

This Is the Time to Sing – Reflecting on the events leading up to Christ’s death, this joyful ballad celebrates a time for celebration and singing the good news of Resurrection! Ideally suited for Easter Sunday, the singable choral score and light, gentle rhythmic nature of this piece would work well with youthful voices or any size adult choir. An optional light rhythm track (piano, guitar, bass, light drums) adds a nice enhancement and energy to the piece. An accompaniment track is also available.

Mary McDonald is well-known in sacred music. With a career that spans over 35 years, her compositions appear in the catalogs of every major publisher of church music. More than 800 anthems, seasonal musicals, and keyboard collections testify to her significant contribution to sacred literature. Her unique blend of heart, hands, and humor, combined with a wide range of writing and performing styles, has kept her in constant demand in churches across the nation for Composer Weekends, Workshops, and Music Conferences. Mary is a lifelong resident of Knoxville, Tennessee, where she resides with her husband, Brian, an architect. They are parents of two adult children and four grandchildren.

THIS IS THE TIME TO SING

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied*

Words and Music by
MARY MCDONALD (ASCAP)

Joyful ballad (♩ = ca. 72)

ACCOMP.

mp

3 SOPRANO / ALTO

mp

There was a time_

5

when all the earth was in dark - ness. There was a cross_

* To purchase a full-length performance recording (00-45201) of this piece, go to alfred.com/downloads.

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00-45202

— where Je - sus suf - fered and died. ————— There was a tomb.

— where they car - ried His bod - y.

af - ter He was cru - ci - fied. ————— Then came the morn -

TENOR / BASS *mp*

13

- ing of the third day, re - joic - ing, see - ing the stone -

13

15

— was rolled a - way from the grave, “He is not here..”

17

“He is ris - en!” they cried out.

Death has o - ver - come the grave! This is the time.

The first system of music features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats (B-flat major). The lyrics are "Death has o - ver - come the grave! This is the time." The piano accompaniment starts with a bass clef and a key signature of three flats. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present at the end of the system.

The piano accompaniment for the first system, showing the right and left hand parts. It consists of chords and moving lines in both hands, supporting the vocal melody.

21

to sing; for all bells to ring. He is a -

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "to sing; for all bells to ring. He is a -". The piano accompaniment includes a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand. A dynamic marking of *f* is present.

21

The piano accompaniment for the second system, showing the right and left hand parts. It continues the harmonic support for the vocal line.

23

live! He is a - live! Al - le - lu - ia! Now is the time.

The third system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "live! He is a - live! Al - le - lu - ia! Now is the time." The piano accompaniment includes a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand. A dynamic marking of *f* is present.

The piano accompaniment for the third system, showing the right and left hand parts. It concludes the piece with sustained chords and moving lines.

25

to sing and be re - joic - ing!

27

This, this is the time to sing!

29

31

mf

32

Come and re-joice! — Lift your voices in

mf

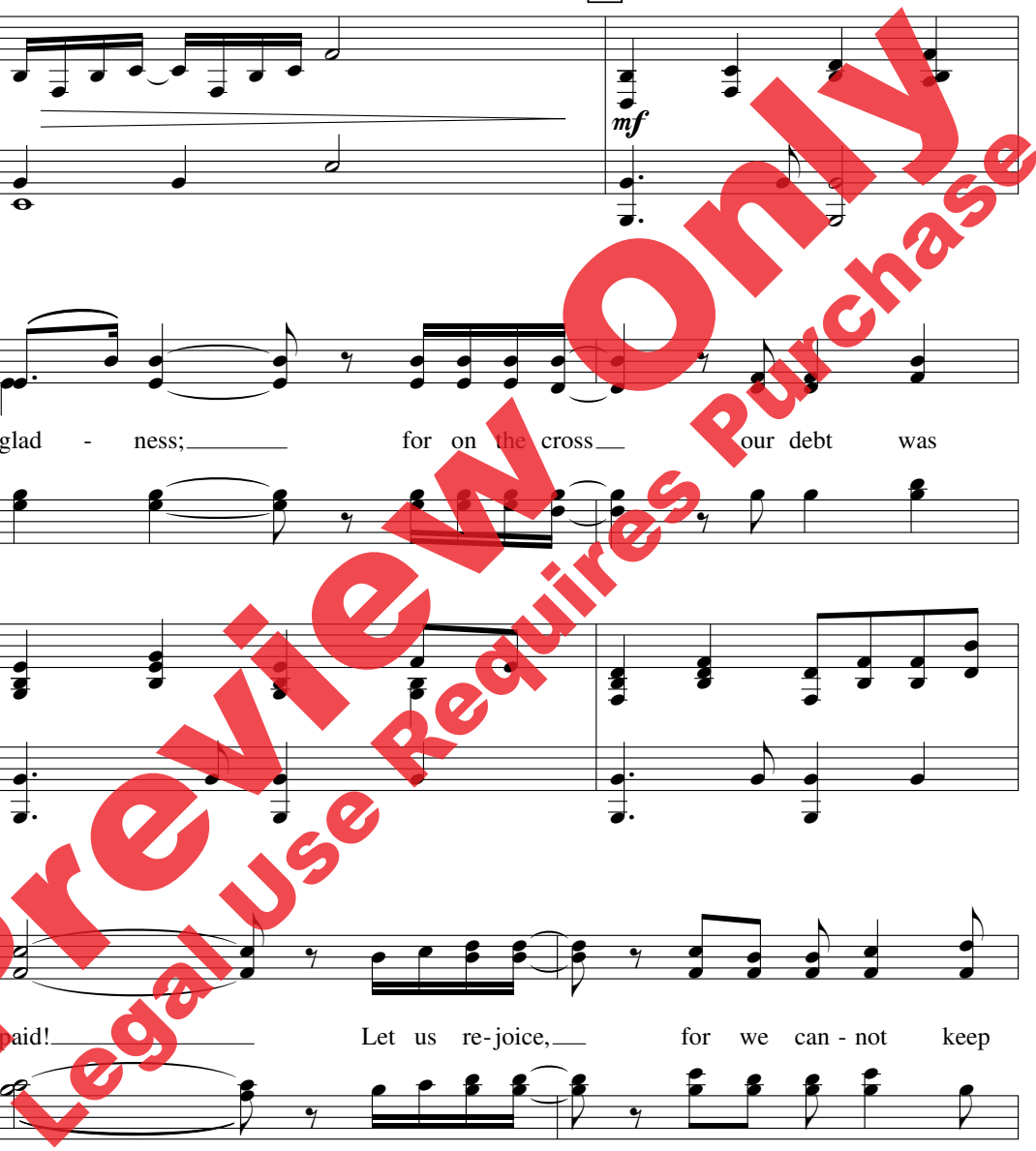
33

glad - ness; — for on the cross — our debt was

35

paid! — Let us re-joice, — for we can - not keep

8vb



37

si - lent. This is the day — the Lord has

39

made! This is the time — to sing; for —

41

all bells to ring. — He is a - live! He is a - live! Al - le -

43

lu - ia! Now is the time to sing

45

and be re - joic - ing! This, this is the time to

47

sing, to sing! This, this is the time for

ff

ff

49

all bells to ring... He is a - live! He is a - live! Al - le -

The first system of music consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features a melody with eighth and quarter notes, including triplet markings above the notes. The piano accompaniment is in a bass clef, providing harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are: "all bells to ring... He is a - live! He is a - live! Al - le -".

The second system shows the piano accompaniment for the second system. It continues the harmonic structure established in the first system, with chords in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

51

lu - ia! Now is the time — to — sing

The third system of music includes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line features a long note for "lu - ia!" followed by a melodic phrase for "Now is the time — to — sing". The piano accompaniment provides accompaniment for these phrases. The lyrics are: "lu - ia! Now is the time — to — sing".

The fourth system shows the piano accompaniment for the fourth system, continuing the musical accompaniment for the vocal line.

53

and be re - joic - ing! This, this is the time — to

The fifth system of music includes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with "and be re - joic - ing!" followed by "This, this is the time — to". The piano accompaniment supports the vocal melody. The lyrics are: "and be re - joic - ing! This, this is the time — to".

The sixth system shows the piano accompaniment for the sixth system, concluding the musical accompaniment for the vocal line.

55

55
 sing! This, this is the time — to
f

f

57

57
 sing, to
 8

59

59
 sing! This is the time — to sing!
rit.
 8

rit.
 8
 8^{vb}