf* **More urgent** ♩ = 66 *mp*

name, a name. And
name. And shall I see the one through whom I
name, a name.

mf **More urgent** ♩ = 66 *pp* *p* *mp*



33 *mp*

shall I see the one through whom I am? Shall
am? Shall I be-hold the one for whom I'm
And shall I see the one through whom I am?

mp *p* *mp*

37

I be - hold the one for whom I'm made, The
made, The light in light, the
Shall I be - hold the one for whom I'm made, The



40

flame with - in the flame, the flame,
flame with - in the flame, light in light, flame with-in flame,
flame with - in the flame, light in light, flame with-in flame,

44

* Ei - kon tou the - ou, — im-age_ of my God? Ei - kon tou the - ou, —

pp *mp* *pp*

— * Ei - kon tou the - ou, of my God? Ei - kon tou

pp *mp* *pp*

— * Ei - kon tou the - ou, of my God? Ei - kon tou

* Pronounced **ee-kon too the-oo**. In **too** the **t** is soft, part-way to a **d**, as in Italian. In **the**, **th** is as in **thing**, and **e** is as in **set**. In Greek: εἰκὼν τοῦ θεοῦ.



50

rit. Spacious, slow ♩ = 54

pp

Ei - kon tou the - ou.

the - ou.

the - ou.

rit. Spacious, slow ♩ = 54

pp

54

pp He

pp He

pp He

p *pp*



57

comes, a lit-tle child, to bless my sight, — my sight, — That I might come to him for life and

comes, a lit-tle child, to bless my sight, my sight, That I might come to him for life and

comes, a lit-tle child, to bless my sight, my sight, That I might come to him for life and

60 *mp* *mf* *f* *ff*

light, He comes to bless my sight, That

mp *mf* *f* *ff*

light, He comes to bless my sight, That

mp *mf* *f* *ff*

light, He comes to bless my sight, That

mp *mf* *f* *ff*



63 *p*

I might come to him for life and light, for

p

I might come to him for life and light,

p

I might come to him for life and light, for

p

66 *mf*

life and light, I might come to him for

mf

life and light, life and

mf

life and light, I might come to him for



69 *f* *mp* *p*

life, life and light.

f *p*

light.

f *mp* *p*

life, life and light.

f *p* *pp*