

O My Father

SATB (use w/obligato for two C instruments)

Text by Eliza R. Snow
Melody from John Wyeth's
"Repository of Sacred Music," Part Second
Arranged by Sally DeFord

Gently, about $\text{♩} = 70$

The musical score is written for SATB voices and piano accompaniment. It is in 3/4 time and begins with a tempo marking of 'Gently, about' and a quarter note equal to 70 beats. The piano part features a consistent accompaniment of eighth notes in the right hand and quarter notes in the left hand, with a dynamic of *p*. The vocal parts enter at measure 2. The lyrics are: (Soprano/Alto:) O my Fa - ther, thou that dwell - est in the high and glo - rious place, When shall I re - gain thy pre - sence and a - gain be - hold thy face, In thy ho - ly hab - i - ta - tion did my spi - rit once re - side? In my

Measures 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 are marked with measure numbers. Dynamics include *p* and *rit.* (ritardando) at measures 18 and 20, and *a tempo* at measure 20.



22 24 26

first pri - me - val child - hood, was I nur - tured near thy side?

a tempo

28 30

(Tenor/Bass:) For a wise and glo - rious pur - pose thou hast

p

32 34 36

placed me here on earth, And with - held the rec - ol - lec - tion - of my - -for - mer friends and

38 40

birth, Yet oft_ times a sec - ret some - thing whis - pered "You're a stran - ger

rit.

rit.

a tempo 42 44

here." And I felt that I had wan - dered from a more ex - alt - ed sphere.

a tempo *mf*

46 48 50

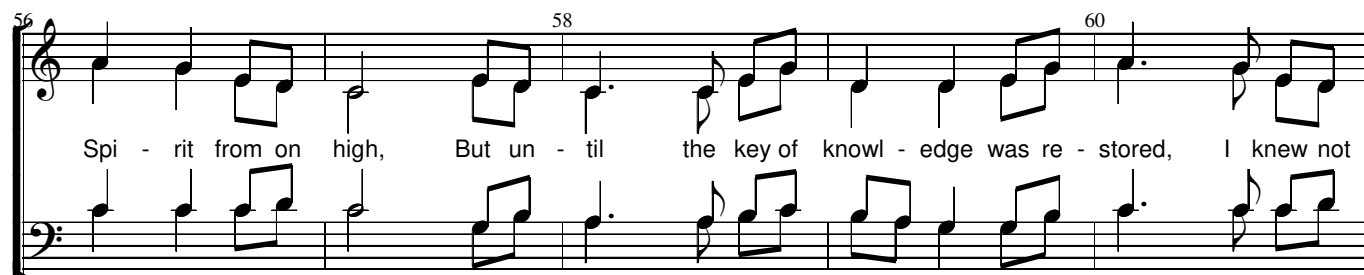
52 *Soprano/Alto* *mf* 54

I had learned to call thee Fa - ther, Thru thy

Tenor/Bass *mf*

56 58 60

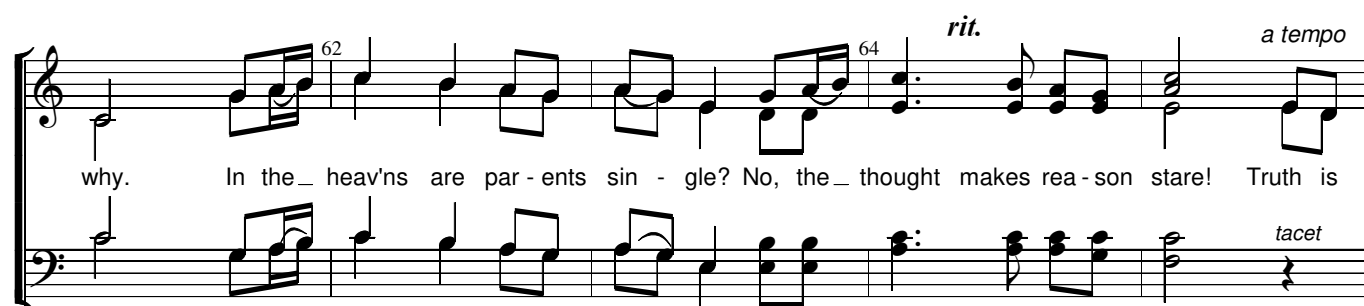
Spi - rit from on high, But un - til the key of knowl - edge was re - stored, I knew not



62 64 *rit.* *a tempo*

why. In the_ heav'ns are par - ents sin - gle? No, the_ thought makes rea - son stare! Truth is

tacet



rit.



66 68 70

rea - son, Truth e - ter - nal tells me I've a mo - ther there. _____



a tempo



72 74 76 *rit.* *tacet*

a cappella--freely
78 *mp* 78 80

When I leave this frail ex - is - tence, When I lay this mor - tal by, Fa - ther

82 *mf* *in rhythm* 84

Mo - ther, may I meet you in your roy - al courts on high? Then, at

86 *rit.* 88 *a tempo*

length when I've com - plet - ed all you_ sent me forth to do, *mp*

With your *unis.*

mf *rit.* *mp*

90 *mp* *unis.*

mu - tual ap - pro - ba - tion let me come and dwell with you, Let me

a tempo

94 96

you, Let me come and dwell with you. *p* you.
 come and dwell with you, and dwell with you.

98 100

rit. *pp*