

Keep Your Lamps
TTB, TB soli, percussion

arr. Timothy C. Takach

pdf download - \$1.60
printed - \$3.00



Timothy C. Takach

Keep Your Lamps

for TTB choir, TB soli and percussion



Text:

Keep your lamps trimmed and a-burning',
For this ol' world is almost gone.

Brothers don't stop prayin',
This ol' world is almost gone.

Sisters don't stop prayin',
This ol' world is almost gone.

Christian, your journey soon will be over,
The time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and a-burning',
The time is drawing nigh.

-Spiritual

From the Composer:

When Cantus was putting its touring program together for 2009-2010, we wanted to encore with an arrangement of "Keep Your Lamps." I was assigned the task of coming up with the arrangement. I stalled at first - who needs another arrangement of "Keep Your Lamps" (besides us, I guess)? As I researched the tune - other verses, slightly different melodies, alternate harmonies - I realized that I had an idea for something that was a true message of hope for all of us, and it was sounding mighty powerful.

In true Cantus fashion, we talked about the new arrangement as I finished it, and it was the group who convinced me to not end after the 4th verse ("Christian, your journey...") but to add another repeat of the opening lyrics. I'm glad they did! It enabled us to finish by singing in our collective wheelhouses with two wailing solos on top.

- Timothy C. Takach



Reviewed as "gorgeous" (Washington Post) and "stunning" (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach has risen fast in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions from the St. Olaf Band, Cantus, Pavia Winds, Lorelei Ensemble, VocalEssence, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, The Rose Ensemble, and numerous other organizations. His compositions have been performed on A Prairie Home Companion, The Boston Pops holiday tour, multiple All-State and festival programs and at venues such as the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center and Royal Opera House Muscat. He is a co-creator of the theatrical production of All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914, by Peter Rothstein.

Takach studied music composition at St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, where he graduated with honors. He has frequent national work as a composer-in-residence, presenter, clinician and lecturer. He is a full-time composer and lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

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Spiritual

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With resolve $\text{♩} = 72$
mp second time only

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8

Keep your lamps trimmed and a - burn - in', Keep your

Keep your lamps trimmed and a burn - in', Keep your

(notes in parentheses are played only on repeat)

mp

4

T lamps trimmed and a - burn - in', — Keep your lamps trimmed and a - burn -

B lamps trimmed and a - burn - in', — Keep your lamps trimmed and a - burn -

4

4

7

T - - in', — For this ol' world is al - most gone. — Keep your

B - - in', — For this ol' world is al - most gone. — Keep your

7

7

1.

1.



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10 *mf*

T Solo
8 Broth-ers don't get wear - y, Broth-ers don't get wear - y, Broth-ers
don't don't stop pray - in', Sis - ters don't stop pray - in', Sis - ters

B Solo
2. *second time only*
don't stop pray - in', Sis - ters don't stop pray - in', Sis - ters

T
8 Mmm...
Oh... *p*

B
2. Mmm...
Oh... *p*

Tamb. 10 (notes in parentheses are played only on repeat)

Dr. 10 *p*

15 Timothy C Takach.com *f*

T Solo
8 don't get wear - y, This ol' world is al-most gone. Sis - ters Chris - tian, your
don't stop pray - in', This ol' world is al-most gone. gone.

B Solo
don't stop pray - in', This ol' world is al-most gone. Sis - ters gone. *mf*

T
8 Mmm...
Oh... Chris - tian, your *f*

B
Mmm...
Oh... Chris - tian, your *f*

Tamb. 15 *mf*

Dr. 15 *mf*

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20

T Solo

8

jour - ney soon will be o - ver, Chris - tian, your jour - ney soon will be o -

T

8

jour - ney soon will be o - ver, Chris - tian, your jour - ney soon will be o -

B

20

jour - ney soon will be o - ver, Chris - tian, your jour - ney soon will be o -

Tamb.

20

Dr.

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23

T Solo

8

- - ver, Chris - tian, your jour - ney soon will be o - ver, The

T

8

- - ver, Chris - tian, your jour - ney soon will be o - ver, The

B

23

- - ver, Chris - tian, your jour - ney soon will be o - ver, The

Tamb.

23

Dr.

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26 *second time only*

T Solo
time is draw - ing nigh. Ah... _____

B Solo
second time only
Ah... _____

T
time is draw - ing nigh. *f* Keep your lamps trimmed and a-burn - in', Keep your

B
time is draw - ing nigh. *f* Keep your lamps trimmed and a-burn - in', Keep your

26

Tamb.
26 *f*

Dr.
26 *f*

30

T Solo
Ah... _____

B Solo
Ah... _____

T
lamps trimmed and a-burn in', Keep your lamps trimmed and a-burn - in', The

B
lamps trimmed and a-burn - in', Keep your lamps trimmed and a-burn - in', The

30

Tamb.
30

Dr.
30

1.

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34 *f* *molto rit.* 2.

T Solo

B Solo

Ah... *f*

Ah... *ff*

T

time is draw-ing nigh. Keep your in', — The time is draw-ing nigh.

B

time is draw-ing nigh. Keep your in', — The time is draw-ing nigh.

34

Tamb.

34

Dr.

ff

ff



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Selected vocal works by Timothy C. Takach:

Mixed Voices

A Depth We Cannot Sound		SATB, vibraphone, marimba, large tom
A Worshipper and a Man		SATB a cappella
All the Beautiful Names		SATB a cappella
All Sisters and Brothers		SATB, 2 trumpets, organ
And I Saw		SATB div. a cappella
As the Sunflower Turns on Her God		SSAATBB div, Sop. solo, SSATB soli, a cappella
The Darkling Thrush	(earthsongs)	SATB, SAT soli, a cappella
Epitaph		SATB, viola
Listen to the Apples		SATB div. a cappella
Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers	(Graphite Publishing)	SSATBB a cappella
Nubes Oriebatur: the eruption of Vesuvius		SSATBB a cappella
One Boy Told Me		SATB, piano
Something There is Immortal		SSATBB a cappella
Su Rahva Koda (The House of Your Kindred)		SSAATTBB a cappella
This Alien Landscape		SATB, crotales, suspended cymbal, bass drum
This Amazing Life		SA(T)B, piano
To Live Forever		SSATB a cappella
'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (arr. Huron Carol)	(Graphite Publishing)	SATB a cappella
We Are Lost, We Are Lucky		SATB, piano

Treble Voices

And I Saw		SSAA div. a cappella
Cassiopeia		SSA a cappella
Goodbye, Then		SSA choir, Bb clarinet, piano
Home on the Range (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble, piano
Queen of the Range	(Graphite Publishing)	SA choir, piano
Serenade	(Graphite Publishing)	SSAA a cappella
There is No Rose	(Lorelei Ensemble)	SSAA, SS soli, a cappella
The Streets of Laredo (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	Unison, TTB, piano
Torn Map	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble, piano

Men's Voices

All Natures, Even Mine		TTTBB a cappella
Empty		TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe
Go		TB, hand drum, wood block or clapping
Goodbye, Then		TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano
I Will Howl		TBB choir, piano or cello
It Is Not the Fact That I Will Die That I Mind		TB, piano
Luceat Eis		TTTTBB a cappella
Mad		TBB, piano
Rough Beast	(Jeremy D. Jones Male Choral Series)	TTBB, percussion
Salve Regina	(Graphite Publishing)	TBB semi-chorus, TTBB a cappella
She Moved Through the Fair (arr. Irish Ballad)	(Neil A. Kjos Music Co.)	TBB a cappella
Things I Didn't Know I Loved	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (arr. Huron Carol)	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
Veni Creator Spiritus	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
What I Have Done (arr. Amazing Grace/House of the Rising Sun)		TTTTBBB a cappella

Large Works

We Made a Grave For Him, And Her Smoke Rose Up Forever (ca. 10')		TTBB a cappella
The Longest Nights (ca. 21')		SATB, piano or string quartet
Where Beauty Comes From (ca. 16')		TBB, 2-part, SSAA, SATB; piano