

## From the Composer

*Hope, peace, joy, and love.* These four things are the foundation of all relationships and communities. These four things are what I wish for my own children to discover and experience ... and ultimately give back to the world around them.

The four stanzas of this simple poem pose a single question by a soloist/cantor/small ensemble (or unison choir) followed by a collective response which can be sung by a congregation, an audience, or the full choir:

*Will you light a candle for hope?  
Will you light a candle for hope?  
We will light a candle for hope, to shine amid the dark.*

I wrote this piece to be universally useable for all types of choirs: church choirs, community choirs, school choirs, interfaith choirs, and more. The text does not belong to one specific religious tradition, but instead encapsulates a core message represented in many faiths - including the important ritual of *light* or *candle-lighting*. A simple Part II in stanzas 2-3 offers a complementary melody that is accessible for any age or voicing.

Depending on your context, you might sing this piece in its entirety, as written. Or perhaps you'll use this as a short ritual song over a 4-week period, singing one stanza at a time; if this is the case, you can begin the accompaniment at the indicated (\*) to highlight individual stanzas.

I hope this piece finds a meaningful home with your ensemble and can be brought out when it's needed - perhaps during a community crisis, a vigil, or a particular season - reminding us to light our candles of *hope, peace, joy, and love* for the good of our beautiful world.

8

can - dle for hope, to shine a - mid the

10

dark. *mf* Will you light a

(\* *mf*)

Part II (optional)

12 *mf*

Pa - cem, pa - cem,

Part I

can - dle for peace? Will you light a can - dle for peace? We will light a

14

pa - cem a - mid the dark.

can - dle for peace, to shine a - mid the dark.

(\*)

17

Joy in our hearts,

Will you light a can - dle for joy? Will you light a

*f*

19

joy to the world! Joy comes

can - dle for joy? We will light a can - dle for joy, to

21

a - mid the dark.

shine a - mid the dark.

Will you light a

*mp*

(\*)

24

can - dle for love? Will you light a can - dle for love? We will light a

*mp*

26

can - dle for love, to shine a - mid the

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## Will You Light a Candle?



1. Will you light a can - dle for hope? Will you light a
2. Will you light a can - dle for peace? Will you light a
3. Will you light a can - dle for joy? Will you light a
4. Will you light a can - dle for love? Will you light a



can - dle	for	hope?	<b>We will light a</b>	<b>can-dle</b>	<b>for hope,</b>	<b>to</b>
can - dle	for	peace?	<b>We will light a</b>	<b>can-dle</b>	<b>for peace,</b>	<b>to</b>
can - dle	for	joy?	<b>We will light a</b>	<b>can-dle</b>	<b>for joy,</b>	<b>to</b>
can - dle	for	love?	<b>We will light a</b>	<b>can-dle</b>	<b>for love,</b>	<b>to</b>



<b>shine</b>	<b>a</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>mid</b>	<b>the</b>	<b>dark.</b>
<b>shine</b>	<b>a</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>mid</b>	<b>the</b>	<b>dark.</b>
<b>shine</b>	<b>a</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>mid</b>	<b>the</b>	<b>dark.</b>
<b>shine</b>	<b>a</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>mid</b>	<b>the</b>	<b>dark.</b>

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