



# The Long-Expected Hour

Howard Helvey

Commissioned in honor of Don Martin upon his retirement after 23 years of service as  
 Minister of Music and Visitation at Central Christian Church in Decatur, Illinois.  
 The congregation dedicates this anthem in appreciation of his  
 Christ-like spirit which brings the music out of all whom he encounters.

# The Long-Expected Hour

For SATB Choir, a cappella

Thomas Campbell  
 (1777-1844), *alt.*

Early American Ballad Melody  
 Adapted and Arranged by  
 HOWARD HELVEY (ASCAP)

Moderato con espressione ♩ = ca. 84

(Sop. only) When Jor - dan hushed his wa - ters still, And

SA

TB

Performance note: Measures 1-16 (through beat 2) may be sung by selected voices, or a quartet.

si - lence slept on Zi - on's hill, When

(+Tenor) mp

Beth - le-hem's shep - herds, through the night, Watched

Beth - le-hem's

(+Bass) mp

o'er the flocks by star - ry light - Hark!

(tutti) mf

(tutti) mf

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from the mid - night hills a - round, A

17 18 19 20

voice of more than mor - tal sound, In

21 22 23 24

*mp*

dis - tance hal - le - lu - jahs stole, Wild

25 26 27 28

*p*

mur - m'ring o'er the rap - tured soul

29 30 31 32

*poco rit.*

On wheels of light, on wings of

33 34 35 36

*a tempo mp*

flame, The glo - rious hosts of Zi - on

flame, The glo - rious hosts of Zi - on

*mf* came; High heav'n with songs of tri - umph

*mf* came; High heav'n with songs of tri - umph

rang, While thus they struck their harps and

rang, While thus they struck their harps and

*f* sang: O Zi - on, lift thy rap - tured

*f* Zi - on, lift thy rap - tured

eye; The long - ex - pect - ed hour is

eye; The long - ex - pect - ed hour is

mf  
nigh; The joys of na - ture rise a -

mf

57 58 59 60

gain; The Prince of Glo - ry comes to

61 62 63 64

reign. Ah

f

f

65 66 67 68

mf

mf

Ah

3

3

69 70 71

Musical notation for measures 72-74. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats. Measure 72 starts with a treble clef staff containing a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 73 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 74 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Dynamics include *dim.* above measure 73 and *rall.* above measure 74.

**Lentando** *de pello*

Musical notation for measures 75-78. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats. Measure 75 starts with a treble clef staff containing a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 76 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 77 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 78 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Dynamics include *mp* above measure 75 and *mp* above measure 76. The lyrics are: "O Zi - on, lift thy rap - tured".

Musical notation for measures 79-82. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats. Measure 79 starts with a treble clef staff containing a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 80 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 81 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 82 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Dynamics include *p* above measure 79 and *p* above measure 81. The lyrics are: "eye; The long - ex - pect - ed".

Musical notation for measures 83-86. The system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats. Measure 83 starts with a treble clef staff containing a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 84 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 85 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Measure 86 contains a treble clef staff with a half note G4 and a bass clef staff with a half note G2. Dynamics include *rall.* above measure 83 and *pp* above measure 85. The lyrics are: "hour hour is is nigh. nigh.".