# A Resting Place <br> Rehearsal Resource Page 

Composer: David Rasbach<br>Text: Lidie Edmunds

## Prayer:

Saving God, forgive us for trusting in limited human constructs, when we should be leaning on your living Word. Forgive us for spending our energy preserving our own agenda instead of moving forward in faith. Your love for us is enough. Your sacrifice is enough. Help us rest in this eternal truth. Amen.

## Devotional Activity:

Lidie Edmunds, the author of this text, lived from 1851-1920. She was an aspiring teacher when a spinal injury cut short her career. Edmunds was confined to her bed for long stretches of time, during which she studied the English language and wrote many hymn texts and poems. Rather than dwelling on the limitations of her condition, she penned the hopeful, faith-filled words, "I need no other argument, I need no other plea; it is enough that Jesus died, and that he died for me." Spend a few moments reflecting on the text of this anthem: My faith has found a resting place. What does this mean for you, in your faith journey? Does this resonate? Can you recall times in your life when you did, indeed, feel at peace? What about seasons in your journey fraught with uncertainty or anxiety? No matter where we are along our faith journey, this anthem reminds us that Jesus has done enough - and is enough.

| Vocabulary: |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| $\boldsymbol{p}$ | piano | soft |
| $\boldsymbol{m} \boldsymbol{p}$ | mezzo piano | medium soft |
| $\boldsymbol{m f}$ | mezzo forte | medium loud |
| $\boldsymbol{f}$ | forte | loud |
| $\boldsymbol{f f}$ | fortissimo | very loud |
| poco rit. | poco ritardando | to slightly slow down |
| molto rit. | molto ritardando | to significantly slow down |
| a tempo | a tempo | to return to the original tempo |
| $\overline{\text { crescendo }}$ | to gradually get louder |  |
|  | diminuendo | to gradually get softer |

## Preparation Exercises:

Many phrases in this anthem begin with an eighth rest. Be resourceful as you prepare the breath, as singers will often have this eighth rest alone to reset before the next phrase. As you sing this vocalise, take a low, relaxed breath to support a musical, legato line.


Next, add a slight rhythmic variation to the vocalise pattern.


## Rehearsal Activity: Text Stress

- Text stress plays an important role in choral music. Invite someone to speak the first two pages of this piece. Which words were given more emphasis? Place a checkmark beside these words. Now sing the first stanza (tenor part). Given the time signature of the piece and the way the composer has crafted the melody, do the same words still receive the emphasis when sung? Do you need to make any modifications?

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To Dr. Mark Minnick, Pastor of Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina, with appreciation for his clear and faithful teaching of the whole counsel of God.

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Lidie Edmunds, 1851-1920
David Rasbach (ASCAP)


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*Use this option for the Lenten season.

