

We Remember Them

Rabbis Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer

SATB and piano



Elizabeth Alexander

Seafarer Press

A Litany of Remembrance

In the rising of the sun and in its going down,
we remember them.
In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them.
In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,
we remember them.
In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
we remember them.
In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
we remember them.
In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
we remember them.
When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember them.
When we are lost and sick at heart,
we remember them.
When we have joys we yearn to share,
we remember them.
So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us,
as we remember them.

Rabbis Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer

“A Litany of Remembrance” by Rabbis Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer from *Gates of Prayer: A New Union Prayerbook*
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the use of this poem as well as slight word alterations in the musical setting

Rabbi Sylvan Kamens was born and educated in Philadelphia, and was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. He served as an Air Force chaplain in England, and as a pulpit rabbi in Minnesota, Ohio and New Jersey. He and his wife Rhoda are blessed with three children and nine grandchildren. He is the author of a significant body of liturgical poetry.

Rabbi Jack Riemer is founding chair of the National Rabbinic Network, a support system for rabbis across all the denominational lines, and the co-editor of *Ethical Wills: A Modern Treasury* and *So That Your Values Live On*. He is a former consultant to President Bill Clinton.

The words to “A Litany of Remembrance” have a winding history which you can learn about at www.elizabethalexander.com/works/we-remember-them

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Mindfully, with affection (♩ = 60-63)

The musical score is written for SATB voices and piano. It begins with a 2/2 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Mindfully, with affection' with a quarter note equal to 60-63 beats per minute. The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a harmonic accompaniment in the left hand, with several 'Ped.' (pedal) markings. The vocal parts enter at measure 5. The Soprano and Alto parts have lyrics: 'In the' and 'In the'. The Tenor part has lyrics: 'In the'. The piano accompaniment continues with 'Ped.' markings. At measure 9, the Soprano and Alto parts have lyrics: 'ris - ing of the sun and in its go - ing down we will re -'. The Tenor part has lyrics: 'ris - ing of the sun and in its go - - ing down we will re -'. The piano accompaniment continues with 'Ped.' markings and asterisks.

13

S *p*
In the

A
- mem - ber them. In the

T
- mem - ber them. In the

B *p*
In the

* Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

17

S
blow - ing of the wind and in the win - ter chill we will re -

A
blow - ing of the wind and in the win - - ter chill we will re -

T
blow - ing of the wind and in the win - - ter chill we will re -

B
blow - ing of the wind and in the win - - ter chill we will re -

* Ped. * Ped. * Ped. Ped.

21

S
- mem - ber them. In the

A
- mem - ber them. In the

T
- mem - ber them. In the

B
- mem - ber them, we re - mem - ber them. In the

25

S
o - pen - ing of buds and in the spring re - birth we will re -

A
o - pen - ing of buds and in the spring re - birth we will re -

T
o - pen - ing of buds and in the spring re - birth we will re -

B
o - pen - ing of buds and in the spring re - birth we will re -

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**A lot of hard work
and creativity went
into bringing this
music to you...**



**...and some of it
was even mine.**

**This page has been intentionally omitted.
(You know why.) A complete perusal score may be
purchased through any music store or dealer.**

Elizabeth Alexander

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47

S *pp*
In the

A *pp*
In the

T We re - mem - ber them._____

B We re - mem - ber them._____

mp *murmuring* *pp*

Red. *

53

S rust - ling of the leaves and in au - tumn beau - ty,_____

A rust - ling of the leaves and in au - tumn beau - ty,_____

Red. 3 *Red.* 1 2

59

S *p*
We will re - mem - ber them._____

A *p*
We will re - mem - ber them._____

Red. *Red.*

64

S *mf* In the be -

A Re - mem - ber them

T *p* We will re - mem - ber them.

B Re - mem - ber them

mf

ped. *ped.* *ped.* *ped.* *

69 **B**

S - gin - ning of the year and when it

ped. *ped.* *ped.*

73

S ends,

A *p marcato* We re - mem - ber, re - mem - ber,

T *p marcato* We re - mem - ber, re - mem - ber,

B *mf* In the be -

mp

* *ped.* *ped.* *ped.*

77

S *mf* We

A *mf* We

T *mf* and when it ends,

B - gin - ning of the year and when it ends,

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

82

S re - mem - ber,

A re - mem - ber,

T When we are wea - ry and in need of

B

Ped. *Ped.*

87

S

A

T

B

When we are lost and sick at heart,

strength,

When we are lost and sick at heart,

espress.

Ped. Ped. Ped.

92

S

A

T

B

When we have joys we yearn to share _____ we will re -

we will re -

When we have joys we yearn to share _____ we will re -

we will re -

Ped. Ped.

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105 *ff*

S - mem - ber them.

A - mem - ber them.

T - mem - ber them.

B - mem - ber them.

espressivo (Here you are a cello, or a horn...)

Ped.

Ped.

109 *mp*

T As

B *mp*

As

Ped.

C

113

S *mp* for they are now a

A *mp* for they are now a

T long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a

B long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a

warmly

Ped.

118

S part of us as we re - mem - ber them.

A part of us as we re - mem - ber them.

T part of us as we re - mem - ber them.

B part of us as we re - mem - ber them.

f

Ped. *Ped.*

Meno mosso

123

mp *p*

S We re - mem - ber them. We re -

A We re - mem - ber them. We re -

T We re -

B We re -

mp

Ped. *Ped.*

129

S mem - ber them.

A mem - ber them.

T mem - ber them.

B mem - ber them.

tenderly and strong

p

Ped. *Ped.*

Selected Choral Music by Elizabeth Alexander

A Palette To Paint Us As We Are (Gerald Rich)
SATB, piano • SEA-014-01
SSA, piano • SEA-014-02

Beware the Winter Settin' In (Alexander)
SATB, Celtic band, opt. children's choir • SEA-139-00

Blessed Be the Flower That Triumphs (Boblett)
SATB • SEA-078-00

Cherish Your Doubt (Alexander)
SATB, piano • SEA-063-01
SSAA, piano • SEA-063-02

Die Gedanken Sind Frei (German protest song, arr.)
SATB, piano • SEA-087-00

Do Not Leave Your Cares at the Door (Norman Naylor)
SATB • SEA-071-00

Even a Fist Was Once an Open Palm (Yehuda Amichai)
SATB • SEA-026-01

Faith Is the bird that feels the light (Tagore)
SSA • SEA-068-00

Fighting Over What We Believe (Alexander)
SATB, soloists, piano • SEA-099-01

Finally On My Way To Yes (Pesha Gertler)
SSATB, piano • SEA-019-00

Folks, I'm Telling You (Langston Hughes)
SSATB, piano • SEA-027-00

Glen Song (Scott Bates)
SSATB, piano • SEA-025-00

Handles (Alexander)
SSA, piano • SEA-148-00

How To Sing Like a Planet (Alexander)
SATB, piano • SEA-105-01

If You Can Walk You Can Dance (Zimbabwean Proverb)
SAB, piano, claves • SEA-022-03
TBB, piano, claves • SEA-022-05
SSA, piano, claves • SEA-022-06
SATB, piano, claves • SEA-022-07

Immortal Love (John Greenleaf Whittier)
SATB • SEA-017-00

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (Polish carol, arr.)
SSA • SEA-020-00

Jump! (Ray Bradbury)
SSA, string quartet • SEA-090-00

Kindling (Alexander)
SATB, chamber ensemble • SEA-123-00
SATB, piano • SEA-123-09

Let it Matter (Alexander)
SSA, piano • SEA-125-03
SATB, piano • SEA-125-04

No Other People's Children (Alexander)
1-4 part choir, soloist, piano • SEA-141-03

...or a musician (Philip Dacey)
SATB, orchestra • SEA-007-00

A Palette To Paint Us As We Are (Gerald Rich)
SA, piano • SEA-014-00
SATB, piano • SEA-014-01

Praise Wet Snow Falling Early (Denise Levertov)
SATB, piano • SEA-015-00

Reasons for the Perpetuation of Slavery (Alexander)
SSAA • SEA-091-00

Same Birds (David Allen Evans)
SATB • SEA-128-00

Song of Kabir (Kabir)
SATB • SEA-119-00

The Gate is Open (Sister Peronne Marie Thibert)
SATB • SEA-097-01

They Have Freckles Everywhere (Alexander)
SSAA, piano • SEA-076-00

To Make a Prairie (Emily Dickinson)
SSA, piano • SEA-016-00

We Lift Up Our Hearts (Richard Fewkes)
Unison children's choir, SATB, piano • SEA-021-00

We Remember Them (Sylvan Kamens, Jack Riemer)
SATB, piano • SEA-083-01

Where there Is Light in the Soul (Chinese proverb)
SAB • SEA-070-00
SATB • SEA-070-01
SSA • SEA-070-02
TBB • SEA-062-03

When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled (Thurman)
SATB • SEA-062-00
TTBB • SEA-062-02
SSAA • SEA-062-04
SATB, flute • SEA-062-05

Why I Pity the Woman Who Never Spills (Prefontaine)
SSAA • SEA-058-00