

Carol Barnett

In the Pursuit of that Perfection

SATB, cello




beady eyes publishing

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What you hold, may you always hold.
What you do, may you always do and never abandon.
But with swift pace, light step,
and unswerving feet,
so that even your steps stir up no dust,
go forward
securely, joyfully, and swiftly,
on the path of prudent happiness,
believing nothing,
agreeing with nothing
which would dissuade you from this resolution
or which would place a stumbling block for you on the way,
so that you may offer your vows to the Most High
in the pursuit of that perfection
to which the Spirit of the Lord has called you.

Clare of Assisi (1194-1253)

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duration: c. 3:00

In the Pursuit of that Perfection was commissioned for the Choral Arts Ensemble of Rochester (MN), Rick Kvam, Artistic Director, by Noel and Ann Peterson in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. It honors the extraordinary 140+ years of community service given by the Sisters of St. Francis to the many organizations in Rochester, notably the Mayo Clinic, but also numerous non-profits and educational institutions.

The text, by St. Clare of Assisi, contemporary of St. Francis, is part of a letter written to Blessed Agnes of Prague, encouraging her to persevere in her commitment to a life of holy poverty. The “swift pace, light step” is heard in the accompanying cello, urging us to “go forward securely, joyfully.”

Commissioned by Noel and Ann Peterson in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary
for the Choral Arts Ensemble of Rochester (MN), Rick Kvam, Artistic Director,

In the Pursuit of that Perfection

Clare of Assisi (1194-1253)
translated by
Regis J. Armstrong, OFM Cap
Ignatius C. Brady, OFM

Carol Barnett

$\text{♩} = 100$; **lightly** *mf*

Soprano
Chi - a - ra, Chi-a - ra, Chi - a - ra, Chi-a - ra,

Alto
mf
Chi - a - ra, Chi-a - ra,

Tenor
-

Bass
-

Cello
 $\text{♩} = 100$; **lightly** *mf*
pizz. arco pizz.

Keyboard (rehearsal only)
 $\text{♩} = 100$; **lightly** *mf*

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In the Pursuit of that Perfection

5

S Chi-a - ra, Chi-a - ra,

A Chi-a - ra, Chi-a - ra,

T Fran-ces - co,

B Fran - ces - co,

Vc. arco *p*

Kybd.

10 *mp*

S Chi - a - ra, Chi-a... Chi - a... Chi-a... Chi-a - ra,

A *mp* Chi - a - ra, Chi-a... Chi-a... Chi - a - ra,

T Fran-ces - co.

B Fran - ces - co.

Vc.

Kybd.

15 *p*

S

Clare.

A

Clare, Clare.

T

B

Vc. *pizz.*

mp *p*

Kybd.

20 *p*

S

What you do, may you al-ways do and nev-er a-

A

p What you hold, may you always hold.

T

B

Vc.

Kybd.

24

S
ban - don. But with

A
But with

T
p
Quod te - nes te - ne - as, quod fa - cis fa - ci - as nec di - mit - tas,

B
p
Quod te - nes te - ne - as, quod fa - cis fa - ci - as nec di - mit - tas,

Vc.

Kybd.

30

S
cresc. *mf* *dim.*
swift pace, — light step, and un - swerv - ing feet, so that e - ven your steps stir

A
cresc. *mf* *dim.*
swift pace, — light step, and un - swerv - ing feet, so that e - ven your steps stir

T

B

Vc.
cresc. *mf* *dim.*

Kybd.

35 *p* *pp* *p*

S up no dust, _____ go, _____ go

A up no dust, _____ go, _____ go

T
8 cur-su con - ci - to, gra-du le - vi, se - cu - ra gau - dens et a - lac - ris

B cur-su con - ci - to, gra-du le - vi, se - cu - ra gau - dens et a - lac - ris

Vc. *p*

Kybd.

40 *cresc.* *mp* *dim.*

S for - ward se - cure - ly, joy - ful - ly, and swift - ly, on the path of pru - dent

A *cresc.* *mp* *dim.*

A for - ward se - cure - ly, joy - ful - ly, and swift - ly, on the path of pru - dent

T

B

Vc. *cresc.* *mp*

Kybd.

45

S hap-pi - ness, go for - ward se - cure - ly, joy - ful - ly, and swift - ly, on the

A hap-pi - ness, go for - ward se - cure - ly, joy - ful - ly, and swift - ly, on the

T go for - ward se - cure - ly, joy - ful - ly, and swift - ly, on the

B go for - ward se - cure - ly, joy - ful - ly, and swift - ly, on the

Vc. *p* *cresc.* *mf*

Kybd.

50

S path of pru - dent hap - pi - ness,

A path of pru - dent hap - pi - ness, be - liev - ing

T path of pru - dent hap - pi - ness,

B path of pru - dent hap - pi - ness,

Vc. *mf* *mp* *p*

Kybd.

54

S

A

T

B

Vc.

Kybd.

noth - ing, a - gree - ing with noth - ing which would dis - suade you from this res - o - lu - tion,

58

S

A

T

B

Vc.

Kybd.

mp

mp sub.

p

mp

be - liev - ing noth - ing, a - gree - ing with noth - ing which would dis - suade you from this res - o -

be - liev - ing noth - ing, a - gree - ing with noth - ing which would dis - suade you from this res - o -

nul - li cre - dens, nul - li con - sen - ti - ens, nul - li

62 *mf*

S lu - tion, be - liev - ing noth - ing, a - gree - ing with noth - ing which would dis -

A lu - tion, be - liev - ing noth - ing, a - gree - ing with noth - ing which would dis -

T be - liev - ing noth - ing, a - gree - ing with noth - ing which would dis -

B cre - dens, be - liev - ing noth - ing, a - gree - ing with noth - ing which would dis -

Vc. *arco*
mf

Kybd.

66 *p sub.*

S suade you from this res - o - lu - tion or which would place a stum - bling block

A suade you from this res - o - lu - tion or which would place a stum - bling block

T suade you from this res - o - lu - tion,

B suade you from this res - o - lu - tion,

Vc. *p sub.*

Kybd.

70 $\text{♩} = 88$; quietly intense

S for you — on the way, so that you may of - fer your

A for you on the way, so that you may of - fer your

T *p* so that you may of - fer your

B *p* so that you may of - fer your

Vc. $\text{♩} = 88$; quietly intense
mp sub. *p*

Kybd. $\text{♩} = 88$; quietly intense

74 *cresc. poco a poco*

S vows to the Most High in the pur - suit of that per -

A *cresc. poco a poco* vows to the Most High in the pur - suit of that per -

T *cresc. poco a poco* vows to the Most High in the pur - suit of that per -

B *cresc. poco a poco* vows to the Most High in the pur - suit of that per -

Vc. *pizz.* *cresc. poco a poco*

Kybd. *cresc. poco a poco*

78 *mf*

S
fec - tion _____ to which the Spir² - it _____ of the Lord

A
fec - tion _____ to which the Spir - it _____ of the Lord

T
fec - tion _____ to which the Spir² - it _____ of the Lord

B
fec - tion, _____ the Spir² - it _____ of the Lord

Vc.
78 *mf* arco pizz.

Kybd.
78

83 *mp* *p*

S
has called you. Chi-

A
has called you.

T
has called you. Chi - a - ra, Chi-a - ra,

B

Vc.
mp *p* arco pizz. arco

Kybd.

89 *pp*

S
a - ra, Chi-a - ra, Clare.

A
pp Clare, Clare.

T
pp Clare.

B
pp Clare.

Vc.
pizz. arco *pp* pizz.

Kybd.