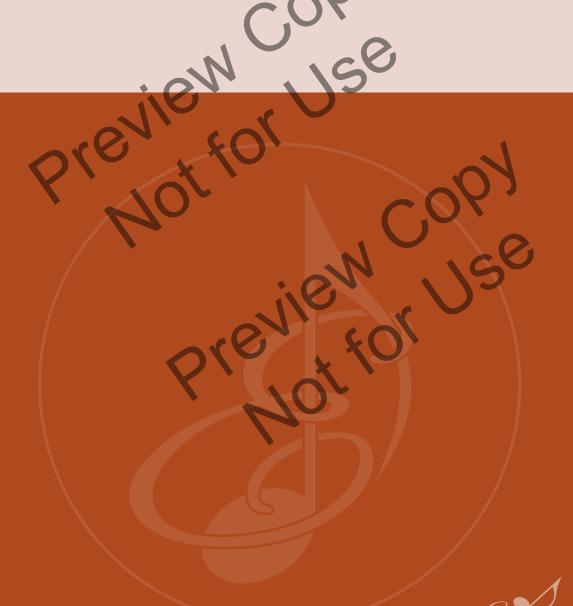


Waiting For the Light of Morning

Words and Music by STEVE PARSONS





About the Composer

Steve's music is energetic and fun. Students will be captivated by his heroic film-score like music. He has a wealth of experience composing outside of educational music that brings an exciting freshness to his pieces.

Waiting For the Light of Morning

An image that always comes to my mind when going through difficult times is searching for light in the darkness. It doesn't matter if the issues are personal, community-wide, or global, we've all had moments where signs of hope seem dim and cloudy, hidden behind a dark veil. While full solutions may be far beyond our own individual grasp, I've found it important to reach out to those in my "sphere" for comfort in the long night's vigil. This piece was written as a call to never stop searching for truth, justice, and the promised light of morning.

Like many Celtic-inspired pieces, it's important to maintain a degree of lyricism to the melodic lines while still keeping the rhythmic feel. Irish *Gaelic* is a very musical language, so I've included some passages that use traditional inspirational sayings in the original *Gaelic*. While a notoriously tricky dialect to master, here's a basic guide to pronunciation.

Ní neart go cur le chéile: "There is no strength without unity."

Ni = Nee

Neart = Nyart (This is a one syllable word with the emphasis on "art," so the N must elide into the Y.)

Go = Guh

Cur = u as in "gut"

Le = luh

Chéile = The "ch" is a broad consonant in Irish Gaelic, similar to the German "back ch," which is pronounced in the back of the mouth. For example, when saying the English word "lock," Instead of closing the throat all the way on the K sound, allow some air to escape as if you're trying to say an H. Next, the "éi" is pronounced as if saying the English letter A. Finally, the "le" is pronounced with a short E vowel similar to the word "let."

Ná caill do chroí: "Don't lose heart."

 $N\acute{a} = Naw$

Caill = kye-ul

Do = Duh

Chroí = The "ch" is another broad consonant as found above in "Chéile" while the "roí" is pronounced "ree."

Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine: "In the shelter of each other, people survive."

Ar = "Err"

Scáth = "scawh"

a = short vowel, as in "cat"

chéile = as above

a = short vowel, as in "cat"

mhaireann = "wirr-en"

na = "nah"

daoine = "dee-neh"

If a Bohdrán isn't available it can be substituted with Concert Toms or Tambourine, just as long as careful balance with the singers is maintained.

Enjoy this call to unity and a sense of hope!

For Scott Sutton and Debbie Koyle

Waiting for the Light of Morning

for TBB Voices with Bodhrán Accompaniment

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An exciting Celtic-flavored *a cappella* original for TBB voices that encourages hope and unity. The optional Irish Bodhrán part enhances the driving energy and sense of determination, while conservative ranges help make this appropriate for most low voice ensembles.

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