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God So Loved the World
SATB Choir, Descant, Keyboard, Guitar,
Violin, Assembly

Tom Kendzia



CHORAL SERIES

God So Loved the World

Tom Kendzia

Preview

FROM THE COLLECTION

By Our Love

Octavo Packet #30143753

MP3 Album #30143755



Composer Notes

This setting of the opening hymn and subsequent passage of John’s gospel was originally intended for choir or soloist only, and it may be used quite effectively as a choral meditation. But as the composition developed, it seemed to me that assembly involvement was both possible and effective; the melody of the refrain is certainly manageable by a congregation, and communal singing in the middle of what seems to be “for musicians only” can be a desirable experience, especially if it draws the assembly more deeply into the song.

Scored for piano, keyboard instruments (samplers, pipe organ), and solo violin, the piece is dynamic and broad. The recording offers a “spatial” approach to the sound, mimicking the atmosphere of a large stone church where acoustics are as integral as the instruments making the music. I mostly refrained from marking dynamics or phrasing, as these elements are largely dependent on the space, the occasion, and the musical forces available; I felt it would not be helpful for me to insist on such specifics when the piece may be used in different places by various combinations of players and singers. Similarly, tempo markings are useful for determining the “feel” intended by the writer, but should be adapted to fit the season, specific ritual use, acoustics, and musicians available.

I encourage you to listen to the recorded performance and adapt this score to fashion your own arrangement. You may notice that the printed violin part is not always audible on the recording; this was intentional, and it might be seen as an example of using bits and pieces of a printed score to create your own version. The recording features a busier piano part than what appears in print, and you may contact me for the part that was actually played on the recording if desired!

I am eternally grateful for OCP saying yes to this composition, as it was a labor of love for me, begun before COVID-19 and completed during the course of that pandemic. The text continues to remind us that the darkness will never overcome the light.

—Tom Kendzia

God So Loved the World

Based on John 1:1-5, 3:16-17

Tom Kendzia

INTRO (♩ = ca. 57)

Violin

Play 2nd time only

Keyboard

Gsus4

Gsus4/F

Cadd9/E

Cadd9

E♭ F/E♭ E♭ F/E♭

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Soprano the Word, _____

Alto 1. In the be - gin - ning was the, was the Word, and the

Tenor

Bass the Word, _____ and the

E \flat F/E \flat E \flat F/E \flat

1. Word was with God, with God. He was

1. Word was with God.

E \flat F/E \flat E \flat F/E \flat E \flat

1. in the be - gin - ning with God, _____ and the Word

F/E \flat Gm Cadd9 Cm7

1. was with God, and the Word

Bbmaj7 Dm/A Gsus4 G Cm7

This system contains the first vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a soprano clef with lyrics: "1. was with God, and the Word". The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff with chords: Bbmaj7, Dm/A, Gsus4, G, and Cm7. A large watermark "PREVIEW" is overlaid on the page.

(Vln)

1. was God.

F D Ebadd9/D D Eb/D

This system contains a violin line and piano accompaniment. The violin line is in a soprano clef with the instruction "(Vln)" and lyrics: "1. was God.". The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff with chords: F, D, Ebadd9/D, D, and Eb/D. A large watermark "PREVIEW" is overlaid on the page.

♩ REFRAIN

Play 2nd time only

God so loved the world that he gave his on - ly Son;

D Eb/D D Eb/D

all who be - lieve in him will live for ev - er.

Cm7 Dm7 Eb Ebadd9 Fsus2 F

Sent not to con - demn, but to lead us in - to light;

D Eb/D Cm7 Cm7/Bb Ab

Second time to Interlude

Second time to Interlude

those who live in truth shall live for - ev - er.

Dbmaj7 Cm Cm/Eb Fsus4 F Gsus4 G

Second time to Interlude

VERSE 2

2. All things came to be through him, _____
 All ___ through ___ him, and with - out him

Chords: Eb, Dm, Gm, Gm/F, Cm7

2. noth - ing came to be. _____ What came to be through him was
 2. noth - ing came to, noth - ing came to be.

Chords: Bbmaj7, C/E, C/D, Cadd9, Ebmaj7, F

2. life, _____ and this life was the light of the world, _____

2. life through him,

Gm Gm/F C/E Eb Cm7 F

2. _____ for the world.

F/E D Ebmaj7/D D Ebmaj7/D D.S.

INTERLUDE

(Vln)

Cm Gm/D Ebadd9 Fsus4 F Eb/G F/A

Cadd9/G Cm Gm/D Ebadd9 Fsus4 F

BRIDGE

S *mp*
A The light shines on in the

Eb/G F/A Cadd9/G Cm Gm/D

mp

dark - ness, and the dark - ness has nev - er o - ver - come it.

E^badd9 Fsus4 F E^b/G F/A Cadd9/G

(Vln) *mf*

mf

The light shines on in the dark - ness, and the

mf

Cm Gm/D E^badd9 Fsus4 F

dark - ness has nev - er o - ver - come it. The

f

E^b/G F/A Cadd9/G

f

f

light — shines on — in the dark - ness, and the

Cm Gm/D Ebadd9 Fsus4 F

dark - ness has nev - er o - ver - come it, and the

ff

ff

Eb/G F/A Eb/Bb Eb/G

ff

Detailed description: This page of a musical score is for the hymn 'God So Loved the World'. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The score is divided into two systems. The first system begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The vocal line starts with the lyrics 'light — shines on — in the dark - ness, and the'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. Chord symbols are provided below the piano part: Cm, Gm/D, Ebadd9, Fsus4, and F. The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics 'dark - ness has nev - er o - ver - come it, and the'. This section is marked with fortissimo (*ff*) dynamics. The piano accompaniment continues with chords Eb/G, F/A, Eb/Bb, and Eb/G. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'PREVIEW' is oriented diagonally across the center of the page.

ff

dark - ness has nev - er o - ver - come it, o - ver -

Cm7 Cm7/Bb Ab Eb/G Fadd9 F F/E

come it.

D Ebmaj7/D D Ebmaj7/D

FINAL REFRAIN

f

Descant

f

God so loved, gave his on - ly Son; —

f

God so loved the world that he gave his on - ly Son;

f

D Eb/D D Eb/D

will live for ev - er, will live for ev - er. —

all who be - lieve in him will live for ev - er. Sent not to con -

Cm7 Dm7 Eb Ebadd9 Fsus2 F D

God So Loved the World

Lead us to light, in - to light; live in
 demn, but to lead us in - to light; those who live in

mp

truth shall live for ev - er, for ev - er.

mp

truth shall live for ev - er, for ev - er.

mp

mp

Chord markings: Eb/D, Cm7, Cm7/Bb, Ab, Dbmaj7, Cm, Fsus4, F, Gsus4, G, Gsus4, G.

God So Loved the World

Musical score for the first system, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes chords Gsus4 and Gsus4/F.

Musical score for the second system, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes chords Cadd9/E, Ebmaj7, F sus4, and F.

Musical score for the third system, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes chords Dm7, Gsus4, and G. The system concludes with a ritardando (*rit.*) marking.

God So Loved the World

VIOLIN

Tom Kendzia

INTRO ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 57$)

Play 2nd time only

VERSE 1

19 REFRAIN 17

VERSE 2

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REFRAIN

The Refrain section consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. It contains a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The second staff continues with quarter notes E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, and C6. The third staff concludes with a half note G5, followed by quarter notes F5, E5, D5, and C5.

INTERLUDE

The Interlude section consists of two staves of music. The first staff features a melodic line with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The second staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, and D5, interspersed with rests.

BRIDGE

The Bridge section consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats, and a common time signature. It contains a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. A fermata is placed over the final note, and a bar line with the number '7' above it indicates a seven-measure rest. The second staff starts with a dynamic marking of *mf* and contains a melodic line with quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, and D5. The third staff starts with a dynamic marking of *f* and contains a melodic line with quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, and D5.

Musical notation for the first system, including a treble clef, key signature of two flats, and dynamics markings *ff* and *p*.

FINAL REFRAIN

Musical notation for the final refrain, including a treble clef, key signature of two flats, and dynamics markings *f*, *mp*, and *rit.*

God So Loved the World

(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on John 1:1-5, 3:16-17

Tom Kendzia

INTRO ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 57$)

Gsus4 Gsus4/F Cadd9/E

(Kbd)

Cadd9 Eb F/Eb Eb F/Eb

VERSE 1

Eb F/Eb Eb F/Eb Eb F/Eb Eb F/Eb

1. In the be - gin - ning was the Word, _____ and the Word was with God.

Eb F/Eb Gm Cadd9 Cm7 Bbmaj7 Dm/A

He was in the be - gin - ning with God, _____ and the Word was with

Gsus4 G Cm7 F D Ebadd9/D D Eb/D

God, _____ and the Word was God.

REFRAIN

D Eb/D D Eb/D Cm7

God so loved the world that he gave his on - ly Son; all who be -

Dm7 Eb Ebadd9 Fsus2 F D Eb/D Cm7 Cm7/Bb

lieve in him will live for ev - er. Sent not to con - demn, but to lead us in - to

Ab Dbmaj7 Cm Cm/Eb Fsus4 F Gsus4 G

light; those who live in truth shall live _____ for ev - er.

VERSE 2

*E*_b Dm Gm Gm/F Cm7

2. All things came to be through him, _____ and with - out him

B \flat maj7 C/E C/D Cadd9 E \flat maj7 F

2. noth - ing came to be. _____ What came to be through him was

Gm Gm/F C/E E \flat Cm7 F

2. life, _____ and this life was the light of the world, _____

F/E D E \flat maj7/D D E \flat maj7/D *D.S.*

2. _____ for the world. _____

INTERLUDE

Cm Gm/D E \flat add9 Fsus4 F E \flat /G F/A Cadd9/G

Cm Gm/D E \flat add9 Fsus4 F E \flat /G F/A Cadd9/G

BRIDGE

mp Cm Gm/D E \flat add9 Fsus4 F

The light shines on in the dark - ness, and the

E \flat /G F/A Cadd9/G *mf - f* Cm

dark - ness has nev - er o - ver - come it. The light shines

Gm/D E \flat add9 Fsus4 F E \flat /G F/A

on _____ in the dark - ness, and the dark - ness has nev - er o - ver -

Eb/Bb Eb/G ff Cm7 Cm7/Bb Ab Eb/G

come it, _____ and the dark - ness has nev - er o - ver -

Fadd9 F F/E D Ebmaj7/D D Ebmaj7/D

come it, _____ o - ver - come it.

FINAL REFRAIN

D Eb/D D Eb/D

ff God so loved the world that he gave his on - ly Son;

Cm7 Dm7 Eb Ebadd9 Fsus2 F D

all who be - lieve in him will live for ev - er. Sent not to con -

Eb/D Cm7 Cm7/Bb Ab Dbmaj7 Cm

demn, but to lead us in - to light; those who live in truth shall

Fsus4 F Gsus4 G Gsus4 G Gsus4 mp

live ___ for ev - er, for ev - er.

Gsus4/F Cadd9/E Ebmaj7

Fsus4 F Dm7 Gsus4 G rit.

Preview

Assembly Edition

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

Tom Kendzia

Verse 1

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God.
He was in the beginning with God,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

Refrain

God so loved the world that he gave his on - ly Son;
all who be - lieve in him will live for ev - er.
Sent not to con - demn, but to lead us in - to light;
those who live in truth shall live for ev - er.

Verse 2

All things came to be through him,
and without him nothing came to be.
What came to be through him was life,
and this life was the light of the world, for the world.

Bridge

The light shines on in the darkness,
and the darkness has never overcome it. (3x)

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