

From the Collection

**Before I
Was Born**

Compact Disc CD-448
Cassette CS-448

Celebration Series

For
Choir
Cantor
Assembly
Guitar, Keyboard
C Instrument and Handbells

by David Haas

A LIGHT SHINES

For Doug and Theresa Thienpont

A LIGHT SHINES

Psalms 112:4-9
Adapt. by D.H.

Words and Music by David Haas
Keyboard arr. by David Haas
and Gerard Chiusano

Flowing $\text{♩} = 72$

Refrain

Capo 1: (G)

(C/G)

(D/G) (G)

Descant

A \flat

D \flat /A \flat

mf

E \flat /A \flat A \flat

Descant *mf*
 Melody *mf* (strong.)
 A light shines
 A light shines in the dark - ness,

(C/G)
D \flat /A \flat

(D/G) (G)
E \flat /A \flat A \flat

(C/G)
D \flat /A \flat

(D/G)
E \flat /A \flat

in the dark - ness, for the
 for the up - right and the

For an introduction, play the Refrain through once.

A C Instrument part is available separately from the publisher, G-5188INST.

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	1.	2. To Verses
(G) A \flat	(C/G) D \flat /A \flat	(D/G) E \flat /A \flat
		(D/F \sharp) E \flat /G

up - right _____ and the _____ and the

strong. _____ A _____

Cantor

1. A God of

Cantor

3. They up -

	1.	2. To Verses
Last time (C/G) D \flat /A \flat	(D/G) E \flat /A \flat	(G) A \flat

rit.

and the strong.

rit.

rit.

Verses

(Em)
Fm
(Descant)

(C)
D \flat

(D)
E \flat

(Em)
Fm

strong.

(1) mer - cy, _____ love and jus - tice. _____

Cantor

2. E - vil _____ holds no pow - er, _____

(3) hold the poor, _____ their in - teg - ri - ty stands firm, _____

(C)
D \flat

(D)
E \flat

(G)
A \flat

(C)
D \flat

(D)
E \flat

— The good give free - ly _____ and live

— strong hearts _____ trust in

— faith - ful ser - vants _____ God will

(G)
A \flat

(C/G)
D \flat /A \flat

(D/G)
E \flat /A \flat

fair - ly.

God.

hon - or.

A

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal lines, and the bottom two are piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first vocal line has the lyrics 'fair - ly.' with a long note spanning the first two measures. The second vocal line has the lyrics 'God.' with a long note spanning the first two measures. The third vocal line has the lyrics 'hon - or.' with a long note spanning the first two measures. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

(Em)
Fm

(C)
D \flat

(D)
E \flat

(Em)
Fm

Nev - er

will they stum - ble;

Stead - fast

and fear - less,

light shines

in their dark - ness,

The second system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal lines, and the bottom two are piano accompaniment. The key signature remains two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first vocal line has the lyrics 'Nev - er' and 'will they stum - ble;'. The second vocal line has the lyrics 'Stead - fast' and 'and fear - less,'. The third vocal line has the lyrics 'light shines' and 'in their dark - ness,'. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the right hand and bass line in the left hand.

(C) (D) (G) (C) (D)
 D \flat E \flat A \flat D \flat E \flat

— their — jus - tice — will live for -
 — all will look down — up - on their
 — God gives mer - cy — and —

The first system consists of four staves. The top three are vocal staves in treble clef, and the bottom is a grand staff for piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The music features a melody with some ties and a piano accompaniment with a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

(G) (C/G) (D/G)
 A \flat D \flat /A \flat E \flat /A \flat

ev - er. A D.S.
 en - e - my. A D.S.
 jus - tice. A D.S.

The second system continues the musical score with four staves. It includes the same vocal and piano parts as the first system. The lyrics are: "ev - er.", "en - e - my.", and "jus - tice.". The system concludes with a "D.S." (Da Capo) instruction and a fermata over the final notes. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern.

A LIGHT SHINES

David Haas

Handbells used: (13)



Flowing $\text{♩} = 72$

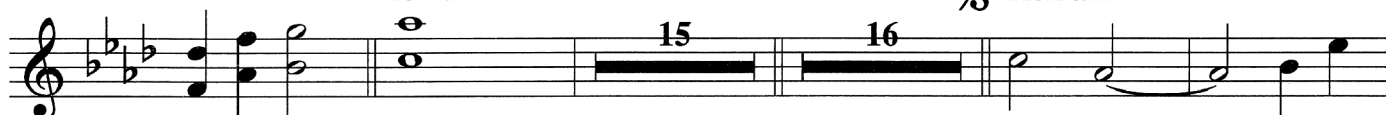
Introduction



Refrain

Verse 1

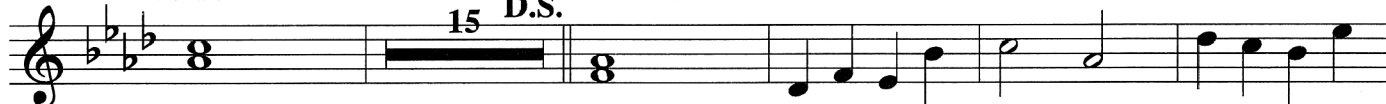
Refrain*



Verse 2

Verse 3

15 D.S.



* Final Refrain may be repeated.

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A LIGHT SHINES

Ps. 112 David Haas

A light shines in the
dark - ness, for the up - right
and the strong.

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Notes

“A Light Shines” is a contemporary setting of Psalm 112, which is the proper psalm for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A); as well as one of the suggested psalms for the Common of Saints, and for Masses for Those Suffering from Famine or Hunger. In addition to use as a responsorial psalm, this setting could be used as a song during sprinkling, as a communion psalm, or a song for celebrations of ministry, or any feast, memorial or solemnity for celebrations of any of the saints, especially the feast of All Saints.

Psalm 112 is often seen in relationship to the previous psalm, Psalm 111. Psalm 111 is a remembrance of the great works of God, while Psalm 112 is seen to inspire fidelity to the covenant and a call to righteousness, and often regarded as one of the Wisdom psalms. The main theme of this psalm is that the righteous person has a future filled with blessings from God. Our God is lavish with us, unbelievably generous with us.

The paraphrase of the verses published here is an adaptation of the text heard on the recording **Before I Was Born**.

Performance: The overall feel of this musical setting should have a certain lilt and buoyancy, never too heavy or ponderous. If keyboard is used, it should always have a flowing nature - this is where guitars can be very effective. The refrain can be done as written, or as a two- or three-part round. This setting should have a “mantra” type of heartbeat throughout.