

# As The Setting Sun

Peter McGrail

INTRO: (♩ = ca. 80)

Keyboard

VERSES 1, 2: vs. 1: Unison Choir  
vs. 2: Solo, SATB Choir

1. As the set-ting sun sinks in - to the west, and its gold - en flame fades a -  
2. (On our) lips the song all cre - a - tion sings as it yearns to grow in - to

SATB Choir (vs. 2 only):  
*pp*

2. Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_

*pp*

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1. - way, we raise our hearts in thank - ful praise as  
 2. birth, to Christ, the first - born in - to life, who

2. Ah

1. eve - ning fol - lows day. When the dy - ing light yields be -  
 2. shat - tered death's long curse; (End of solo) *poco cresc.*

2. Ah Christ who trod our path, — Christ who  
 Christ who trod our

*poco cresc.*

*poco cresc.*

1. - fore the night and our world is lost in deep shade, then

2. shared our pain, once in si - lent dark - ness en - tombed, whose  
2. path, once in dark - ness en - tombed, whose

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics. The second staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics. The third staff is a piano accompaniment line in bass clef. The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment line in bass clef. The music is in a minor key and 4/4 time. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid on the score.

1. hear the prayer, O sav - ing God, of those your hand has

2. ris - ing fills the world with light, and scat - ters sin's dread

2. ris - ing light has scat - tered sin's dread  
2. ris - ing light has scat - tered sin's dread

has scat - tered sin's dread

The second system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics. The second staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics. The third staff is a piano accompaniment line in bass clef. The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment line in bass clef. The music is in a minor key and 4/4 time. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid on the score.

1  
Solo:  
made. 2. On our

2 BRIDGE:

1 2 (unison) *f*  
2. gloom. O ra-diant light! O

1 2  
*p* *f*

joy-ful light! Our Sav - ior Je-sus Christ! The glo-rious shin - ing

(div.) (div.)

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled 'As The Setting Sun'. It consists of three systems of music. The first system features a vocal line with two parts: '1' and '2'. Part 1 is marked 'Solo:' and ends with a repeat sign. Part 2 is marked 'BRIDGE:'. The piano accompaniment for this system is in two staves, with the right hand starting in measure 1 and the left hand in measure 2. The second system continues the vocal line with parts 1 and 2. Part 1 is marked '1' and part 2 is marked '2' and '(unison) f'. The piano accompaniment continues in two staves. The third system features a vocal line with two parts, '1' and '2', both marked '(div.)'. The lyrics are 'joy-ful light! Our Sav - ior Je-sus Christ! The glo-rious shin - ing'. The piano accompaniment continues in two staves. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

of our God, a - rise up - on our night!

of our God, rise up - on our night!

The first system of music consists of four staves. The top two staves are vocal staves (treble and bass clefs) with lyrics. The bottom two staves are piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). The music is in a minor key with a common time signature. The lyrics are: "of our God, a - rise up - on our night!" and "of our God, rise up - on our night!".

**VERSE 3:**

(unison)  
*mp*

3. So a - cross the earth, and in ev - 'ry age, count-less hearts and voic - es u -

*mp*  
(unison)

The second system of music consists of four staves. The top two staves are vocal staves (treble and bass clefs) with lyrics. The bottom two staves are piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). The music is in a minor key with a common time signature. The lyrics are: "3. So a - cross the earth, and in ev - 'ry age, count-less hearts and voic - es u -". The dynamic marking is *mp* (mezzo-piano).

3. - nite to sing your praise, O Son of God, for peace and joy and

This system contains the first two systems of music. The top system shows the vocal line with lyrics: "3. - nite to sing your praise, O Son of God, for peace and joy and". The bottom system shows the piano accompaniment.

*cresc. poco a poco*

3. light, till the praise of God through cre - a - tion rings, till the  
 3. light, till the praise of God rings, till the

*cresc. poco a poco*

*cresc. poco a poco*

This system contains the third and fourth systems of music. The top system shows the vocal line with lyrics: "3. light, till the praise of God through cre - a - tion rings, till the" and "3. light, till the praise of God rings, till the". The bottom system shows the piano accompaniment. The instruction "cresc. poco a poco" is written above the vocal line and below the piano accompaniment.

3. dawn of life's glo - rious day, when all will be re -

3. dawn of life's day, when all will be re -

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

This system contains the first two vocal lines and the piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in a soprano and alto register. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. Dynamics include *ff* (fortissimo) in the vocal lines and piano accompaniment.

3. newed in light, in Love's e - ter - nal reign.

3. newed in Love's e - ter - nal reign.

*f*

*rit.*

*f*

*rit.*

*f*

*rit.*

This system contains the second two vocal lines and the piano accompaniment. The vocal lines continue the previous system. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *rit.* (ritardando) in the vocal lines and piano accompaniment.

# As The Setting Sun

SOLO INSTRUMENT

Peter McGrail

INTRO: (♩ = ca. 80)      VERSES 1, 2:

3      15      1

2 BRIDGE:

(...O ra-diant light...) *mf*

VERSE 3:

*mp*

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# As The Setting Sun

(Guitar/Vocal)

Peter McGrail

\*INTRO: (♩ = ca. 80)

Capo 3: (Bm7) (Bm7/A)(Gmaj7)(Em7) (D/F#)(Gmaj7) (Asus4) (A)  
 Dm7 Dm7/C B♭maj7 Gm7 F/A B♭maj7 Csus4 C

## VERSES:

♩ (A) (D) (Em/D) (F#m)  
 C F Gm/F Am

1. As the set-ting sun sinks in - to the west, and its gold - en flame fades a-
2. On our lips the song all cre - a - tion sings as it yearns to grow in - to
3. So a - cross the earth, and in ev - 'ry age, count - less hearts and voic - es u-

(Gmaj7) (D/A) (Bm7)  
 B♭maj7 F/C Dm7

1. way, we raise our hearts in thank - ful praise as
2. birth, to Christ, the first - born in - to life, who
3. nite to sing your praise, O Son of God, for

(Em7) (Asus4) (A) (D)  
 Gm7 Csus4 C F

1. eve - ning fol - lows day. When the dy - ing light yields be -
2. shat - tered death's long curse; Christ who trod our path, Christ who
3. peace and joy and light, till the praise of God through cre -

(Em7) (D7) (Gmaj7) (G#°7)  
 Gm7 F7 B♭maj7 B°7

1. fore the night and our world is lost in deep shade, then
2. shared our pain, once in si - lent dark - ness en - tombed, whose
3. a - tion rings, till the dawn of life's glo - rious day, when

(D/A) (E) (Em) (A7)  
 F/C G Gm C7

1. hear the prayer, O sav - ing God, of those your hand has
2. ris - ing fills the world with light, and scat - ters sin's dread
3. all will be re - newed in light, in love's e - ter - nal

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\*If keyboard is used, guitars tacet until beginning of Verse 2

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Final</b>
(D) F	(Em/D) Gm/F	(D) F
<i>D.S.</i>	<i>to Bridge</i>	<i>rit.</i>
1. made.	2. gloom.	3. reign.

**BRIDGE:**

## Performance Notes

The impulse to pray at the hour of sunset is common to diverse cultures and religions; each of us knows the rekindling of half-forgotten anxieties and awakening of uncertainties which the onset of darkness can bring — an experience which must have been all the more intense before the development of modern artificial illumination. Within the Christian tradition this hour of prayer has, however, balanced the fear of darkness with an expression of hope in Christ — the true and definitive Light. Sometime before the end of the third century A.D., an unknown author voiced these concepts in an evening hymn entitled “O Joyous Light.” Its popularity was such that it became a constant element in the worship of eastern Christians; for very many centuries it has been sung each evening in churches of the Byzantine Rite.

*As The Setting Sun* presents this ancient hymn in a contemporary version; the text has been somewhat expanded (the original is remarkably concise), but the primordial images of light and darkness, day and night are as powerful today as they were when the hymn was originally penned. Such concrete references to the daily cycle render this song best-suited to worship at the close of day — especially during celebrations of Evening Prayer when it can serve as the Office Hymn or during a candle-lighting ceremony.

Whilst the overall tone of the hymn is subdued and gentle, the Bridge, which is based upon the opening lines of the original hymn, is rather more acclamatory in character.

— *P.M.*

## Assembly Edition

### AS THE SETTING SUN

Peter McGrail

VERSES:



1. As the set - ting sun sinks in - to the west, and its
2. On our lips the song all cre - a - tion sings as it
3. So a - cross the earth, and in ev - 'ry age, count - less



1. gold - en flame fades a - way, we raise our hearts in thank - ful praise
2. yearns to grow in - to birth, to Christ, the first - born in - to life,
3. hearts and voic - es u - nite to sing your praise, O Son of God,



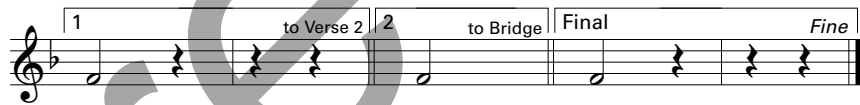
1. as eve - ning fol - lows day. When the dy - ing light
2. who shat - tered death's long curse; Christ who trod our path,
3. for peace and joy and light, till the praise of God



1. yields be - fore the night and our world is lost in deep shade,
2. Christ who shared our pain, once in si - lent dark - ness en - tombed,
3. through cre - a - tion rings, till the dawn of life's glo - rious day,



1. then hear the prayer, O sav - ing God, of those your hand has
2. whose ris - ing fills the world with light, and scat - ters sin's dread
3. when all will be re - newed in light, in love's e - ter - nal



1. made.
2. gloom.
3. reign.

BRIDGE:



O ra - dant light! O joy - ful light! Our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ! The



glo - rious shin - ing of our God, a - rise up - on our night! \_\_\_\_

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