

# Psalm 46

God is our Refuge and our Strength

Commissioned by the Congregation of  
St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania.

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Text: King James Version

Kirk O'Riordan (2007)

majestic, freely (♩ = 66)

Choir A

Choir B

Handbells

Organ

*ff* *l.v. sempre*

*ff* *l.v. sempre*

majestic, freely (♩ = 66) *long*

*ff*

6

Choir A

Choir B

H-bells.

Org.

The musical score for page 2, measures 6-7, is arranged in four systems. Each system contains two staves. The first system is for Choir A, the second for Choir B, the third for H-bells, and the fourth for the Organ. The Organ part is the most complex, featuring a treble staff with chords and a bass staff with a large brace under the notes. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 and back to 4/4. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

**A**

12 *ff*

Choir A  
God is our re-fuge and strength a

Choir B  
God is our re-fuge and strength a

H-bells.

**A**

12 *f*

Org.

17

Choir A

ve - ry pre - sent help in trou - ble \_\_\_\_\_

Choir B

ve - ry pre - sent help in trou - ble \_\_\_\_\_

H-bells.

Org.

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for page 4, measures 17-20. It consists of four systems. The first system is for Choir A, with a soprano and bass line. The second system is for Choir B, also with soprano and bass lines. The lyrics for both choirs are 've - ry pre - sent help in trou - ble'. The third system is for H-bells, which is silent throughout. The fourth system is for the Organ, with a right-hand and left-hand part. The organ part features a complex accompaniment with a key signature change to one sharp (F#) in measure 19. The score includes treble and bass clefs, 4/4 and 2/4 time signatures, and various musical notations like notes, rests, and slurs.

20 **B**

Choir A *mp* There -

*mp* There - fore will not we fear though the

Choir B *mp* There -

*mp* There - fore will not we fear though the

H-bells.

Org. *pp*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for page 5, rehearsal mark B. It consists of five systems of staves. The first system is for Choir A, with a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef. The vocal line has a rest for the first two measures and then enters with the lyrics 'There -'. The bass line has a rest for the first two measures and then enters with the lyrics 'There - fore will not we fear though the'. The second system is for Choir B, with a similar vocal and bass line. The third system is for H-bells, with two staves showing sustained chords. The fourth system is for the Organ, with a right-hand staff in treble clef and a left-hand staff in bass clef. The right-hand staff has a melodic line with a rest for the first two measures and then enters with a note. The left-hand staff has a bass line with a rest for the first two measures and then enters with a note. The organ part is marked *pp*. The fifth system is a continuation of the organ part, with a right-hand staff in treble clef and a left-hand staff in bass clef. The right-hand staff has a melodic line with a rest for the first two measures and then enters with a note. The left-hand staff has a bass line with a rest for the first two measures and then enters with a note. The organ part is marked *pp*. The bottom staff shows a bass line with a long note and a slur.

23 *cresc. poco a poco*

Choir A

fore will not we fear\_\_\_\_\_ though the earth be re - moved\_\_\_\_\_ and

*cresc. poco a poco*

Choir B

fore will not we fear\_\_\_\_\_ though the earth be re - moved\_\_\_\_\_ and

*cresc. poco a poco*

H-bells.

Org.