

DISTANT LAND

A prayer for freedom

Words and music by
JOHN RUTTER

A tempo tranquillo ($\text{♩} = 50$)

KEYBOARD



mp legato sempre

con Ped.

The keyboard introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays a series of chords and moving lines, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'A tempo tranquillo' with a quarter note equal to 50 beats per minute. The dynamics are mezzo-piano (*mp*) and the articulation is legato. A pedal point is indicated by 'con Ped.'

5 SOPRANOS
mp

1. I see a dis-tant land: it shines so clear.—



The soprano part begins at measure 5 with the lyrics 'I see a distant land: it shines so clear.' The keyboard accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand. The dynamic is mezzo-piano (*mp*).

9

Some-times it seems so far, some-times so near.—



The soprano part continues with the lyrics 'Some-times it seems so far, some-times so near.' The keyboard accompaniment features a *poco cresc.* (poco crescendo) leading to a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The melody in the right hand becomes more active.

13 **A** SOPRANOS
mf and ALTOS

Come, join to-ge-ther, take the dus-ty road;—



The soprano part begins at measure 13 with the lyrics 'Come, join together, take the dusty road.' The dynamic is mezzo-forte (*mf*). The keyboard accompaniment continues with the eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

17 *dim.*

Help one an-o-ther: share the hea-vy load.

dim.

21 **B** *mp*

The jour-ney may be long: no end in sight;—

T. B. Hum

p

B *mp*

25 *poco cresc.*

There may be hills to climb, or giants to fight:—

poco cresc.

poco cresc.

29 *f dolce* *dim.*

But if you'll take my hand, we'll walk to - ge - ther t'ward the land of

f *dim.*

mf *dim.*

33 *mp* *p*

free - dom, free - dom.

mp *p*

mp *dim.* *p*

38 *mp*

2. I hear a dis - tant song: it fills the

mp

mp

42

air. I hear it, deep and strong, rise up in

mf

cresc. *mf*

46

prayer: O Lord, we are ma - ny;

f

prayer: O Lord, we are ma - ny;

f

49

help us to be one. Heal

mf

mf

mf

52

dim.

our di - vi - sions: — let thy will be done, — thy will be done.
done. —

dim.

dim.

55 **D**

mp

I know the time will come — when war must cease: —

D *mp*

mp

59

A time of truth and love, — a time of peace. —

63 *f* *mf*

The peo - ple cry, 'How long till all our world can join the song of

f *mf*

f *mf*

67 *mp*

free - dom, _____ free - dom.' _____

mp

dim. *mp*

Ped. * *Ped.* *

72 **E** SOPRANOS *p*

3. I touch a

E *p* *dolce*

Ped. *

76

SOPRANOS and ALTOS

mp

dis - tant hand — and feel its glow, — The hand I

cresc. *mp*

80

F *f*

hoped was there: at last I know. — Swords

TENORS **B**

BASSES *f*

F *f*

cresc.

84

in - to plough-shares: can it all come true? —

87 *mf*

Friends out of stran - gers:— start with me and you, — start with

mf

mf

p.

90 *mf legato e dolce*

— with me and you. I see an - o - ther time, — an - o - ther
me and you.

mf legato e dolce

mf legato e dolce

G

94

place — Where we can all be one, one hu - man

98

race. — The walls will melt a - way, we'll come to - ge - ther

102

on the day of free - dom, — free - dom, —

mf *dim.* *mp*

mf *dim.* *mp*

mf *mp*

Ped. * *sim.*

106

rit. al fine

free - dom, — free - dom, —

p *dim.* *pp*

p *dim.* *pp*

rit. al fine *dim.* *pp*