

This choral arrangement of "We Hold These Truths" was commissioned by and is dedicated to the University of Virginia in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the laying of the first cornerstone by Thomas Jefferson.

We Hold These Truths

for Voice, Chorus and Organ

a stand alone excerpt adapted from the original version for
Voice, Chorus, Violin, Narrator and Orchestra
from the Oratorio "Thomas Jefferson: The Making of America"

Reverent and aspiring
1 ♩ = 46 (or faster, at discretion of vocal soloist)

Text: Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)
Music: J. Todd Frazier (b. 1969)

S
A
T
B

1 ♩ = 46
Reverent and aspiring
expressive *p* *mp* *p* *mf*
Voice (Soprano or Tenor 8vb)
We hold these truths to be self evident,

Organ
pp

rit.

5

S

A

T

B

8

5

p *mf* *mp* *mf* *rit.*

— that all Men — are cre a ted e qual —

3

5

mp *rit.*

Org.

9 *a tempo*

S *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*
 We hold these truths to be self ev-i-dent,

A *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*
 We hold these truths to be self ev-i-dent, that

T *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*
 We hold these truths to be self ev-i-dent, that

B *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*
 We hold these truths to be self ev-i-dent, that

Voice *pp*

Org. *pp* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

13 *mp* *rit.* *f* *a tempo* *rit.*

S
that all that all that all Men all are cre-a - ted

A
all that all that all Men all are cre-a - ted

T
8 all that all that all Men that all

B
all that all that all Men that all

13 *rit.* *a tempo* *rit.*

Voice

13 *mf* *mp* *f* *a tempo* *rit.*

Org.

a tempo *rit. molto* *a tempo*

S
p *pp*
 e - qual

A
p *pp*
 e - qual,

T
pp
 e - qual,

B
pp
 e - qual,

Voice
a tempo *rit. molto* *a tempo*
 expressive *p*
 We hold these

Org.
a tempo *rit. molto* *a tempo*
p *mf* *p* *mp* *pp*
p *mf* *p*

21

S

A

T

B

Voice

21 *mp* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

truths ___ to be self ev i dent, ___ that all Men ___ are cre

Org.

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a SATB choir, a solo voice, and an organ. It begins at measure 21. The SATB parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) are mostly rests with fermatas, indicating they are silent during this passage. The Voice part is in the treble clef and has lyrics: "truths ___ to be self ev i dent, ___ that all Men ___ are cre". The dynamics are marked as *mp*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, and *mf*. There are slurs and a triplet of eighth notes in the voice line. The Organ part consists of two staves: a right-hand staff in the treble clef and a left-hand staff in the bass clef. The right hand plays a melodic line with slurs, and the left hand plays a bass line with rests and a few notes.

25

S *pp* *mp* *p*

that they are en-dowed by their Cre - a - tor with cer-tain un-

A

T *pp* *mp* *p*

that they are en-dowed by their Cre - a - tor with cer-tain un-

B

Voice *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

a ted e qual that they are en dowed by their Cre a tor with certain un-

Org. *pp*

rit. molto *a tempo* *rit. molto* *f*

S *mf* *p* *mf* *f*
 a-li-en-a-ble Rights, that a-mong these are Life, — Lib-er-ty, and the Pur-suit of

A *mf* *f*
 that a-mong these are Life, — Lib-er-ty, and the Pur-suit of

T *mf* *p* *mf* *f*
 a-li-en-a-ble Rights, that a-mong these are Life, — Lib-er-ty, and the Pur suit of

B *mf* *p* *mf* *f*
 that a-mong these are Life, — Lib-er-ty, and the Pur-suit of

Voice *mf* *p* *f* *a tempo* *rit. molto* (take time)
 a-li-en-a-ble Rights, that a-mong these are Life, — Liber ty, and the Pur suit of

Org. *a tempo* *rit. molto*
 3 3 3

a tempo *rit. molto* *a tempo*

S
Hap-pi-ness *p*

A
Hap-pi-ness *p*

T
8 Hap-pi-ness *p*

B
Hap-pi-ness *p*

Voice
Hap-pi-ness *p* *rit. molto* *a tempo*

Org.
33 *f* *p* *f* *p* *mf* *(take time)*

f

37 *rit.* *a tempo (slightly slower, reflective)*

S

A

T

B

37 *rit.* *a tempo (slightly slower, reflective)*

Voice

expressive *p*

37 *rit.* *a tempo (slightly slower, reflective)*

Org.

p *pp*

We hold these

41

S

A

T

B

Voice

Org.

41 *mp* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* (take time) *mp*

truths — to be self ev i dent, — that all Men — are cre

41 *mp*

45 *rit.* *a tempo* ♩ = 46

S *p* *mp* *p*
We hold these truths

A *p* *mp* *p*
We hold these truths

T *p* *mp* *p* <
We hold these truths _____ to

B *p* *mp* *p* <
We hold these truths _____ to

Voice *rit.* *mf* *a tempo* ♩ = 46 *pp*
a ted e qual _____

Org. *rit.* *a tempo* ♩ = 46 *pp* *mp* *p*
pp

49 *mf* *p* *mp* *rit.* *f*

S to be self ev-i-dent, that all that all that

A to be self ev-i-dent, that all that all that

T 8 be self ev-i-dent, that all that all that all

B be self ev-i-dent, that all that all that all

49 *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* *f* *rit.*

Voice

Org. *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* *f* *rit.*

53 *a tempo* *rit.* *a tempo*

S
all Men all are cre-a - ted e - qual

A
all Men all are cre-a - ted e - qual,

T
8 Men that all e - qual,

B
Men that all e - qual,

Voice

Org.
53 *a tempo* *rit.* *a tempo*

p *mf* *p*

p *mf* *p*

57 *rit. molto* *a tempo* *rit.*

S

A

T

B

Voice

Org.

rit. molto *a tempo* *rit.*

mp *pp* *mp* *p* *mf*

expressive *expressive*

61 *rit. molto*

S

A

T

B

Voice

Org.

pp

pp

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a SATB choir, a solo voice, and an organ. It begins at measure 61 in 3/4 time. At measure 62, the time signature changes to 4/4. The tempo is marked 'rit. molto' (ritardando molto). The SATB parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) are mostly rests, with some notes in the final measures. The Voice part has a melodic line. The Organ part has a sustained chord in the right hand and a moving line in the left hand. Dynamic markings include 'pp' (pianissimo) for the organ and voice parts.