

Comfort, Comfort

Johann G. Olearius, 1611-1684
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878

Freu dich sehr
Trente quatre pseumes de David, Geneva, 1551
arr. John Ferguson

Lightly, like a dance (♩ = 208)

mp

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

“Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; Tell of peace!” So says our God.

5

Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness Mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.

9

To God's peo - ple now pro - claim That God's par - don waits for them!

13

Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er!

17

Ritornel (optional) For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert

mf

Performance suggestions: This arrangement should be sung lightly with grace and charm, much like a madrigal. Be sure to maintain momentum and energy, singing slightly detached but with line. Places that should be more legato are marked in the score. The quarter note is constant and performers should be encouraged to feel the changing groupings of two and three quarter notes. The ritornel, found on page 4, may be used as an introduction and could be played on organ or piano. An Orff alto xylophone is especially effective in place of clarinets with the piccolo part on the recorder, flute or even organ. This anthem is also included in The Augsburg Choirbook (ISBN 0-8006-5678-4), a collection of 67 anthems representing the best of the Augsburg Fortress choral tradition.

46 *mf*

true and hum - ble, As be - fits his ho - ly reign! For the glo - ry

50 *f* *mf*

of the Lord Now on earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall

54 *non ritard* 4

see the to - ken That God's word is nev - er bro - ken. **Ritornel (optional)** 4

Ritornel for Instruments

Piccolo

molto ritard (last time only)

B $\flat$ Clarinets

molto ritard (last time only)

Tambourine

molto ritard (last time only)

molto ritard (last time only)

Ritornel for Keyboard

molto ritard (last time only)

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