PROGRAM NOTES

Composed in 1994, this anthem still resonates as a contemporary anthem for our time and culture. The text is a call to action, reminding all of us that HOPE thrives on as we "pray, teach, work, march, and sing" it into the world.

One performance challenge to note is that the tenor 1 and tenor 2/baritone have a steady encounter with the B-natural and B-flat sung simultaneously. This is intentional and not to be changed as it creates a harmonic tension in the score.

This music and these lyrics create a wonderful rallying point for your singers and infuses everyone with a spirit of solidarity and purpose.

TEXT

If we want hope to survive in this world today, Then every day we've got to pray on (teach on, work on, march on, sing on)

-Ysaÿe M. Barnwell

Dr. Ysaÿe M. Barnwell is a commissioned composer, arranger, author, and actress. Born in New York City in 1946, she began her 15-year violin instruction at age two and a half. She went on to earn degrees in speech pathology (BS, MSEd), craniotomy-facial studies (Ph.D.) and public health (MSPH). In addition, she was awarded honorary doctoral degrees from theological seminaries in Chicago, Illinois and Alexandria, Virginia.

Dr. Barnwell taught at Howard University College of Dentistry for over a decade, later moving on to overseeing public health projects. In 1979, she joined the Grammy winning African American female *a cappella* ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock, and in the ensuing thirty-four years, appeared as a vocalist and instrumentalist on over thirty recordings with Sweet Honey and other artists.

For several decades, she also served as teacher and choral clinician in African American cultural performance. She led "Building a Vocal Community: Singing in the African American Tradition" workshop in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and Australia. Conducted in the oral tradition, it utilized an African world view and explored African American history, values, cultural, and vocal traditions to build communities of song among both singers and non-singers. Her pedagogy is highly respected among musicians, educators, health workers, activists, organizers, and members of both corporate and non-profit sectors.

In addition, Dr. Barnwell has published two books for children: *No Mirrors in My Nana's House* and *We Are One*, and made appearances on the television program *A Man Called Hawk* and in the film *Beloved*. Composing music for dance, choral, film and video, she has received commissions from countless organizations including Sesame Street, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and the King's Singers to name just a few.

E. C. Schirmer Music Company is proud to be the publishing home for Dr. Barnwell's choral music. Please visit ecspublishing.com for a complete listing of her works.

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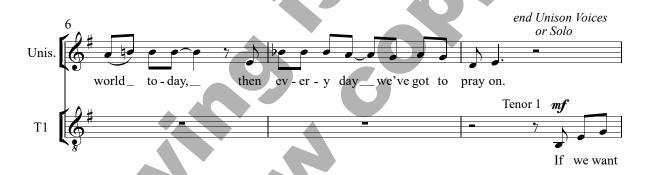
Hope

for Solo Trio* and SATB Chorus (divisi) unaccompanied

Words and Music by Ysaÿe M. Barnwell (BMI)











^{*}A small ensemble may by substituted for the solo trio.







