THE GIFT OF LIFE
Six Canticles of Creation

JOHN RUTTER

1. O all ye works of the Lord

Benedicte (from the 1662 BCP)
and Doxology (traditional)

Allegro vivace  \( \frac{4}{4} = 120, \ (\hat{\text{d}} = \text{'} \text{sempre}) \)

O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:
O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever, ever, ever, ever, ever, ever.
TENORS and BASSES

O ye heavens, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye waters that be above the firmament, bless ye the Lord:

praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O all ye powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:
*The sopranos and altos are intended to divide into three parts of equal strength, and if preferred, the first alto part may be sung by second sopranos, with all altos singing the second alto part.
bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye winds of God,

bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye fire and heat,

bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.

O ye winds of God,

praise him, and magnify him for ever.

bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him for ever.
2. The tree of life

Words: from the Collection of Joshua Smith, New Hampshire (1784)

Andante semplice \( \frac{4}{4} \) \( \frac{7}{8} \)

Piano reduction

con Ped.

6

11

SOPRANOS

The tree of life my soul hath seen,

La-den with fruit, and al-ways green;

The trees of na-ture fruit-less
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

The tree of life my soul hath seen,

La den with

fruit, and always green;

The trees of nature fruit less be;

fruit, and always green;

The trees of nature fruit less be, fruit less,

fruit, and always green;

The trees of nature fruit less be.
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree.

Compared with Christ the apple tree.

Compared with Christ the apple tree.

Compared with Christ the apple tree.

1. This beauty doth all things excel; By faith I know, but ne’er can

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3. Hymn to the Creator of Light

Lancelot Andrewes (1555–1626), tr. Alexander Whyte
and J. Franck (1618–77), tr. Catherine Winkworth

Lento misterioso $\frac{4}{4} \cdot \frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{6}{4}$ (\$ \frac{4}{4} \cdot \frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{6}{4}$) sempre

\textbf{Soprano ALTO} \textbf{Tenor BASS} \textbf{Piano reduction}

Choir 1

Choir 2

\textbf{Ped.} \textbf{Ped.}

(Sopr. div.)

Bar numbers in this movement start at 0 not 1, in order to match the numbering of the original unaccompanied version.

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Creator of the visible light,

Glory be to thee,
— a — t — o — r — of — the — vi — si — ble — light, — the — sun’s — ray, — the

— a — t — o — r — of — the — vi — si — ble — light, — the — sun’s — ray, — the

— a — t — o — r — of — the — vi — si — ble — light, — the — sun’s — ray, — the

Glory be to fire, of fire, the flame of fire, of fire.

flame of fire, of fire, the flame of fire, of fire.

flame of fire, of fire, the flame of fire, of fire.
4. O Lord, how manifold are thy works

Words from Psalm 104

Smoothly flowing \( \frac{4}{4} \) = 72

\( \text{soprano} \)

\( \text{alto} \)

\( \text{tenor} \)

\( \text{bass} \)

\( \text{piano reduction} \)

\( \text{p} \) legato, dolce

\( \text{mp} \)

\( \text{in wisdom hast thou made them} \)

\( \text{poco cresc.} \)

\( \text{mp} \)

*The text from bar 118 onwards is by the composer.*
all: the earth is full of thy riches.

Thou cover'st it with the deep like as with a garment:

the waters stand in the hills.
He send-eth the springs into the rivers: which run among the hills.

All beasts of the field drink there of:
5. The gift of each day

Words by John Rutter

Slow and reflective \( \frac{4}{4} \) \( \approx \) \( c. \) 56

* TENORS and BASSES unis. \( p \)

The gift of each day rising out of

* If bars 3–7 are too low for the tenors, they can be sung by basses alone.
darkness: the promise of light and the birth of new life, if we turn to the beginning, if we turn to the light, if we turn to the
6. FINALE: Believe in life

Words by John Rutter*

Con moto impetuoso \( \frac{j}{j} = 112 \)

Piano reduction

poco rall. A tempo tranquillo

SOPRANOS and ALTOS

Be - lieve in life as a stream ev - er flow - ing;

*The text in bars 107–119 is from the Collection of Joshua Smith, New Hampshire (1784)
The tree of life, with its branches high in the sky, and its roots so deep, so deep in the earth,

Believe in life as a tree ever growing:

The tree of life, with its branches high in the sky, and its roots so deep, so deep in the earth.