

IF I COULD LIGHT ONE CANDLE

WORDS AND MUSIC:
MICHAEL JOHN TROTTA

THE MUSIC OF
MICHAEL JOHN
TROTTA

Commissioned by the Paducah Symphony Youth & Children's Chorus
Dr. Bradley Almquist, director

If I Could Light One Candle

SA, piano (opt. descant)

Words and Music
Michael John Trotta, ASCAP

With Gentle Motion ♩ = ca. 60

Piano

mp

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays a series of chords in a 6/8 time signature, while the left hand plays a rhythmic eighth-note accompaniment. The music is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano).

5 SA *mp*

Ooo.

This section features a vocal line for Soprano (SA) and piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a five-measure rest, followed by a melodic phrase with a fermata. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a rhythmic pattern. The music is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). A large watermark 'HAMPTON ROADS PREVIEW ONLY' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

9 *mp unis.*

If I could light one can-dle, If

13

I could sing one song, I could bring light to the dark-ness all night

17 *S mp*

long. If

21 S

I could light one can-dle, If I could sing one song, I could

A

mp

I could light one can - dle, I could sing, I could

25

bring light to the dark - ness all night long.

bring light to the dark - ness all night long.

29

rit.

Musical score for measures 29-31. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of three systems. The first system contains two staves with whole rests. The second system contains a grand staff with piano accompaniment. The piano part features chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. There are two measures with a fermata over the final chord. The tempo marking *rit.* is present at the top right.

32

mf
a tempo

Musical score for measures 32-34. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of three systems. The first system contains a vocal line with lyrics: "Can - dles shine with warm light". The second system contains a piano accompaniment line with lyrics: "Can - dles shine with warm". The piano part features chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. The tempo marking *mf* and *a tempo* are present at the top left.

35

Hope and prom-ise fill the night. Light that glim-mers all a -

light Hope and prom-ise fill the night. Light that

38

glow Brings peace for all to know. *mp*

glim-mers all a - glow Brings peace for all to know. *mp*

42 *mf*

Can - dles shine with warm light Hope and prom - ise

mf

Can - dles shine with warm light

mf

45 *f*

fill the night. Light that shim - mers like a

— Hope and prom - ise fill the night. Light that

47

star _____ Brings peace both near and

f

shim-mers like a star Brings peace both near and

This section contains the vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 47-50. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 2/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The lyrics are: "star _____ Brings peace both near and" on the first line, and "shim-mers like a star Brings peace both near and" on the second line. A dynamic marking of *f* is present. A large watermark "HAMPTON ROADS PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

With Gentle Motion ♩ = ca. 60

50

far. _____

mp

far. _____

mp

mp

mp

This section contains the vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 50-53. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The lyrics are: "far. _____" on the first line and "far. _____" on the second line. Dynamic markings of *mp* are present. A large watermark "HAMPTON ROADS PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

55

mp

Ah! _____ Ah! _____

mp

If your light should start to flick-er Then I will lend you

59

Un - til you feel the sea - son's warmth

mine. Un - til you feel the sea - son's warmth _____

Either or both notes, at the choice of the conductor:

rit.

62

shine. _____

shine. _____

Opt Solo or Small Group

a tempo

mf

67

Can - dles shine with warm light

Can - dles shine with warm light Hope and prom - ise

Can - dles shine with warm light _____

71

Light that glim-mers all a - glow _____

fill the night. Light that glim-mers all a - glow _____

— Hope and prom-ise fill the night. Light that glim-mers all a -

74

— Brings peace for all to know. *mp*

— Brings peace for all to know. *mp*

glow — Brings peace for all to know. _____

77

mf

Can - dles shine with warm

Can - dles shine with warm light

Can dles shine with warm

mf

79

light

Hope and prom - ise fill the night.

light Hope and prom - ise

81

f

mp

Light that shim-mers like a star _____ Brings

f

mp

Light that shim-mers like a star _____ Brings

fill the night. Light that shim-mers like a star Brings

84

peace both near and

peace both near and

peace both near and

mp

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88

Musical score for measures 88-91. The score is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four staves. The first three staves are vocal parts, each starting with the word "far." and a dynamic marking of *p*. The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. A large diagonal watermark "HAMPTON ROADS PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the score.

92

Musical score for measures 92-95. The score is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four staves. The first three staves are vocal parts, each starting with "ooo." and a dynamic marking of *pp*. The fourth staff is a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. A large diagonal watermark "HAMPTON ROADS PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the score.

MICHAEL JOHN TROTTA COMPOSER

"appealing melodic lines, tender harmonies and a palette of glowing vocal and instrumental colors . . . rapturous." (Gramophone)

Fueled by a passion for combining tradition and innovation, American composer Michael John Trotta (b.1978) creates music that resonates with modern audiences around the world. From Carnegie Hall to cathedrals and concert halls around the world, he creates "elegant, singable music with a strong, spiritual heft" (Choir and Organ Magazine).

Seasoned by his experience as a conductor at the primary, secondary, and university levels – as well as a church music director – his works are infused with an "intimate knowledge of the human voice and a rare sensitivity to the capabilities of a choral ensemble" (Fanfare). The "dynamic interplay of time-honored musical gestures with present-day sonorities" (Choral Scholar) create "tender harmonies and a palette of glowing vocal and instrumental colors" (Gramophone).

In addition to a significant output of music for unaccompanied choir, he has written nine choral-orchestral works on a larger scale. His most recent work, "Requiem," was recorded by Tenebrae Choir (Nigel Short, conductor). Recent collaborations include the London Voices and the London Symphony Orchestra.

His select concert and sacred music is published by Hampton Roads Music Group and is distributed by Excelcia Music.. For more information, a complete list of compositions, or to get in touch, visit his official website www.mjtrotta.com.

He commands an intimate knowledge of the human voice and a rare sensitivity to the capabilities of a choral ensemble. This, combined with his degrees in music education and a doctorate in choral conducting, make him a favorite conductor with ensembles in the United States and around the world.

Trotta's unique blend of engaging and artistic music creates opportunities to experience new music and empowers individuals to realize their artistic potential. His engaging style fuses tradition and innovation to bring artistry and excellence within reach for thousands of musicians each year.

Driven by a desire to support hardworking directors who work to bring out the best in their ensembles, Trotta has developed keynotes that connect conductors to the educational and artistic goals that drew them to the profession in the first place. "Your Perfect Choir," "Developing Artistry," and "Empowering Ensembles" create experiences that connect people to the power of music and its ability transcend barriers and teach us more about each other and ourselves.

An ardent advocate for under-resourced and overworked arts organizations, Trotta has pioneered the development of the consortium model of commissioning. As a result, the opportunity to premiere a major work for choir and orchestra is now within reach for more choirs than ever before.

Passionate about removing barriers to new music and artistic excellence, Trotta has created and funded a new initiative that distributes grants to choir directors and scholarships to future choral directors.

When he is not traveling for guest conducting or composer residencies, Dr. Trotta resides in the New York City metro area and spends his time at the beach in New Jersey with his wife Rachel and his daughter Gabriella.



Bestsellers from:

MICHAEL JOHN TROTTA COMPOSER

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| All of Us Be Free | SATB, unaccompanied (opt. solo) | HRMG1736 |
| Alleluia | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG1948 |
| Ave Verum Corpus | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2473 |
| Dies Irae (from Requiem) | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2042 |
| Ecce Ancilla | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2051.5 |
| For the Beauty of the Earth | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2241 |
| I Will Lift My Eyes | SA(T)B, unaccompanied | HRMG2572 |
| Irish Blessing | SATB, unaccompanied (opt. solo) | HRMG1741 |
| Love's Pure Light, Silent Night | SATB, piano (opt. oboe) | HRMG1941 |
| Lux Aeterna (from Requiem) | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2144 |
| O Magnum Mysterium | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2161.4 |
| O Nata Lux | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2472 |
| Psalms 150 | SATB, unaccompanied (opt. solo) | HRMG1837 |
| Set Me as a Seal | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG1949 |
| Silent Night, Holy Night | SATB, piano (opt. orchestra) | HRMG2551 |
| Surge Illuminare | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2471 |
| The First Noel | SATB, piano (opt. orchestra) | HRMG2451 |
| The Lord is My Shepherd | SATB, piano | HRMG1738 |
| Ubi Caritas | SATB, unaccompanied (opt. solo) | HRMG1838 |
| You Are My Refuge | SATB, unaccompanied | HRMG2043 |

Multimovement and Major Works

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|------------------------------|-----|--|----------|
| Light Shines in the Darkness | 28' | SATB, organ or piano (opt. strings) | HRMG1835 |
| Gloria | 12' | SATB, organ, brass, perc. (opt. orch.) | HRMG1951 |
| Magnificat | 40' | SATB, chamber orch. or full orch. | HRMG2051 |
| Te Deum | 13' | SATB, org., brass, perc. or ch. orch. | HRMG2151 |
| Venite Adoremus | 20' | SATB, chamber orch. or full orch. | HRMG2161 |
| Intimations of Immortality | 21' | SATB, piano (opt. str., oboe, horn,) | HRMG2261 |
| Requiem | 40' | SATB, chamber orch. or full orch. | HRMG2351 |

"tender harmonies and a palette of glowing vocal and instrumental colors . . . rapturous"
– Gramophone

"informs the thoughts and aspirations of the people and the time"
– The Choral Scholar

"inspired and deeply stirring . . . rich and vivid"
– Fanfare

"elegant, singable music with a strong spiritual heft"
– Choir and Organ

"effectively carries out that dialogue between the [music] and the modern listener"
– The Choral Journal