

Many thanks to Ms. Peggy Kim Burrough and the Aylen JH Choraliers for helping give this work its due attention.
For the 1996 Georgia All-State Junior High Mixed Chorus.

PRAYER OF THE CHILDREN

TTBB, a cappella

Words and Music
by KURT BESTOR
Arranged by
ANDREA S. KLOUSE

Performance time: 5:15

Freely, with much feeling ♩ = ca. 52

* *unis. mp*

T
T

Can you hear the pray'r of the chil-dren on bend-ed

B
B

unis. mp

knee, in the shad-ow of an un-known room? Emp-ty

5

cresc.

eyes with no more tears to cry, turn-ing

p cresc.

With intensity

mf unis.

heav-en-ward toward the light. Cry-in' *Je-sus

mf unis.

*May be sung 1/2 step lower
**Alternate text: Who will

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help me _____ to see the morn-in' light _____ of one more day, but if

I should die be-fore I wake, I pray my soul to take. Can you _

13

feel _____ the hearts of the chil - dren _____ ach - ing for

home, _____ for some-thing of their ver - y _____ own. Reach - ing _____

17

hands _____ with noth-ing to hold on to, _____ but hope for a

With intensity

bet - ter day, a bet - ter day. Cry - in' *Je - sus

[21] *f*

help me to feel the love a - gain in my own land, but if

Slowly

un-known roads lead a - way from home, give me lov - ing arms, way from harm.

[26] ****Briskly, with growing intensity**

Woh, lah dah dah ***dohm,
Ooh, woh, lah dah dah ***dohm, lah dah dah lah dah dohm,
Oh, lah dah dah ***dohm,

* Alternate text: Who will

** Utilize energetic intensity to achieve briskness, waiting until meas. 29 to increase tempo.

*** Close to *mmm* sound on *dohm* each time.

Slightly faster $\text{♩} = 80$ *ff* *dim. e rit.* **Tempo I** *unis. mp*

Woh, — doh — doh — dah — dah dah doh. — Can you —

33 *ten.* *hushed p*

hear — the voice of the chil - dren — soft - ly

ff *sfz*

plead - ing — for si - lence in their shat - tered world? An - gry —

Resolute *mf* *cresc.* **Warmer, smoothly** *unis.*

guns — preach a gos - pel full of — hate, blood of the in - no - cent — on their —

mp *ff* 41

hands. Cry-in' *Je-sus help me to feel the sun a-gain up-on my face? For when

mp *unis.* *ff*

rit. e dim. *mp* 44 *a tempo unis.* *pp*

dark-ness clears, I know you're near, bring-ing peace a-gain. Da-li
(Dol-ly

rit. e dim. *mp* *unis.* *pp*

cresc. 3

čū - je te sve dje - čje mol - it - ve?
chew - ye tay sfay dyay-chyay mo - leet - vay?)

cresc.

3

Rubato *rit. e dim.* *P* *morendo*

Can you hear the pray'r of the chil - dren?

rit. e dim. *P* *morendo*

* Alternate text: Who will