

Now Is the Time! focuses on global unity and was commissioned by the ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) for performance by the Florida Region High School Honor Choir. Infused with African rhythms and textures, as well as a few key Swahili lyrics, this spirited multicultural piece is appropriate for performance by both school and church singers of all ages throughout the year.

A guide to Swahili pronunciation is printed below. The text is inspired by the following biblical passages.

Esther 4:14

You have come to God's kingdom for such a time as this.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, 4

To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven:

A time to plant and a time to reap.

A time to weep and a time to laugh.

A time to mourn and a time to dance.

I Chronicles 29: 10a-13

Blessed are You, O Lord God of Israel, forever and ever.

Yours, O Lord, are the greatest, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty.

All that is in the heavens and on the earth is Yours.

Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all.

Riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all.

In Your hand are power and might.

In Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

Now, therefore, our God, we thank You and praise Your glorious name.

GUIDE TO SWAHILI PRONUNCIATION

Cheko – CHAY-koh (laughter)

Dansi – DAHN-see (dance)

Kuimba – kooEEM-bah (sing)

Ngapi – n-GAH-pee (time)

Sasa – SAH-sah (now)

Sifa – SEE-fah (praise)

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*Dedicated to the ACSI Florida Region Honor Choir
and their participation in the Parade of Nations at the
Florida Teachers' Convention, November 19, 2001*

NOW IS THE TIME!

for 2-part any combination voices, accompanied,
with opt. percussion*

Words adapted from scripture by
JEAN ANNE SHAFFERMAN

Music by
JEAN ANNE SHAFFERMAN

Joyously (♩ = ca. 132-138)

ACCOMP. (+ claves) *mf*

UNISON VOICES *mf*

To

9

ev - ry-thing there is a sea - son, for ev-'ry-thing — God

(+maracas, drum)

* Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 21038.

Parts for claves, maracas and drum, No. 21041, and a full performance/accompaniment compact disc, No. 21040, are available separately.

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12 *sub. p*

has a plan, — a time to speak, — a time for si - lence,

p

15 *mf*

a time to mourn — and a time to

mf

18 PART I

dance!

PART II

dance!

mf

To

22

mp

Dan - si, — si - fa, — kuim - ba, —

ev - 'ry-thing — there is a sea - son, for ev - 'ry-thing — God

25

si - fa, — dan - si, — si - fa, —

has a plan, — a time to plant, — a time for har - vest,

28

mf

che - ro, — a time to laugh!

a time to cry — and a time to laugh!

31 *mf*

O Lord, we

mf

O Lord, we

(-perc)

34 *f*

praise You, — Cre - a - tor, Re-deem - er, pow-er and glo - ry and

f

praise You, — Cre - a - tor, Re-deem - er, pow-er and glo - ry and

f

37

rich-es are Yours.

mf

rich-es are Yours. We sing Your praise — and Your glo-ry to-geth - er, for

mf

40 *(mf)* *cresc.*

Sa - sa n - ga - pi, —

cresc.

now is the time, — now is the time, —

cresc.

43 *f*

sa - sa, — for now is the time — to sing Your

f

— for now is the time — to sing Your

f

46

praise!

praise!

(+ perc.)

50

mf

We

54

mf

In ev - ry lan - guage we

join our voi - ces in cel - e - bra - tion.

mf

57

sing Your praise, one voice, one mes - sage for ev - 'ry na - tion:

One voice, one mes - sage for ev - 'ry na - tion:

60 61 *(mf)*

sa - sa n - ga - pi,

now is the time, —

63

now is the time — to tell Your sto - ry,

now is the time — to tell Your sto - ry,

(-perc.) (-perc.)

66 *cresc.* *f*

sing Your glo - ry! —

cresc. *f*

sing Your glo - ry! —

cresc. *f*

mp

Dan - si, — si - fa, — kuim - ba, — a time to mourn.

(- maracas, drum)

mp

Dan - si, — si - fa, — kuim - ba, — a time to dance!

mf cresc.

To

(+drum)
cresc.

mf cresc.

Dan - si — si - fa, — kuim - ba, — God

ev - 'ry-thing — there is a sea - son, for ev-'ry-thing — God

(+ maracas)
mf cresc.

81 *f*

has a plan. Dan - si, — si - fa, —

f

has a plan, a time to speak, — a time for si - lence,

*DESCANT

86

84

kuim - ba, — a time to dance! Sa - sa, — n -

a time to mourn — and a time to dance! To ev - 'ry-thing — there

87

for ev-'ry-thing — God has a plan, Ah —

ga - pi — sa - sa, — God has a plan,

is a sea - son, for ev-'ry-thing — God has a plan, a

* A few high voices

21039

90

sa - sa, — n - ga - pi. —

time to speak, — a time for si - lence.

sub. mp
(—maracas, drum)

94

mf Now is the time — to sing God's praise! *f cresc.*

mf Now is the time — to sing, *f cresc.* sa - sa n - *f cresc.*

Now is the time — to sing God's praise!

(+drum) *mf* (+maracas) *f cresc.*

97

ff Now is the time — to sing praise!

ff ga - pi. — *ff* Now is the time — to sing praise!

— Now is the time — to sing praise!

ff

21039

