

A PSALM OF LIFE

(Walk On)

TB accompanied

Lynn Shaw Bailey

BriLee Music
Part-by-Part



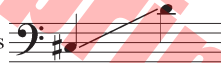
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Range:

Tenor



Bass



Language: English

Use: General

Time: Approx. 2:39

*Difficulty: Moderate

Performance Notes

The great American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882) coined the phrase “footprints on the sands of time” in *A Psalm of Life* (1839). This poem challenges the readers to live determined lives of dignity, action and greatness. Longfellow advises us to live in such a way that others see the footprints we leave behind and are encouraged to go forward. He admonishes us to “act in the living Present” and “be a hero in the strife!”

The poem is subtitled *What the Heart of the Young Man Said To The Psalmist*. Published when Longfellow was 32, it was included in his first collection of poems entitled *Voices of the Night*. I was particularly drawn to these words:

“Lives of great men all remind us We can make our lives sublime,

And, departing leave behind us Footprints on the sands of time.”

Can we choose to take responsibility for making our own lives sublime? “Sublime” may be a word one doesn’t hear very often, but it is a wonderful adjective describing someone or something that is noble, majestic and not to be excelled. It is someone of grand and lofty ideas, expression or manner; someone or something that inspires awe due to some elevated quality such as beauty, grandeur or excellence.

Great people leave their mark on others. Who do you consider great? Consider this word of caution. Just because someone is famous or popular doesn’t mean they are great. No matter your age or place in life, you can be great by doing your best, overcoming obstacles and making a real difference in the life of someone else. That’s what true greatness is all about.

I encourage you to read the entire poem and discuss it with your teacher, family and friends. Learn more about Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and his writings. Then go forth and be great! Inspire others and be a hero in strife.

Walk on and leave YOUR footprints on the sands of time...

Soli Deo Gloria

—Lynn Shaw Bailey (2014)

About the Arranger

Lynn Shaw Bailey (b.1955) is a creative and innovative composer, arranger, lyricist and writer known best for her choral music. Lynn’s professional affiliations include: American Choral Directors Association, Texas Music Educators Association, Choristers Guild and the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP), where she has received ASCAP Awards annually since 1995. A native of Georgia, she now lives in Waco, Texas. You can visit Lynn’s website at www.LynnShawBailey.com.

A Psalm of Life

(Walk On)

for TB Voices* with Piano

Based on *A Psalm of Life*

(What the Heart of the Young Man Said to the Psalmist)

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW (1807–1882)

LYNN SHAW BAILEY

Broadly with expression ♩ = 80

The musical score is for a piece titled 'A Psalm of Life' by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, arranged by Lynn Shaw Bailey. It is for Tenor and Bass voices with piano accompaniment. The tempo is 'Broadly with expression' at 80 beats per minute. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into three systems. The first system shows the piano introduction and the first line of the vocal melody. The second system shows the vocal melody continuing with the lyrics 'Lives of hon - or, lives of glo - ry. ___'. The third system shows the vocal melody continuing with the lyrics 'Lives of love for hu - man - kind, once de - part - ed'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. A large red watermark 'Unlawful to Copy or Print' is diagonally across the page.

Piano *mf*

Tenor *mf*

Bass *mf*

Lives of hon - or, lives of glo - ry. ___

Lives of hon - or, lives of glo - ry. ___

Lives of love for hu - man - kind, once de - part - ed

Lives of love for hu - man - kind, once de - part - ed

*Also available for SATB Voices (BL685) and Unison, Optional Two-part Voices (BL606).

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10

leave be - fore us foot - prints on the sands of time.

leave be - fore us foot - prints on the sands of time.

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This block contains the musical notation for measures 10 through 12. It features a vocal melody in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 8/8. The lyrics are 'leave be - fore us foot - prints on the sands of time.' The piano part consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

13

Walk on, leave your

Walk on, leave your

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This block contains the musical notation for measures 13 through 15. The vocal melody continues with the lyrics 'Walk on, leave your'. The piano accompaniment provides a rhythmic foundation with eighth notes. A large diagonal watermark 'For promotional use only' is visible across the page.

16

foot-prints. Walk on, leave your foot-prints on the sands of time. Walk

foot-prints. Walk on, leave your foot-prints on the sands of time. Walk

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This block contains the musical notation for measures 16 through 18. The vocal melody concludes the phrase with 'foot-prints. Walk on, leave your foot-prints on the sands of time. Walk'. The piano accompaniment continues with a consistent eighth-note pattern. The watermark 'For promotional use only' is still present.

30

f

leave be - hind us foot - prints on the sands of time. Walk

f

leave be - hind us foot - prints on the sands of time. Walk

33

on, walk on. Walk on. Walk on, leave your foot-prints on the

on, leave your foot-prints. Walk on, leave your foot-prints on the

36

sands of time. Walk on, walk on. Walk on. Walk

sands of time. Walk on, though you're wea-ry. — Walk

39

on, leave your foot-prints on the sand. _____ Walk on, leave your

on, leave your foot-prints on the sands of time. Walk on, leave your

decresc.

decresc.

decresc.

42

foot - prints on the sands _____ of time. Walk on, walk

foot - prints on the sands _____ of time. Walk

mp

mp

mp

45

rit.

on!

on!

rit.

p

p

p

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