

A PRAYER

Set to Music

for

Chorus & Orchestra

by

FRANK BRIDGE

2/- net

AUGENER Ltd.
LONDON

A PRAYER

Grant me Thy grace, most merciful Jesus, that it may be with me, and may labour with me, and continue with me to the end.

Grant me always to will and desire that which is most acceptable to Thee, and which pleaseth Thee best.

Let Thy will be mine, and let my will always follow Thine and agree perfectly therewith.

Grant that I may die to all things that are in the world, and for Thy sake love to be despised and not to be known in this world.

Grant that I may rest in Thee above all things that can be desired, and that my heart may be at peace in Thee.

Thou art the true peace of the heart, Thou art its only rest : out of Thee all things are irksome and restless.

In this very peace which is in Thee, the one supreme Eternal Good, I will sleep and take my rest.

A PRAYER
for
Chorus and Orchestra

*Thomas à Kempis**

Andante moderato

Frank Bridge

The musical score is divided into four systems. System 1 starts with a piano dynamic (p) and includes a crescendo instruction. System 2 features a forte dynamic (f). System 3 includes dynamic markings 'dim.' and 'mf'. System 4 concludes with a dynamic marking 'dim.'

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SOPRANO **1**

ALTO *pp*
Grant me Thy grace, most merciful

TENOR

BASS

1

pp

ppp
most merciful Je-sus.
ppp
most merciful Je-sus.
ppp
most merciful Je-sus.
ppp
most merciful Je-sus.

p dolce

2

Grant me Thy

2

most

grace, most merci - ful Je - sus. most

p dolce

Musical score for voice and piano, page 4, measures 1-4. The vocal line consists of four staves of music in common time (indicated by a '4' at the beginning of each staff). The key signature is three sharps. The lyrics are: "mer . ci ful Je . sus . . .", "mer . ci ful Je . sus . . .", "mer . ci ful Je . sus . . .", and "mer . ci ful Je . sus . . .". The piano accompaniment is present in the first three staves, with measure 4 being a single staff. Measure 4 includes a dynamic marking *p* above a note.

Musical score for voice and piano, page 4, measures 5-8. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "mer . ci ful Je . sus . . .", followed by a piano solo section. The piano part features eighth-note chords and a dynamic marking *p* above the first chord. The piano accompaniment ends with a dynamic marking *espress.* Measures 7 and 8 show a continuation of the piano's eighth-note chords.

Musical score for voice and piano, page 5, measures 1-4. The vocal line begins with a rest followed by the lyrics: "be with me, . . .", "be with me, . . .", and "be with me, . . .". The piano accompaniment consists of eighth-note chords. The dynamic marking *p* is placed above the first chord of the piano part. The lyrics "And may" appear twice, once after the first two measures and once after the third measure.

Musical score for voice and piano, page 5, measures 5-8. The piano part continues with eighth-note chords. The dynamic marking *p* is placed above the first chord of the piano part. The piano accompaniment ends with a dynamic marking *espress.* Measures 7 and 8 show a continuation of the piano's eighth-note chords.

rall.

la - bou r with me.

la - bou r with me.

espress.

p cresc. *s* rall. e dim.

a tempo

p **4**

That it may be with me,— and may

p

That it may be with me,— and may

p

That it may be with me,— and may

p

That it may be with me,— and may

a tempo

p cresc. *mf* *p*

mf

la - bou - r with me, — And con - ti - - nue with me,

mf

la - bou - r with me, — And con - ti - - nue with me,

mf

la - bou - r with me, — And con - ti - - nue with me,

mf

la - bou - r with me, — And con - ti - - nue with me,

cresc.

mf

cresc.

cresc.

f

5

and con - ti - - - nue with me, —

cresc.

f

and con - ti - - - nue with me, —

cresc.

f

and con - ti - - - nue with me, —

cresc.

f

and con - ti - - - nue with me, —

f

5

f *espress.*

Musical score for four staves (Treble, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (two sharps). The vocal parts have dynamic markings *p* with crescendo arrows above the notes. The lyrics "to the end." appear at the end of each line. The bass staff has a dynamic marking *mf* and a crescendo arrow.

p to the end.
p to the end.
p to the end.
p to the end.

Continuation of the musical score. The vocal parts now have dynamic markings *pp* with crescendo arrows. The lyrics "to the" appear three times. The bass staff has a dynamic marking *mf* and a decrescendo arrow. The score concludes with a dynamic marking *dim.*

pp to the
pp to the
pp to the
pp to the

mf *dim.*

6

end.

end.

end.

end.

6

pp dolce

p

p

7 Allegro moderato

3

4

3

4

f

Grant me always to will and de..

7

mf cresc.

f

Allegro moderato

sire that which is most ac cep - ta ble to
dim.

8

And which
And which plea - seth Thee

Thee. And which plea - seth Thee best, which

And which plea seth Thee best, and which plea - - -

8

p dolce
dolciss.

plea - - - - - seth Thee, — which plea - - - - -
 best, which plea - - - - - seth Thee, — which plea - - - - -
 plea - - - - - seth Thee, — which plea - - - - -
 - - - - - seth Thee, —

- - - - - seth Thee best. Grant me al - ways to
 - - - - - seth Thee best. Grant me to
 - - - - - seth Thee best. Grant me al - ways to
 - - - - - seth Thee best. Grant me al - ways to will and de . sire, —

dim.

will and de . sire that which is most ac . cep . ta ble to
 will and de . sire _____ that which is most - ac . cep.ta.ble to
 will and de . sire that which is most - ac . cep.ta.ble to
 — and de . sire,

dim.

9

Thee. And which

Thee. And which plea - seth Thee

Thee. And which plea - seth Thee best, which

And which plea - seth Thee best, and which plea - - -

mf

9

mf

Thee. And which plea - seth Thee best, and which plea - - -

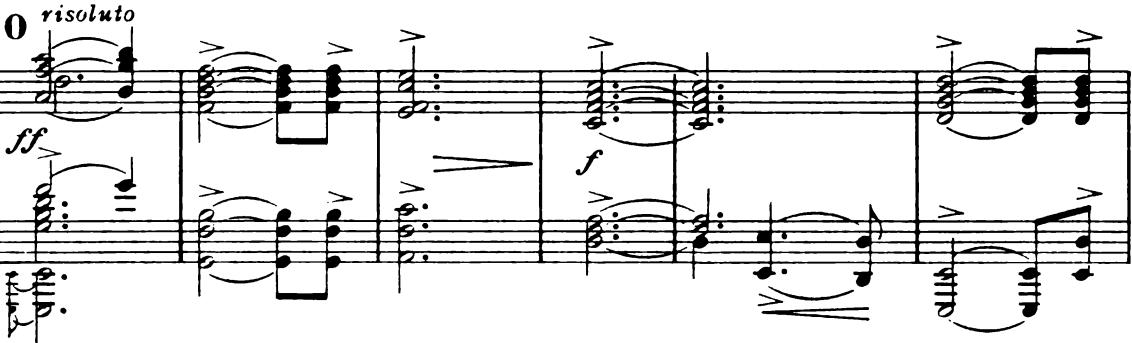
Musical score for piano and voice. The score consists of two systems of music. The top system has four staves: Treble, Treble, Treble, and Bass. The bottom system has two staves: Treble and Bass. The vocal parts sing in unison. The piano part is primarily harmonic, with occasional melodic entries. The vocal line follows a melodic line that includes sustained notes and eighth-note patterns. Measure 1: "plea - - - - - seth Thee, and which plea - - - - -". Measure 2: "best, which plea - - - - - seth Thee, and which plea - - - - -". Measure 3: "plea - - - - - seth Thee, _____ and which plea - - - - -". Measure 4: "seth Thee, _____ and which plea - - - - -". Measure 5: "mf" dynamic. Measure 6: "f" dynamic. Measure 7: "mf" dynamic. Measure 8: "f" dynamic.

Musical score for piano and voice, continuing from page 12. The score consists of two systems of music. The top system has four staves: Treble, Treble, Treble, and Bass. The bottom system has two staves: Treble and Bass. The vocal parts sing in unison. The piano part is primarily harmonic, with occasional melodic entries. The vocal line follows a melodic line that includes sustained notes and eighth-note patterns. Measure 9: "seth Thee, - - and which plea - seth Thee best...". Measure 10: "seth Thee, - - and which plea - seth Thee best...". Measure 11: "f sempre" dynamic. Measure 12: "seth Thee, _____ and which plea - seth Thee best...". Measure 13: "f sempre" dynamic. Measure 14: "seth Thee, _____ and which plea - seth Thee best...". Measure 15: "f sempre" dynamic. Measure 16: "f" dynamic.

10

f risoluto

Let Thy will be mine,

10 *risoluto*

and let my will al - ways fol - low

and let my will al - ways fol - low

and let my will al - ways fol - low

and let my will al - ways fol - low

Poco allargando

11

Thine, _____ and agree perfectly

Poco allargando

12 Più Lento e largamente

there - - - with. Grant me Thy grace, most

there - - - with. Grant me Thy grace, most

there - - - with. Grant me Thy grace, most

there - - - with. Grant me Thy grace, most

12 Più Lento e largamente

ff

ff

mer . ci . ful Je . sus. *ff dim.*
 mer . ci . ful Je . sus. *ff dim.*
 mer . ci . ful Je . sus. *ff dim.*
 mer . ci . ful Je . sus. *ff dim.*
molto cresc.
pp tranquillo
 Je . sus most mer . ci . ful, mer . ci . ful
 Je . sus *pp* most mer . ci . ful, mer . ci . ful
 Je . sus *pp* most mer . ci . ful, mer . ci . ful
 Je . sus *pp* most mer . ci . ful, mer . ci . ful
tranquillo
dim. *pp*

13 a tempo moderato

Je - sus.

Je - sus.

Je - sus.

Je - sus.

13 a tempo moderato*pp**dolce*

Grant that I may die to all things —

Grant that I may die to all things —

*mf**cresc.*

— that are in the world. — *mf* —
 Grant that I may die to
 — that are in the world. — *mf* —
 Grant that I may die to

cresc. *fz*
14 *poco animato* *mf*
 Grant that I may
dim. *p* *mf*
 all things — that are in the world. — Grant that
mf *mf*
 Grant that
dim. *p* *mf*
 all things — that are in the world. — Grant that

mf *dim.* *p* *cresc.* *poco animato* *>* *>*

Poco a poco più animato

die to all things that are in the world, and for
 I may die to all things that are in the
 I may die to all things, and for
 I may die to all things that are in the world, and for

Poco a poco più animato

cresc. *f cresc.*
 Thy sake love to be despised, for Thy sake
cresc. *f cresc.*
 world, and for Thy sake love to be despised, and for
cresc. *f cresc.*
 Thy sake love to be despised, for Thy sake
cresc. *f cresc.*
 Thy sake love to be despised, and for

love to be de - spised, _____ to be de -
 ff > >
 Thy sake love to be de - spised, to be de -
 ff > > (b)
 — love to be de - spised, _____ to be de -
 ff > >
 Thy sake love to be de - spised, to be de -
 ff > >

15

spised, _____ and not to be
 spised, _____ and not to be
 spised, _____ and not to be
 spised, _____ and not to be

15

ff >
 ff > >
 ff > >

known, not to be
 known, not to be
 known, not to be
 known, not to be
molto dim.
 known in this
molto dim.
 known in this
molto dim.
 known in this
molto dim.

poco rit.

world.
world.
world.
world.

poco rit.

dim. *mf* *lunga*

16
Tempo I

16
Tempo I

pp *p* *mf*

semi chorus
17 *tranquillo*
pp

Grant me Thy
pp

Grant me Thy
pp

Grant me Thy
pp

Grant me Thy

17 *tranquillo*
un Poch. rit.
dim. *pp*

Tempo I
tutti
pp

grace, most mer - ci-ful Je - sus. That

pp

grace, most mer - ci-ful Je - sus. That

pp

grace, most mer - ci-ful Je - sus. That

pp

most mer - ci-ful Je - sus. That

pp

un Poch. allargando
espress.

Tempo I

18

it may be with me, and may la - labour with me,

it may be with me, and may la - labour with me,

it may be with me, and may la - labour with me,

it may be with me, and may la - labour with me,

18

dolce

pp

p

— that it may be with me, and may la - labour

p

— that it may be with me, and may la - labour

p

— that it may be with me, and may la - labour

p

— that it may be with me, and may la - labour

mf

pp

p

cresc.

with me, and con - ti - nue with me, con - ti - - -

cresc.

with me, and con - ti - nue with me, con - ti - - -

cresc.

with me, and con - ti - nue with me, con - ti - - -

cresc.

with me, and con - ti - nue with me, con - ti - - -

mf

- - - nue with me to the end. - - -

mf

- - - nue with me to the end. - - -

mf

- - - nue with me to the end. - - -

mf

- - - nue with me to the end. - - -

p

mf

19

Grant that I may rest, _____ may rest _____

Grant, _____ Grant that I _____ may rest _____

Grant that I may rest, that I _____ may rest _____

Grant that I may rest, may rest _____

19

Poch. rit. pp , a tempo 20 p cresc.

— in Thee, _____ a - bove all things that can

may rest in Thee, _____ a - bove all things that can

may rest in Thee, _____ a - bove all things that can

— in Thee, _____ a - bove all things that can

dim.

Poch. rit.

a tempo 20

21

be de - sired, de - sired,
be de - sired, de - sired,
be de - sired, de - sired,
be de - sired, de - sired,

21

The score consists of four staves. The top three staves are for the voice, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The bottom staff is for the piano, with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The music is in common time. Measure 21 starts with eighth-note chords in the piano, followed by eighth-note chords in the voices. Measure 22 begins with a piano section featuring sixteenth-note patterns over sustained bass notes.

22

pp

and that my

pp

and that my

pp

and that my

pp

and that my

22

rinf.

dim.

pp

The piano part continues with sixteenth-note patterns. The dynamic *rinf.* (rinfuso) is indicated in measure 22, and *dim.* (diminuendo) is indicated in measure 23. The piano part concludes with a forte dynamic *pp* (pianissimo).

23

ppp

heart may be at peace, at peace in Thee.

ppp

heart may be at peace, at peace in Thee.

ppp

heart may be at peace, at peace in Thee.

ppp

heart may be at peace, at peace in Thee.

23

Tempo I. ma tranquillo

ppp

ppp sempre

Thou

ppp sempre

Thou

p

24

small choir
pp dolcissimo

Thou art the true peace of the

pp dolcissimo

Thou art the true peace of the

— art the true peace — of the heart,

— art the true peace — of the heart, —

24

*pp*Tutti
ppp sempre

heart, Thou art its on - ly rest; — out of Thee —

ppp sempre

heart, Thou art its on - ly rest; — out of Thee —

— Thou art its on - - ly rest; — out of Thee —

— Thou art its on - - ly rest; — out of Thee —

*pp**cresc.*

25

— all things are irk-some and rest - less.

— all things are irk-some and rest - less.

— all things are irk-some and rest - less.

— all things are irk-some and rest - less.

8 25

f *p*

— all things are irk-some and rest - less.

p

In — this ve - ry peace, — this ve - ry

p

In — this ve - ry peace, — this ve - ry

p

In — this ve - ry peace, — this ve - ry

p

In — this ve - ry peace, — this ve - ry

p

In — this ve - ry peace, — this ve - ry

p

In — this ve - ry peace, — this ve - ry

p

In — this ve - ry peace, — this ve - ry

p

In — this ve - ry peace, — this ve - ry

p

In — this ve - ry peace,

p

p

(all) *p*

15230

26

pp

small choir

The one su-preme E -

peace which is in Thee,

The one su-preme E -

peace which is in Thee,

The one su-preme E -

peace which is in Thee,

The one su-preme E -

peace which is in Thee,

— this ve - ry peace, in Thee,

26

*pp**ppp*

Tutti

pp

ter - nal Good, E - ter - nal Good. I will sleep, _____ will sleep _____

Tutti

pp

ter - nal Good, E - ter - nal Good. I will sleep, _____ will sleep _____

Tutti

pp

ter - nal Good, E - ter - nal Good. I will sleep, _____ will

Tutti

pp

ter - nal Good, E - ter - nal Good. I will sleep, _____ will

pp

E - ter - nal Good. I will

pp

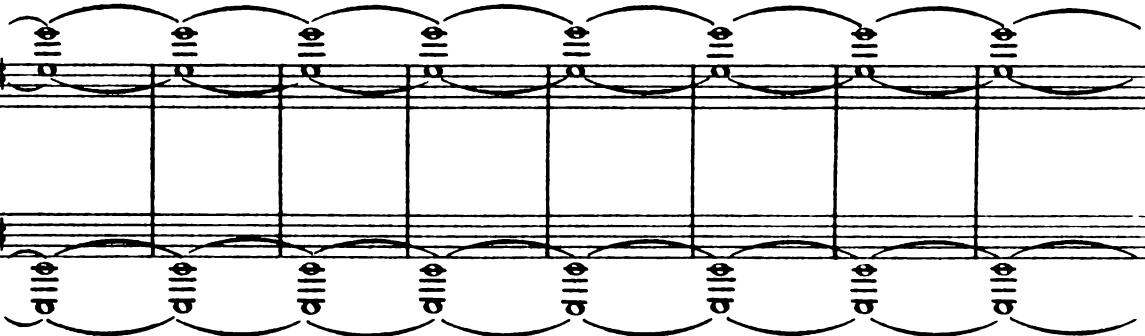
E - ter - nal Good. I will

pp

E - ter - nal Good. I will

pp

E - ter - nal Good. I will



molto rit.

27

a tempo tranquillo

— and take my rest.
 — and take my rest.
 sleep and take my rest.
molto rit.

27 *a tempo tranquillo*

pp *pp*

ppp Rest.
ppp Rest.
ppp Rest.
ppp Rest.

molto rit.

ppp *espress.* *ppp*

MARCH
1918

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