

The Year of the Lord

Based on Isaiah 61

Carl L. Derfler

(♩. = ca. 76)

Keyboard *mf*

5

Soprano *mf*

The

9

Spir - it of God has a - noint - ed me, sing al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia, the

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13

year of the Lord to pro-claim to the world. Sing al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. _____ He

17

Alto *mf*
sent me to bring the good news to the poor, sing al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia, re -
Good news. Good news. Al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia, re -

Tenor *mf*
Good news. Good news. Al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia, re -

Bass

21

lease to the cap-tives and sight to the blind. Sing al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu -

lease to the cap - tives. Al - le - lu.

lease to cap - tives. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -

mf
Good news. Al - le - lu -

25

ia. Sing al - le - lu - ia. Lift your voice with one ac-cord. Pro -

Al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia.

ia. al - le - lu - ia. Lift your voice with one ac-cord. Pro -

ia. al - le - lu - ia.

29

claim the glo - ry of the Lord. Sing a - loud to God on high.

Sing out on high.

claim the glo - ry of the Lord. Sing out on high.

Sing out on high.

33

Com - fort mourn - ers. Sing

Com - fort mourn - ers.

I come to give com - fort to all those who mourn, sing

I come to give com - fort to all those who mourn, sing

37

al - le-lu - ia. Sing al - le-lu - ia. Glad - ness a gar - land of joy. Sing
Al - le - lu - ia. Glad - ness a gar - land of joy. Sing
al - le-lu - ia, sing al - le-lu - ia, the oil of glad-ness, a gar - land of joy. Sing
al - le-lu - ia, sing al - le-lu - ia, the oil of glad-ness, a gar - land.

41

al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu.
al - le, al - le-lu. *mp* Pro-claim to the world. Sing with joy the
al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu. *mp* Sing with joy, pro-claim. Sing with
Al - le-lu. *mp* Sing with joy. Sing with

46 *mf*

Tell the good news to ev - ery - one the liv - ing God has

year of the Lord. Tell ev - ery - one God sent

joy. Tell the good news to ev - ery - one the liv - ing God has

joy. Good _____ news. _____

50 *cresc.* *f*

sent his son. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. _____ I

cresc.

his son. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. _____

cresc.

sent his son. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. _____

cresc.

_____ Al - le - lu. Al - le - lu - ia.

54

great - ly re - joice in the Lord ___ my God, sing al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu -
I re - joice. Sing al - le - lu -
I re - joice. Sing al - le - lu,
I re - joice. Sing al - le - lu - ia, al -

58

ia, for He ___ has robbed me in righ - teous - ness. Sing al - le - lu - ia, al -
ia. For He has robbed me. Now sing al -
al - le - lu - ia. He's robbed me. Al - le, al -
le. He has robbed me. Al - le - lu - ia, al -

61

le - lu - ia. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, sing
 le - lu, al - le - lu - ia. For as the earth brings forth shoots,
 le - lu - ia. As the earth brings forth shoots,
 le - lu - ia. As earth, as the earth.

64

al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia. The Lord will cause his
 al - le. Al - le - lu - ia. We will sing his
 al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia. The Lord will cause
 Al - le - lu - ia. The Lord we will

67 *mf* *cresc.*
 praise to spring up. All na-tions will see his righ - teous-ness and bless his name. Al -
mf *cresc.*
 praise. Na - tions will see his bless - ings. Al -
mf *cresc.*
 praise. Na-tions will see his righ - teous-ness and bless his name. Al -
mf *cresc.*
 praise. Righ - teous-ness and bless his name. Al -

71 *f* *mf*
 le - lu - ia. Shout to the world, pro -
f *mf*
 le - lu - ia. Pro - claim to the world, pro - claim, pro -
f *mf*
 le - lu. Shout to the world, pro - claim. Bless his
f *mf*
 le - lu. A - men. Bless his

75

claim. Now let the world in joy - ous praise re - sound to the heav - ens

claim to the world. With joy - ous praise re - sound

name. Now let the world in joy - ous praise re - sound to the heav - ens

div.
name. A - - - - - men.

79

all our days. Al - le - lu - ia is our song. A - - - - - men.

our days. Al - le - lu - ia. A - - - - - men.

all our days. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, a - men.

Al - le - lu - ia. A - - - - - men.

cresc. *f* *mf rit.*

Composer Notes

“The Year of the Lord” originated as a commission/competition offered to three composers in Eugene, Oregon. St. Thomas More, the university parish, offered a stipend to each composer for an original work based on the Irish tune, “Though Dark Are Our Sorrows” also known as “Air: St. Patrick’s Day” and “The Prince’s Day.” The result was three completely different styles of music. My adaptation was most like the original piece’s tune and spirit. Isaiah 61 was the text provided to all three composers in celebration of the year 2000, a holy year proclaimed by Pope John Paul II, inspiring the title of my composition.

The original title, “Though Dark Are Our Sorrows,” is misleading in that the Irish tune is anything but sorrowful. This lively dance setting suggests a joyful, uplifting mood that I tried to capture in my piece. The joyful exuberance of the music matches the text “Sing Alleluia, Lift your voice with one accord, Proclaim the glory of the Lord.”

Care should be taken to avoid singing this piece too slowly, affecting the musical mood, or too quickly, as to make the lyrics incomprehensible.

—*Carl L. Derfler*

Preview