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# Sun of Righteousness

for SATB chorus and organ

Jonathan Santore

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Performance Note:

When this work is performed by a choir with male altos, the melody in mm. 44-54 should be sung *in unison* with the tenors and basses; of course, female altos should sing it an octave higher.

Come, O thou Traveler unknown,  
whom still I hold, but cannot see;  
my company before is gone,  
and I am left alone with thee.  
With thee all night I mean to stay,  
and wrestle till the break of day.

I need not tell Thee who I am,  
my misery and sin declare;  
thyself hast called me by my name,  
look on thy hands, and read it there.  
But who, I ask thee, who art thou?  
Tell me thy name, and tell me now.

'Tis Love! 'tis Love! Thou diedst for me!  
I hear thy whisper in my heart:  
The morning breaks, the shadows flee.  
Pure Universal Love thou art;  
to me, to all, thy mercies move;  
thy nature and thy name is Love.

The Sun of Righteousness on me  
hath ris'n with healing in his wings;  
withered my nature's strength; from thee  
my soul its life and succor brings;  
my help is all laid up above;  
thy nature and thy Name is Love.

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise!  
Triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high be near;  
Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return  
Till Thy mercy's beams I see,  
till they inward light impart,  
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine!  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!  
Fill me, radiancy divine;  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more Thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.

Submission Note

*Sun of Righteousness* was commissioned for the New Hampshire tour of the Choir of Rochester Cathedral, England, by their NH host church. The choirmaster from Rochester Cathedral asked me to write a new setting of Charles Wesley's hymn text "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"; I decided to wrap around this setting some solo work which featured Wesley's text "Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown". Though it was written with the traditional English choral timbre (boy sopranos, falsetto altos) in mind, I think it will work well for standard SATB choir, and should present few rehearsal or performance difficulties to a solid church group.

Commissioned by the First United Methodist Church of Rochester, New Hampshire  
for the Choir of Rochester Cathedral, England, Roger Sayer, Director,  
in celebration of their first visit to Rochester, NH, June, 2000

# Sun of Righteousness

Jonathan Santore

Freely; chant-like

The musical score is arranged for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, Organ, and Piano. The tempo/style is 'Freely; chant-like'. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system covers measures 1-4, and the second system covers measures 5-8. The Alto part has a 'solo' marking and a dynamic of *mf*. The Organ part has a dynamic of *mp*. The Piano part has a dynamic of *mp* and includes a marking '(+16')' in the first measure. The lyrics are: 'Come, O thou Tra-ve - ler un-known, whom still I hold, but can - not see; my com - pa - ny be fore is gone, and I am left a - lone with thee.'

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Organ

Piano

4

A

my com - pa - ny be fore is gone, and I am left a - lone with thee.

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6 *(mf)*

A

With thee all night I mean to stay, and wres-tle till the break of day.

*(mp)*

*(mp)*

In time (♩ = 56)

8 *(solo)*

A

I need not tell Thee who I am, my mi-se-ry and sin de-clare;

*solo mf*

B

I need not tell Thee who I am, my mi-se-ry and sin de-clare;

10

A

thy-self hast called me by my name, look on thy hands, and read it there.

B

thy-self hast called me by my name, look on thy hands, and read it there.

sub. *p*

sub. *p*

(non rit.)

## Tenderly (♩ = 68)

53

S

to the per - fect day! The Sun of Right - eous - ness on

ATB

play, shi - ning to the per - fect day.

solo *mp*

*p*

(16' off) (8' pedal)

*p*

57

S

me hath ris'n with heal - ing in his wings, with - ered my na - ture's strength; from

A

With - ered strength from

solo *mp*

rall.-----

61

S thee my soul its life and suc - cor brings; my help is all laid up a -

A thee, my soul its suc - cor brings; my help

B *solo mp* Na - ture's strength, my soul its suc - cor brings; my help

65

S bove; thy na - ture and thy Name is Love.

(♩ = 72)

(p)

69

rit.-----

*pp*