

The Power of Kindness

Words and Musi MARK HAYES



From the Composer ...

As a child, I was a gentle soul. At times it was confusing to live in a culture that valued assertiveness and the tough guy persona. I valued kindness. Was I being weak if I wanted people to be kind to me? After years of experiencing kindness, both as a giver and receiver, I know its power. To be kind is to be warmhearted, friendly, considerate, helpful, compassionate, understanding, generous, charitable, gracious, courteous, hospitable, selfless, altruistic and merciful. To be kind takes great courage, especially in a society where it's easy to react from our woundedness instead of responding from our heart.

The lyrics for "The Power of Kindness" were conceived to call us back to a sense of community, to know the truth that everything we do or say affects each other.

I purposefully wrote this piece to be bold and energetic. It's meant to be sung with passion, leaning in to the syncopated rhythms. The handclaps, stomps and hand drum groove will serve to underpin the beat and provide motion in measures where the singers are not singing. It is crucial that the tempo remains steady throughout. One of the temptations when clapping syncopated rhythms is to rush the beat. Find a way to teach your singers to not push the beat, whether that is practicing with a metronome, live drums or beat box.

One way to keep clapping on 2 and 4 steady is to gently hit the bottom of the palm, just above the wrist, together on beats 1 and 3 and then fully clap on beats 2 and 4. Having that extra hand motion keeps your singers from clapping too early on beats 2 and 4. It's also a nice visual effect. Speaking of which, there are several opportunities to create staged choreo appropriately in the breakout section in measures 64 through 68 where the tenors and basses are p

This piece is quite lyric intensive. Crisp diction to understand the words. Feel free to experime bending of notes, as long as everyone does the 36 through 42, featuring melismatic passages. choir shine.

As the director, I hope you will have a cor powerful. In an age where technology rule phones for a minute, look our friends in the

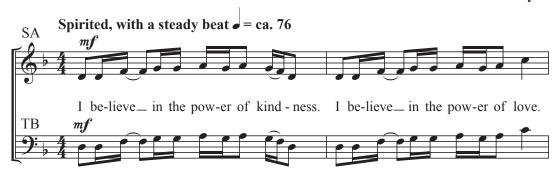
Be brave. Show love. Be kind.

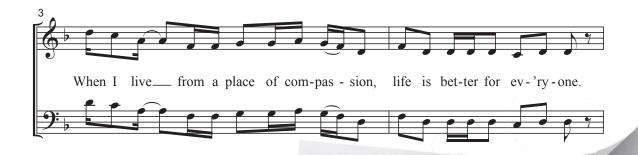


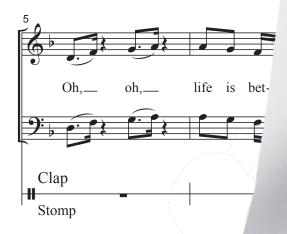
The Power of Kindness

SATB, divisi with Handelaps, Stomps and Percussion*

Words and Music by Mark Hayes







Duration: approx. 4:10

*Percussion part (Djembe and Cajón) is Visit www.lorenz.com, search 15/3837

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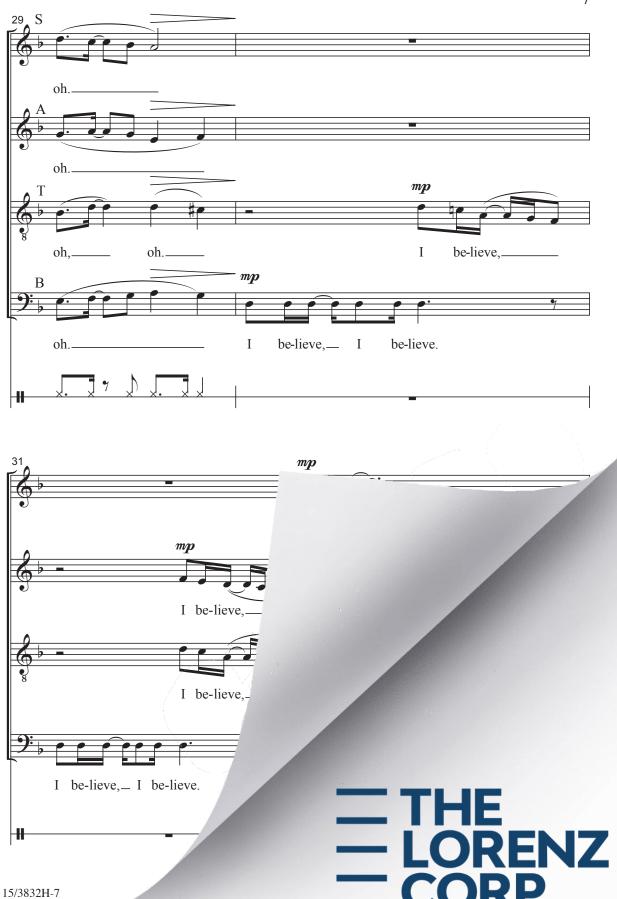
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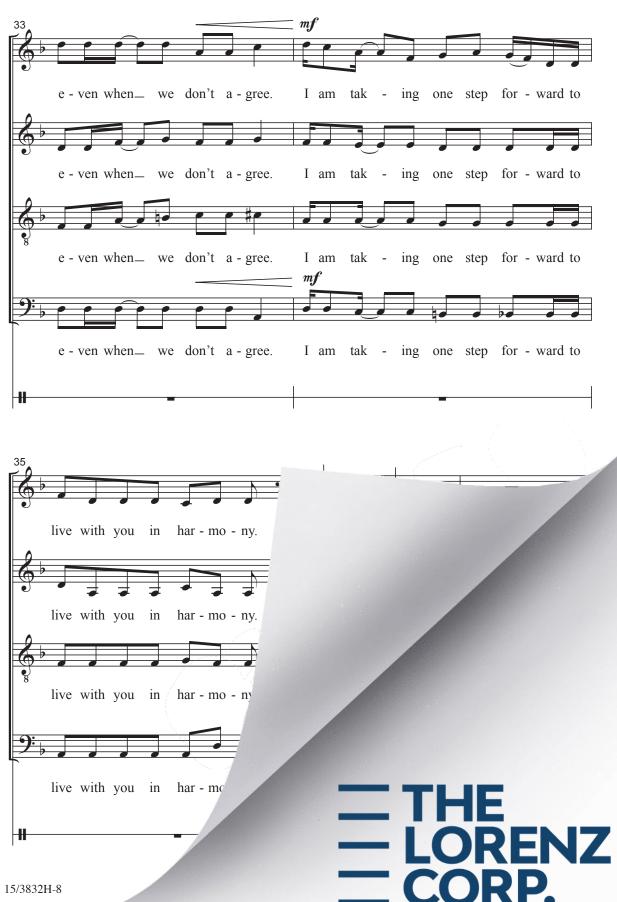










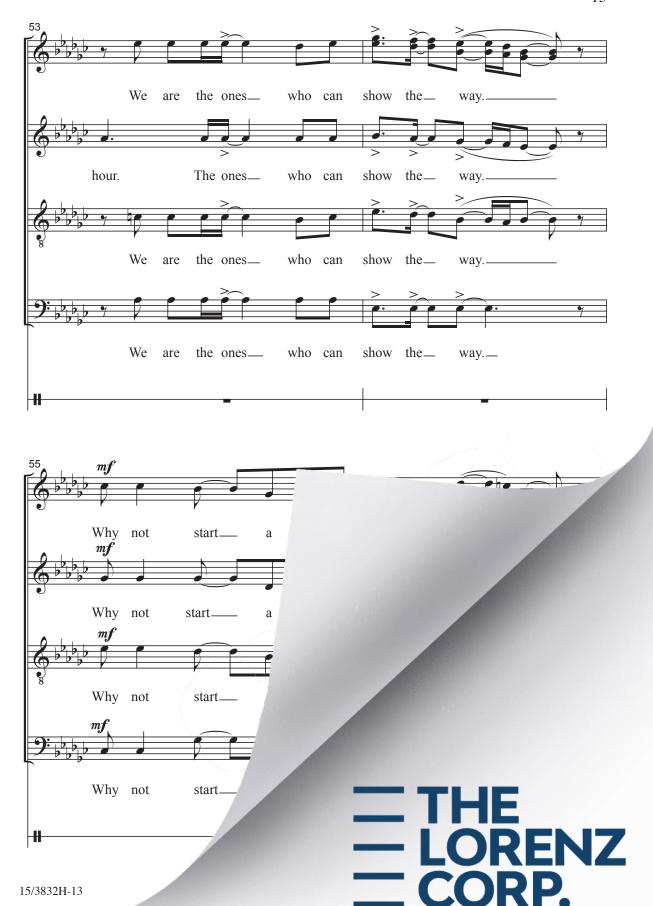




























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