

This is the Day

Dan Forrest

Composer's Note:

Upon receiving a commission for a choral tour of Israel, I began searching for Hebrew poetry that could return to its homeland to be sung where it was first written. My search led me to the Psalms – particularly the Hallel or “praise” psalms, sung by Jewish people celebrating their annual festivals. This text from Psalm 118, “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it,” carries multiple nuances of cultural and theological meaning; but even at the surface, I tried to write a piece that would capture the fresh wonder of a new day – in the Holy Land, or wherever we are on God’s earth. May we fulfill its purpose by giving thanks for new life and finding new joy in each day given to us.

–Dan Forrest

This Is The Day

For SATB Choir and Piano

From Psalm 118

DAN FORREST
(ASCAP)

Gently ♩ = ca. 63-66
unis. *p* *mp*

Soprano
Alto

Piano

Oo Oo

1 2

3 4

mp

This is the day the LORD has made,

5 6

Measures 7 and 8 of the musical score. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "We will re-joyce" and continues with "and be glad in it, we will re-". The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

We will re-joyce _____ and be glad in it, we will re -

Measures 9 and 10 of the musical score. The vocal line continues with "joyce, _____ and be glad, _____". The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns, including some chords and moving lines.

joyce, _____ and be glad, _____

Measures 11 and 12 of the musical score. The vocal line includes the lyrics "This is the day" and "the LORD has made." followed by a long note. The piano accompaniment features a more active bass line in measure 11 and a sustained chord in measure 12.

This is the day _____ the LORD has made. _____

p

Oo

13 14

Oo

15 16

SA *unis.*
mp *sempre espressivo*

This is the day the LORD has made,

TB *unis.*
mp

This is the day the LORD has made,

unis.

17 18

We will re-joice and be glad in it, we will re-
We will re-joice and be glad in it,
19 20

mf
joyce and be glad,
mf
we will re-joyce, and be glad,
21 22

unis.
This is the day the LORD has made.
unis.
This is the day the LORD has made.
23 24

mf *con moto*

25 26

Moving forward ♩ = ca. 76-80

mf

The LORD is my strength, the

Moving forward ♩ = ca. 76-80

27 28 29

LORD is my song, He has be -

30 31 32

mf

come my sal - va - tion. _____

The *mf*

33 34 35

LORD is my strength, the

mf

36 37

LORD is my song,

38 39

Preview copy - Not for performance

poco a poco cresc.

You are my God, I will ex - alt

poco a poco cresc.

40 41 42

you. — You are my God, I will ex -

43 44 45

alt you.

poco rit.

poco rit.

sub. mp

poco rit.

46 47 48

Broader

S *f*
This is the day _____ the LORD has made, _____

A *f*
This is the day _____ the LORD has made, _____

T *f*
This is the day _____ the LORD is my

B *f*
This is the day, _____ the LORD is my

Broader

49 50

We will re-joyce _____ and be glad in it, we will re -

We will re-joyce _____ and be glad in it, we will re -

8 strength, re-joyce, the LORD is my song, will re -

strength, re-joyce, the LORD is my song, will re -

51 52

joyce, _____ and be glad, _____

joyce, _____ and be glad, _____

joyce, _____ and be glad, _____

joyce, _____ and be glad, _____

joyce, re - joyce, and be glad, _____

53 54

_____ the LORD has made: _____

this is the day the LORD has made: _____

this is the day, made. _____

this is the day, made. _____

55 56

ff

This is the day _____ the LORD has made, _____

ff

This is the day _____ the LORD has made, _____

ff

8 This is the day _____ the LORD has made, _____

ff

This is the day _____ the LORD has made, _____

57 58

we will re-joyce _____ and be glad in it, we will re -

we will re-joyce _____ and be glad in it, we will re -

8 we will re-joyce _____ and be glad in it, we will re -

we will re-joyce _____ and be glad in it, we will re -

59 60

joice, _____ and be glad: _____
 joice, _____ and be glad: _____
 8 joice, _____ and be glad: _____
 joice, _____ and be glad: _____

61 62

rit.

this is the day, _____ the LORD has made. _____
 this, _____ this is the day _____ the LORD has made. _____
 this, _____ this is the day _____ the LORD has made. _____

63 64 65

rit. *mp*

14 Tempo I, gently ♩ = ca. 63-66
mp

Musical score for measures 14-15. The score is written for four staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and two piano staves (Right and Left Hand). The tempo is marked 'Tempo I, gently' with a quarter note equal to approximately 63-66 beats per minute. The dynamic is marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The vocal staves have lyrics 'Oo' and 'Oo' written below them. The piano staves show a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

Tempo I, gently ♩ = ca. 63-66

Musical score for measures 16-17. The piano part continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. Measure 16 is marked with a measure rest and a fermata. Measure 17 is marked with a measure rest and a fermata. The tempo is marked 'Tempo I, gently' with a quarter note equal to approximately 63-66 beats per minute.

Musical score for measures 18-20. The vocal staves have lyrics 'Oo' and 'Oo' written below them. The piano part continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'Tempo I, gently' with a quarter note equal to approximately 63-66 beats per minute. The dynamic is marked 'p' (piano). The word 'rit.' (ritardando) is written above the piano staves in measures 18, 19, and 20.

Musical score for measures 21-23. The piano part continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. Measure 21 is marked with a measure rest and a fermata. Measure 22 is marked with a measure rest and a fermata. Measure 23 is marked with a measure rest and a fermata. The tempo is marked 'Tempo I, gently' with a quarter note equal to approximately 63-66 beats per minute. The dynamic is marked 'p' (piano). The word 'rit.' (ritardando) is written above the piano staves in measures 21, 22, and 23.