

God Moves In a Mysterious Way

Comissioned by
The Barbara Pym Society
in celebration of the centenary of Barbara Pym (1913-1980)

and dedicated to
Jean and Richard Holloway

William Cowper

Rodney Lister

Cheerfully Moving

Unison choir *f*

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 6/4 time. It features a unison choir part and piano accompaniment for strings and flutes. The score is divided into two systems. The first system (measures 1-5) shows the choir entering with the lyrics 'God moves in'. The piano accompaniment includes strings playing a sustained chord with a *p* dynamic, and 8' 4' flutes playing a melodic line with a *pf* dynamic. The second system (measures 6-10) continues the choir part with the lyrics 'a mys - ter - ious way His'. The piano accompaniment continues with the strings and flutes. A solo part for the 8' flute is indicated in the final measure of the second system.

strings *p*

8' 4' flutes *pf*

6

a mys - ter - ious way His

6

6

8' only, solo

11

won - ders to per - form; He

16

plants His foot - steps in the sea

21

And rides up - on the storm.

26 sopranos and altos *mf* unison

26 tenors and basses *mf* unison

Deep in un - fa - thom - a - ble

Deep in un - fa - thom -

26 *piu f*

mp

26 l.h. in pedal 8' only, no solo

mp

31 mines Of nev - er fail - ing skill _____

31 a - ble mines Of nev - er fail - ing

31

36

He trea - sures up His bright de - signs

36

skill He trea - sures up His

36

36

36

41

And works His sove - reign will.

41

bright de - signs And works His

41

41

41

45

sove - reign will...

Earnest

48 **tenors** *f*

Ye fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take;

48 **basses** *f*

Ye fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take;

48 *mf legato*

full swell closed

48 +16' 32'

In this stanza, it is possible to omit the second tenor and first bass parts

53

8:

The clouds ye so much dread _____

53

The clouds ye so much dread _____

53

man. 16'

gt + sw, mf

53

mf

57

8:

Are big with mer - cy and shall

57

Are big with mer - cy and shall

57

57

8
sopranos I & II

68 *ben f*

Judge not the Lord by fee - ble

68 *ben f*

Judge not the Lord by fee - ble

68

68

In this stanza it is possible to omit any or all of the lower parts

72

sense, But trust Him for His

72

sense, But trust Him for His

72

72

72

76

grace; Be - hind a frown - ing

grace; Be - hind a frown - ing

Detailed description: This system covers measures 76 to 79. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The vocal line includes the lyrics 'grace; Be - hind a frown - ing'. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand part with a steady eighth-note pattern and a left-hand part with a simple harmonic accompaniment. A fermata is placed over the first measure of the vocal line.

80

prov - i - dence He hides a

prov - i - dence He hides a

8: manual to pedal 4' off pedal stops

Detailed description: This system covers measures 80 to 83. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The vocal line includes the lyrics 'prov - i - dence He hides a'. The piano accompaniment features a right-hand part with a steady eighth-note pattern and a left-hand part with a simple harmonic accompaniment. A fermata is placed over the first measure of the vocal line. A performance instruction '8: manual to pedal 4' off pedal stops' is written above the piano part in the final measure.



Exuberant

84

smil - ing face.

84

smil - ing face.

84

ff

84

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for the section 'Exuberant'. It features four staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'smil - ing face.' and a fermata over the final note. The second staff is a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The third staff is a grand staff (treble and bass clef) for piano accompaniment, with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) starting at measure 84. The bottom staff is a bass line. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/2 at measure 84.



Bold

89

unison choir *f*

His pur - po - ses will

89

mf

89

+pd 16', lh to pd

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for the section 'Bold'. It features four staves. The top staff is a vocal line for a unison choir, with lyrics 'His pur - po - ses will' and a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The second staff is a piano accompaniment with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The third staff is a grand staff (treble and bass clef) for piano accompaniment. The bottom staff is a bass line with a performance instruction '+pd 16', lh to pd'. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature changes from 4/4 to 6/4 at measure 89.

94

ri - pen fast, Un - - - fold - ing

98

ev - ery hour; The bud may have a

103

bit - ter taste, But sweet will be the

108

flower.

108

ff

108

♩ = ♩ **Very Broad**

111 *ff*

Blind un - be - lief is sure to err And scan His work in

111 *ff*

Blind un - be - lief is sure to err And scan His work in

111 *ff*

Blind un - be - lief is sure to err And scan His work in

111 *ff*

Blind un - be - lief is sure to err And scan His work in

111 *f*

111

115

vain; God is His own in - ter - pre - ter, And

vain; God is His own in - ter - pre - ter, And

vain; God is His own in - ter - pre - ter, And

vain; God is His own in - ter - pre - ter, And

118 *sempre ff*

He will make it plain.

He will make it plain.

He will make it plain.

He will make it plain.