

The Hands of God

Words by Christopher Fry

Music by Enid Luff

$\text{♩} = 80$ *lamentando*

Musical score for Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Contralto 1, Contralto 2, Tenor, and Bass. The score is in 5/4 time and includes dynamic markings such as *pp* and *ppp*, and performance instructions like "Ah - (half closed lips)" and "Ah - (simile)".

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pp -> ppp (mp)

Ah Bea-

Ah Bea-

(mp) -
Bea-ring

Ah (mp) -
Bea-ring

p espr. (mp)

8 They are hu - - man hands, — these hands of God — Bea-

espr P They are hu - man hands, —

(Tutti)

Sop. 1

Sop. 2 ONLY: *mp (poco)* -
Ah. (open)

(Tutti)

Contr. 1

10 They are hu - man hands, — these hands of God —

(mp)

8 -ring the weight — of the world's blood —

P these hands of God —

SOP 1
 Brea-king their fall
 with stones, stones

SOP 2
 with stones, stones

[13] Tutti P
 The ground is bit - ter hard, The

Ah
 Ah

with stones
 The ground is bit - ter hard, stones

mp, *mf*, *p*, *mf*

stones
 stones

[16] *pp* *sub. pp* *mp espr.* *tenerezamente*
 They are hu - man hands,
 They are hu - man hands,

CONTR 1
 sharp-ness of spear and sword.
 Ah - (half-closed)

CONTR 2
 sharp-ness of spear and sword.
 Ah - (half-closed)

stones
 stones

stones
 stones

f, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *sub*, *pp*

SOP 1 *P* *more urgently* *mp*
 Ah - (half closed)

SOP 2 *mp* *mf*
 ($\frac{1}{2}$ closed) Ah - (to open)

CONTR *mp espr.*
 these hands of God
 1. (*mp*)
 2. Ah ($\frac{1}{2}$ closed)
 Ah (open)

8 stones *pp*
 Ah - ($\frac{1}{2}$ closed) Ah - (sim.)

stones *pp*
 Ah - ($\frac{1}{2}$ closed)

Ah - (open)

(tutti) *pp*
 Ah *espr*
 Out of a cloud of pain

22
 Ah - ($\frac{1}{2}$ closed)
 Out of a cloud of

piú mosso
♩ = 92 - 100

5.

SOP 1/2

leggiéro
P Like an a-ligh-ting bird

mp Like an a-ligh-ting bird — *mf* They bless. with urgent tenderness

8 They — *mf* "Grie-ving

pain — Like — a bird they bless —

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poco rall.

(p)p "Grieve not, — but for your-selves — and what will

delicato
They bless, — Like an a-ligh-ting bird — They bless — *(mf)*

8 ones, ← *teneramente* grieve not for me, — but for your-selves, — and

"Grie-ving ones, — grieve not, grieve not — for me, —

6 tempo primo
♩ = 80 (lamentando)

SOP 1 be.

SOP 2 [31] be. Ah-($\frac{1}{2}$ closed)

CONTR 1 Ah-($\frac{1}{2}$ closed)

CONTR 2 Ah-($\frac{1}{2}$ closed) Ah

what will be

poco meno mosso
♩ = c 72

pp Ah-($\frac{1}{2}$ closed) Ah..(open) Ah Ah The

pp Ah..(..to open..) (open) Ah The

[34] pp Ah-($\frac{1}{2}$ closed) Ah..(open) Ah The

pp Ah..(open) Ah The

SPOKEN IN STRICT TEMPO *mf*

The dri-ving in of nails

SOP. 1. or

SOLO ad lib

Reverently

(Tutti) *poco sfz* *piu sfz* *SOLO ad lib* (Tutti)

dri-ving in of nails, Ah! And af-ter the dar-kest cry, They

dri-ving in of nails, Ah!

dri-ving in of nails, Ah!

come, a child's hands,

(cantando) Ah

appassionato, with anger p *f* Ah

43

(mf) Ah _____

(mf) Ah _____

(mf) Ah _____

(p)p The driving in of nails.

f Ah _____

(Tutti) (mf) They come, a child's

(mf) They

SOP 1

46

pp Ah (open) _____

pp Ah (open) _____

hands, "in- to thy hands"

"in- to thy hands" to die.

come, a child's hands, _____

pp *leggiero*

tempo primo
♩ = 60

pp *tranquillo*

SOP 1 Ah (½ closed)

SOP 2 pp Ah (½ closed)

CONTR 1 pp Ah (½ closed)

CONTR 2 pp Ah (½ closed)

49

più mosso
♩ = 90 - 100

jubilando

mp Ah (open)

pp Ah

mp Like an a - light - - ting

mp Like an a - light - - ting

mp *tranquillo*

mf

52

And where the still - ness, where the dark - ness ends,

where the still - ness ends,

mp Ah (open)

bird, where the dark - ness ends, Ah (open)

bird. where the dark - ness ends, Ah (open)

where the dark - ness ends, where the dark - ness ends,

where the dark - ness ends, The doors be - ing shut, he

Tempo primo
♩ = 80

SOP 1 2

mf jubilando Be - hold my hands.

CONTR 1 2 (Tutti) "Be - hold my hands."

mp espr. (4) mf Grie - ving ones, be - hold my hands.

mp said "Be - hold my hands."

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