

# Divine Encounter

SATB

I. The Invitation

II. The Offering

✧ III. The Blessing ✧

Craig Courtney

## FROM THE COMPOSER

*Divine Encounter* is a musical narrative that describes God's invitation to experience the sustenance that only He can provide, our response to His gifts and the blessing He in turn bestows upon our response. The first movement, *The Invitation*, is based on Isaiah 55:1, 6. Most musical settings of the first verse are lyric and meditative. In *Divine Encounter*, however, the mood is one of joyful celebration, an invitation to the Great Dance. In contrast, the sixth verse is regal, earnest and authoritative and the architecture of the movement is built upon the contrast between these two styles. The second movement, *The Offering*, is based on Micah 6:6-8. As we partake of God's bounty, our gratitude urges us to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to serve God and people alike. The final movement, *The Blessing*, is based on Numbers 6:24-26. As Jesus blessed and multiplied the fish and bread, so God blesses the offering we bring to Him. These movements can be performed as a suite on the concert stage or as the beginning, middle and end of a mass or church service.

### Ancillary Products

Score and parts for brass sextet (BP2258A)  
Score and parts for string quartet (BP2258B)  
Full performance accompaniment CD (BP2258C)  
Score and parts for full orchestra (BP2258D)  
Alternate piano accompaniment (BP2258E)

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Marvin L. Crawford, Director of Music and the Arts,  
and Joe McConathy, Organist;  
First Presbyterian Church, Fort Collins, Colorado

# The Blessing

For SATB Choir and Organ or Piano and String Quartet, Brass Sextet or Orchestra

Numbers 6:24-26

CRAIG COURTNEY  
(ASCAP)

Comforting ♩ = 76

Soprano

Organ

*mp*

*rit.*

*mp*

The

*a tempo*

Lord

bless you and

*a tempo*

keep you, and keep you. The

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

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Lord make His face, His face

shine up -

*mf*

*più forte*

on you, up - on you and be

*mp*

gra - cious un - to you.

25 26 27 28

The musical score is for a voice and piano piece. It consists of four systems of staves. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo and dynamics are indicated by markings like *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *più forte*. The lyrics are: "Lord make His face, His face shine up - on you, up - on you and be gra - cious un - to you." The measures are numbered 13 through 28. A large diagonal watermark "Preview Copy - Not for performance" is overlaid on the score.

Sop. *rit.* *a tempo*

Alto *rit.* *a tempo* *mp*

Ten. *rit.* *a tempo* *mp* The

Bass *rit.* *mp* *a tempo* The Lord, the

The Lord

*rit.* *a tempo* *mp*

29 30 31 32

*mp*

Bless you and keep you,

Lord bless you and keep you,

Lord bless you and keep you,

bless you and keep you,

*mp*

33 34 35



and keep you. The  
keep you. The  
and keep you.  
and keep you.

36 37 38

This block contains measures 36, 37, and 38 of a musical score. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "and keep you. The", "keep you. The", "and keep you.", and "and keep you.". The piano part includes triplet figures in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.

Lord lift up His face  
Lord lift up His face, lift His  
The Lord lift His face,  
The Lord lift His face,

39 40 41

This block contains measures 39, 40, and 41 of the musical score. The lyrics are: "Lord lift up His face", "Lord lift up His face, lift His", "The Lord lift His face,", and "The Lord lift His face,". The piano accompaniment continues with triplet figures in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.

His face

face un - to you, His face un - to

His face

His face, His face un - to

42 43 44

*mf*

un - to you,

you, un - to you,

un - to you, un -

you, un - to you,

45 46 47

*f*

un - to you, and give you

un - to you, and give you

to you, un - to you, and give you

un - to you, and give you

48 49 50

This system contains measures 48, 49, and 50. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have lyrics: 'un - to you, and give you' for the first two staves, and 'to you, un - to you, and give you' for the third. The piano part includes triplet figures in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.

peace, give you peace.

peace, give you peace,

peace, and give you peace,

peace, and give you peace,

51 52 53

This system contains measures 51, 52, and 53. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have lyrics: 'peace, give you peace.' for the first two staves, and 'peace, and give you peace,' for the third. The piano part includes triplet figures in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand. The dynamic marking *mp* is present.



musical score for measures 54-56. The score is for a vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked *rit.* (ritardando) and the dynamic is *mp* (mezzo-piano). The lyrics are "give you peace." The piano part features triplet figures in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.

54 55 56

musical score for measures 57-60. The score is for a vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked *a tempo* and the dynamic is *mp* (mezzo-piano). The lyrics are "men, A men, a A". The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.

57 58 59 60

men, a - men, a -

*mp*

A - men, a - men, a - men, a -

61 62 63 64

men. *rit.*

men, a - men, a - men.

men, a - men, a - men.

men, a - men, a - men.

men, a - men, a - men.

65 66 67 68 69