



Gerald Cohen

We are loved by an unending love

For Mezzo or Baritone Solo, SATB Chorus, and Piano

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

We are loved by an unending love was commissioned by Helen and Daniel Sonnenshine for Ohef Sholom Temple of Norfolk, Virginia, in memory of Kathleen Franz, a beloved mezzo soloist with temple for many years.

I selected this text by Rabbi Rami Shapiro, a poet whose interpretations of the liturgy are used in many synagogues and prayer books, and whose poetry I have used in several choral compositions. Rami's poem beautifully expresses the power of connection between human beings and between human and the divine, at all points in our lives and beyond.

As a tribute to Kathleen Franz, the piece includes a prominent solo for mezzo-soprano, which can also be sung by baritone. The premiere of *We are loved by an unending love* was October 2011, by the Ohef Sholom Temple choir, Chuck Woodward, conductor; Robynne Redmon, mezzo-soprano.

In addition I have made an arrangement of the piece for solo voice and piano (without chorus).

—Gerald Cohen

Text:

We are loved by an unending love.
We are embraced by arms that find us even when we are hidden from ourselves.
We are touched by fingers that soothe us even when we are too proud for soothing.
We are counseled by voices that guide us even when we are too embittered to hear.
We are loved by an unending love.
We are supported by hands that uplift us even in the midst of a fall.
We are urged on by eyes that meet us even when we are too weak for meeting.
We are loved by an unending love.
Embraced, touched, soothed, and counseled,
Ours are the arms, the fingers, the voices;
Ours are the hands, the eyes, the smiles;
We are loved by an unending love.

—Rami Shapiro

Commissioned by Helen and Daniel Schenstone for
Ohef Sholom Temple, in memory of Kathleen Franz

Lyrics: Rami Shapiro **We are loved by an unending love** Music: Gerald Cohen

Slowly, gently ♩ = 60

Somewhat more motion, with rubato ♩ = 76

Mezzo-Soprano
solo

We are loved _____ by an un - end - ing love.

Slowly, gently ♩ = 60

Somewhat more motion, with rubato ♩ = 76

Piano

p

Solo

5 *mp*

We are em - braced by arms that find us e - ven when we are hid - den from our -

Pno.

5

mp

Solo

9

selves. We are _____ touched by fin - gers that soothe us e - ven when we are too proud for

A

T

B

Pno.

9

mp

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13 *mp*

Solo
sooth - ing. We are coun - seld by voi - ces that guide us e - ven when we are too em - bit - tered to hear. _____

A *pp* *p*

T *pp* *p*

B *pp* *p*

Pno.

18

Solo
We are loved _____ by an _____ un - - - end - ing _____ love.

A
_____ We are loved _____ by an _____ un - - - end - ing _____ love.

T
_____ *pp* _____

B
_____ *pp* _____

Pno.

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With more motion ♩ = 88

23

S

A *mf*
We are sup - port - ed by hands that up - lift us e -

T

B *mf*
We are sup - port - ed by hands that up - lift us e -

Pno. *mf*
With more motion ♩ = 88
play r.h. repeated chords gently
with l.h. bring out melody in l.h., *espress.*

27

S *mf*
We are —

A
- - ven — in the midst of a fall. —

T *mf*
We are —

B
- - ven — in the midst of a fall. —

Pno.

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31

S
urged on by eyes that meet us e - ven when we are too weak _____ for _____

A

T
urged on by eyes that meet us e - ven when we are too weak _____ for _____

B

Pno.

31

bring out melody in l.h., espress.

35

S
meet - ing. We are

A
We are

T
meet - ing.

B

Pno.

35

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38

S loved, _____ we are loved _____ by an _____ *cresc.*

A loved, _____ we are loved _____ by an _____ *cresc.*

T _____ We are loved, _____ We are loved, _____ *cresc.*

B _____

Pno. 38 *cresc.*

42

S un - end - ing un - end - ing love. *f*

A un - end - ing un - end - ing love. *f*

T _____ un - end - ing love. *f*

B _____ *cresc.* un - end - ing love. *f*

Yet more motion ♩ = 96-100

Pno. 42 *f*

Yet more motion ♩ = 96-100

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46

S *p* Em - braced, — touched, —

A *p* Em - braced, touched,

T *p* Em - braced, touched,

B *p* Em - braced, touched,

Pno. *dim.* *p*

51

S *mf* soothed, — and coun - seled, Ours are the arms, the fin-gers, the voi - ces;

A *mf* soothed, coun - seled, Ours are the voi - ces;

T *mf* soothed, coun - seled, Ours are the voi - ces;

B *mf* soothed, coun - seled, Ours are the voi - ces;

Pno. *mf*

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56

S

A

T

B

p

Em - braced, — touched, — soothed, and coun - seled,

p

Em - braced, touched, — soothed, coun - seled,

56

Pno.

56

S

A

T

B

mf

the fin - gers, the voi - - - ces; Ours are the

p

Ours are the arms, the fin - gers, the voi - ces; Ours

mf

Ours are the arms, the voi - ces; Ours

mf

Ours are the arms, the voi - ces; Ours

61

Pno.

mf

f

67 *mf dim.* *p* *rit.* a tempo (♩ = 96-100)

S hands, ours eyes, ours the smiles;

A hands, ours eyes, ours the smiles;

T 8 hands, ours the eyes, ours the smiles;

B *mf dim.* *p* hands, ours the eyes, ours the smiles;

67 *dim.* *mp* *p* *rit.* *cantabile* a tempo (♩ = 96-100)

Pno.

75 *p* *p*

A We are loved,

B We are loved,

75

Pno.

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81 *mp*

Solo

we are loved _____ by _____ an un - - -

Pno.

81

ped.

87 *rit.* ----- *molto* ----- *a tempo* *rit. al fine*

Solo

end - ing, un - - - - end - ing love. _____

S

love. _____

A

pp ah _____ love. _____

T

pp ah _____ love. _____

B

love. _____

87 *rit.* ----- *molto* ----- *a tempo* *rit. al fine*

Pno.

87

ped.

p *pp*

ped. (hold to end)