

To the honoured memory of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, President of The United States of America.

TAKE HIM, EARTH, FOR CHERISHING

Motet for Mixed Voices

PRUDENTIUS (348-413)

From *Hymnus circa Exsequias Defuncti*

Translated by Helen Waddell*

HERBERT HOWELLS

Quasi lento, serioso, ma con moto (♩ = 63)

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

ACCOMP. (for rehearsal only)

p Take him, earth, for cher-ish-ing, — To thy ten-der breast re- *poco*

p Take him, earth, for cher-ish-ing — To thy ten-der breast re- *poco*

p Take him, earth, for cher-ish-ing — To thy ten-der breast re- *poco*

Quasi lento, serioso, ma con moto (♩ = 63)

pp *poco*

(♩ = 63)

mf ceive him. Bod - y of a man I — bring thee, No - *f*

mf ceive him. Bod - y of a man I — bring thee, No - *f*

mf No - *f*

(♩ = 63)

mp *mf*

* By permission.

C. M. R. 2869 - (23)

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poch. *p* *3*

dim. *poch.* *pp* *mf* *3*

Once was this - a

dim. *pp* *p* *3*

- ble e - ven in its ru - in. - Once was this - a

dim. *pp* *mf* *3*

- ble e - ven in its ru - in. - Once was this - a

dim. *poch.* *ppp* *mp* *3*

3

spir - it's dwell - ing, - By the breath of

poco

spir - it's dwell - ing, - By the breath of God cre -

3

spir - its dwell - ing, - By the breath of

poco

spir - its dwell - ing, - By the breath of God cre -

poco

God cre-a - ted. High the heart that here was
 a - ted. High the heart that here was
 God cre-a - ted. High the heart that here was
 a - ted. High the heart that here was

mf *assai sost.*

beat - ing, Christ the prince of all its liv - ing.
 beat - ing, Christ the prince of all its liv - ing.
 beat - ing, Christ the prince of all its liv - ing.
 beat - ing, Christ the prince of all its liv - ing.

dim. *p*

Con anima e movimento (♩ = c. 72)

SOP. I

mf *p* *f*

Guard him well, the dead

SOP. II

mf *p* *f*

Guard him well, the dead

mf *p* *f*

Guard him well, the dead

mf *p* *f*

Guard him well, the dead

mf *p* *f*

Guard him well, the dead

Con anima e movimento (♩ = c. 72)

mf *p* *f*

mp

I give thee, Not un-

mp

I give thee, Not un-

mp

I give thee, Not un-

mp

I give thee, Not un-

mp

mp

mind - ful of His crea - ture Shall He

mind - ful of His crea - ture Shall He

mind - ful of His crea - ture Shall He

mind - ful of His crea - ture Shall He

mind - ful of His crea - ture Shall He

mind - ful of His crea - ture Shall He

piu ask it: He who made it

piu ask it: He who made it

piu ask it: He who made it

piu ask it: He who made it

piu ask it: He who made it

piu ask it: He who made it

poco rit.

Sym - bol of His mys - tery.

poco rit.

Sym - bol of His mys - tery.

poco rit.

Sym - bol of His mys - tery.

poco rit.

Sym - bol of His mys - tery.

poco rit.

Sym - bol of His mys - tery.

a tempo, come primo
P dim. *rit.*

a tempo
P dim. *pp* *rit.*

a tempo
mf espressivo *dim.* *rit.* *pp*

a tempo
p dim. *rit.*

Take him, earth, — for cher-ish-ing.

a tempo
p dim. *rit.*

a tempo, come primo *rit.*

mf *pp*

intenso (♩ = 66)

f [^] Comes the hour — God — hath ap - point - ed To ful -

f [^] Comes the hour God — hath ap - point - ed To ful -

f [^] Comes the hour —

f [^] Comes the

intenso (♩ = 66)

f [^] fil — the hope — of men, —

f [^] fil. — the hope — of men, —

f [^] To ful - fil the hope — of men, —

f [^] hour — ap - point - ed — To ful - fil the hope of men, —

appassionato
ff > Then must thou,
ff > Then must thou,
ff > Then must thou,
ff > Then must thou, in ver - y fash - ion,
appassionato

largo
 then must thou, then must thou What I
 then must thou, then must thou What I
 then must thou, then must thou What I
 then then must thou, then What I
largo

dim. *pp*
 give, — re - turn a - gain.

dim. *pp*
 give, — re - turn a - gain.

dim. *pp* *mf Con ruminazione*
 give, — re - turn. — Take him, earth, for

dim. *pp*
 give, — re - turn a - gain.

dim. *pp* *mf*
 give, — re - turn a - gain.

rall. molto
p *rall. molto, sotto voce*
 cher - ish - ing. — Bod - y of a man I

rall. molto *sotto voce*
p *rall. molto, sotto voce*
 cher - ish - ing. — Bod - y of a man I

rall. molto
p *rall. molto* *pp*
 cher - ish - ing. — Bod - y of a man I

un poco rubato, con moto (♩ = c. 69)

SEMI-CHORUS

mp
 Not though an-cient time de-cay-ing Wear a-way these bones to sand,
 (O take him.
 bring *pp* thee. (O take him.
 bring *pp* thee. (O take him.
 bring *pp* thee. (Take-

un poco rubato, con moto (♩ = c. 69)

mp
 Ash-es that a man might meas-ure In the hol-low of his hand:
 Take, O take him.)
 Body of a man I bring thee.)
 him, take him.)

mp
 Ash-es that a man might meas-ure In the hol-low of his hand:
 Take, O take him.)
 Body of a man I bring thee.)
 him, take him.)

poco a poco più animato

FULL

Not though - wan - dering
 Not though wan - dering winds and i - dle -
 Not though wan - dering
 Not though wan - dering winds and i - dle

poco a poco più animato

winds, Scatter dust
 Scatter dust
 winds, Scatter dust was nerve and
 Drift - ing through the emp - ty - sky,

was nerve and sin - ew, Is it
was nerve and sin - ew,
sin - ew, Is it given
Scat - ter nerve and sin - ew, Is it given
given to man to die. *piu*
Is it given to man to die. *piu*
to man to die. *piu*
to man to die. *piu*

elato
f *ff*
 Once a - gain — the shin - ing road Leads to
f *ff*
 Once a - gain — the shin - ing road Leads to
f *ff*
 Once a - gain — the shin - ing road Leads to
f *ff*
 Once a - gain — the road Leads to

rit.
 am - ple Par - a - dise;
rit. più tranquillo
mf dolce
 Par a - dise; O - pen are the
rit. p
 am - ple Par - a - dise;
rit. p
 am - ple Par a - dise;
mf più tranquillo
rit. P

poco meno mosso (♩ = 60)*mp dolce**pp*

O - pen are the woods a - gain,

*mp dolce**pp*

O - pen are the woods a - gain,

woods a - gain,

pp

woods

a - gain.

mp

a - dise;

That the

mp(♩ = 60) *mp dolce**mp**mp dolce**p*

O pen are the woods a - gain

*mp dolce**p*

O - pen are the woods a - gain

*poco**p*

Ser - pent lost for men,

*poco**mp**p*

FULL *mp*

That the Ser - pent

That the Ser - pent

That the Ser - pent

mp *sonore* lost

That the Ser - pent lost

mp *sonore*

rit. e dim. subito *pp*

lost for men.

rit. *pp*

lost for men.

rit. e dim. subito *pp*

lost for men.

rit. e dim. subito *pp*

for men.

for men.

rit. e dim. subito *pp*

Ampio, ma espressivo (♩ = 58)

Take, O take him, — might - y Lead - er, — Take a -

Take, O take him, — might - y Lead - er, — Take a -

Take, O take him, — might - y Lead - er, — Take a -

Ampio, ma espressivo (♩ = 58)

gain — thy serv - ants soul. Grave his name, — and

gain — thy serv - ant's soul. Grave his name, — and

gain — thy serv - ant's soul. Grave his name, — and

pour the fra - grant Balm

Balm

pour the fra - grant Balm

pour the fra - grant Balm

pour the fra - grant Balm

rall. e dim. *mf* *Tempo I quasi alla marcia* *pp*

up-on the i - cy stone.

rall. e dim. *pp*

up-on the i - cy stone.

rall. e dim. *pp*

up-on the i - cy stone.

rall. e dim. *pp*

up-on the i - cy stone.

Take him, earth, — for

rall. e dim. *mf* *Tempo I quasi alla marcia* *pp*

pp

pp poco marcato

pp sommessò, teneramente

Take him, earth, for cher - ish - ing, To thy

pp Take him, earth, for cher - ish - ing, To thy

pp Take him, earth, for cher - ish - ing, To thy

cher - ish - ing, Take him to thy ten - der

ten - der breast re - ceive him -

ten - der breast re - ceive him -

ten - der breast re - ceive him -

breast. Bod - y of a man I bring thee.

The image shows a musical score for piano and voice. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has four staves: two for the voice (soprano and alto) and two for the piano (right and left hands). The second system has two staves for the piano. The music is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo and dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *poco cresc.* (poco crescendo). The lyrics are: "Body of a man I bring thee, No - ble e - ven in". A large red watermark "PREMIUM Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

in— its ru-in. — By the breath of God cre—

in— its ru - in. — By the breath of God — cre—

in— its ru - in. — By the breath of God cre—

By the breath of God cre—

in its ru - in. — By the breath of God — cre—

— its ru - in. — Breath of God cre—

mf *dim.*
 a - ted. Christ the prince of

mf *dim.*
 a - ted. Christ the prince of

mf *dim.*
 a - ted. Christ the prince of

mf *dim.*
 a - ted. Christ the prince of liv - ing.

mf *dim.*
 a - ted.

The image shows a musical score for voice and piano. It consists of six systems of staves. The first five systems each have a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The sixth system shows only the piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "all its liv - ing. Take, O take him,". Performance markings include dynamics *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *poch.* (poco), and *molto*. The score is overlaid with a large red watermark that reads "Preview Only! Legal Use Requires Purchase".

