

i am a little church
(no great cathedral)
for SATB Chorus

by David Kulma

dk

i am a little church (no great cathedral)

E. E. Cummings

David Kulma

With affirmation ♩ = 80

SOPRANO *mf* I am a lit-tle__ church (no great ca - the - dral) *p*

ALTO *mf* I am a lit-tle__ church (no great ca - the - dral) *p*

TENOR *mf* I am a lit-tle__ church (no great ca-the-dral) *p*

BASS *mf* I am a lit-tle__ church (no great ca-the-dral) *p*

Piano **With affirmation** ♩ = 80

6

mp *cresc.* *f*
far from the splen-dor_ and squal - or_ of hur - ry - ing cit - ies_

mp *cresc.* *f*
far from the splen-dor_ and squal - or_ of hur - ry - ing cit - ies_

mp *cresc.* *f*
far from the splen-dor_ and squal - or_ of hur - ry - ing cit - ies_

mf *cresc.* *f*
far from the splen-dor_ and squal-or_ of hur - ry - ing cit - ies_

3

11

mp *mf*

-i do not wor-ry if brief-er days grow brie - fest i am not sor - ry_ when sun.

mp *mf*

-i do not wor-ry_ if brief-er days grow brie - fest_ i am not sor - ry_

mp *mf*

-i do not wor-ry_ if brief-er days grow brie - fest_ i am not sor - ry_

mp *mf*

-i do not wor-ry if brief-er days grow brie - fest i am not sor - ry_ when sun.

15

— and rain make ap - ril, ap - ril, make ap - ril my life is the life of —

— when sun and rain make ap - ril, ap - ril, make ap - ril my life is the life of —

— when sun and rain make ap - ril, ap - ril, make ap - ril my life is the

— and rain make ap - ril, ap - ril, make ap - ril my life is the

— when sun and rain make ap - ril, ap - ril, make ap - ril my life is the

21

mf sempre *mf*
— the rea - per and sow - er; — my prayers are prayers —

mf sempre *mf*
— the rea - per and sow - er; — my prayers are prayers of

f sempre *mf*
8 life of the rea - per and sow - er; — my prayers are

f sempre *mf*
life of the rea - per and sow - er; — my prayers are

8

29

p *cresc.* *f* , *pp*

child-ren whose a-ny sad - ness_ or joy is my grief, my grief, or my glad-ness, glad - ness_

p *cresc.* *f* , *pp*

child-ren whose a-ny sad-ness_ or joy is my grief, my grief, or my glad-ness, glad - ness_

p *cresc.* *f* , *pp*

child-ren whose a-ny sad - ness_ or joy is my grief, my grief, or my glad-ness, glad - ness_

p *cresc.* *f* , *pp*

child-ren whose a-ny sad-ness_ or joy is my grief, my grief, or my glad-ness, glad - ness_

child-ren whose a-ny sad - ness_ or joy is my grief, my grief, or my glad-ness, glad - ness_

36

mf

a - round me sur - ges a mir - a - cle of un

mf

a - round me sur - ges a mir - a - cle of un

mp sempre

a-round me surg - es a - round me sur - ges a mir - a - cle

mf

mp sempre

a-round me sur - ges a-round me sur - ges a mir - a - cle

mf

The musical score consists of five systems. The first two systems are vocal staves with lyrics. The third and fourth systems are piano staves with lyrics. The fifth system is a grand staff (piano accompaniment). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The tempo/mood is indicated by 'sempre' in the piano parts. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano).

40

ceas - ing birth and glo - ry and death and re - sur-rec - tion:

ceas - ing birth and glo - ry and death and re - sur-rec - tion:

of un-ceas - ing birth and glo - ry and death and re - sur-rec - tion:

of un-ceas - ing birth and glo - ry and death and re - sur-rec - tion:

46

f *mp* *f*

ov - er my sleep-ing self float flam-ing

f *mp* *f*

ov - er my sleep-ing self float flam-ing

f *mp*

ov - er my sleep-ing self float

f *mp*

ov - er my sleep-ing self float

50

The musical score consists of four vocal staves and two piano staves. The vocal parts are arranged in a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). The piano accompaniment is in the right and left hands. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "sym-bols, flam-ing sym-bols of hope, and i wake to a per-fect pat-ience of". The score includes dynamic markings: *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte), and a *decresc.* (decrescendo) hairpin. The piano part features a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth and sixteenth notes, often in a triplet or syncopated pattern.

54

p *mf* *no decres.*

moun - tains I am a lit-tle__ church (far from the fran-tic__

p *mf* *no decres.*

moun - tains I am a lit-tle__ church (far from the fran-tic__

p *mf* *no decres.*

moun - tains I am a lit-tle__ church (far from the fran - tic__

p *mf* *no decres.*

moun - tains I am a lit-tle__ church (far from the fran - tic__

60

world with its rap - ture___ and an - guish)___ at peace with na - ture -i do not wor-ry___ if

world with its rap - ture___ and an - guish)___ at peace with na - ture -i do not wor-ry___ if

world with its rap - ture___ and an - guish)___ at peace with na - ture -i do not wor-ry

world with its rap - ture___ and an - guish)___ at peace with na - ture -i do not wor-ry

world with its rap - ture___ and an - guish)___ at peace with na - ture -i do not wor-ry

66

long-er nights grow long-est; *mf* i am not sor-ry when sil-ence be-

long-er nights grow long-est; i am not sor-ry when sil-ence be-

if long-er nights grow long-est; *mf* i am not sor-ry when sil-ence be-

if long-er nights grow long-est; *mf* i am not sor-ry when sil-ence be-

70

comes sing - ing, *f* *pp* win - ter by spring, *mp expansive* i lift my dim - in u - tive spire to

comes sing - ing, *f* *pp* win - ter by spring, *mp expansive* i lift my dim - in u - tive spire to

comes sing - ing, *f* *pp* win - ter by spring *p* i lift my spire

comes sing - ing, *f* *pp* win - ter by spring *p* i lift my spire

76

merc-i - ful Him Whose on - ly, on - ly now is for - ev - er stand - ing er - ect in the death - less truth of His

merc-i - ful Him Whose on - ly now is for, is for - ev - er stand - ing er - ect in the death - less truth of His

merc-i - ful Him Whose on - ly now is for - ev - er: stand - ing er - ect in the death - less truth of His

to Him Whose on - ly now is for - ev - er: stand - ing er - ect in the death - less truth of His

82

pre - sence_ (wel - com - ing hum - bly_ His light, His

pre - sence_ (wel - com - ing hum - bly_ His light, His

pre - sence_ (wel - com - ing hum - bly_ His light, His

pre - sence_ (wel - com - ing hum - bly_ His light, His

pre - sence_ (wel - com - ing hum - bly_ His light, His

86

light and proud-ly His dark - ness, His dark - ness

light and proud-ly His dark - ness, His dark - ness

light and proud-ly His dark - ness, His dark - ness

light and proud-ly His dark - ness, His dark - ness

light and proud-ly His dark - ness, His dark - ness