

Many thanks to Ms. Peggy Kim Burrough and the Aylen JH Choraliens
for helping bring this work to light.

For the 1996 Georgia All-State Junior High Mixed Chorus

PRAYER OF THE CHILDREN

SATB, a cappella

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

Performance time: 5:15

Freely, with much feeling (♩ = ca. 52)

S
A

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

T
B

unis. mp

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

p

5 *p* Eyes *cresc.* with no more

eyes with no more tears to cry, turn - ing

cresc.

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

mf

mf

With intensity

*Alternate text: Who will

9 *f*

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

f *unis.*

I should die before I wake, I pray my soul to take. Can you

mp *mf* *mp*

13

feel the hearts of the children aching for

mf

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

unis.

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

n.b.

f

unis.

n.b.

Slowly

dim. e rit.

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

dim. e rit.

26 ****Briskly, with growing intensity**

mf

n.b.

cresc.

poco rit.

Woh, lah dah dah dohm, lah dah lah dah dohm.

mf

n.b.

cresc.

poco rit.

Ooh

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

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

33 *ten.* *hushed* *p*

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

ff *sfz* *unis.*

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

ff *sfz*

37 Resolute *ff* *cresc.* *Warmer, smoothly* *unis.*

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

f *cresc.*

41

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

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

45

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

Rubato

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

* Alternate text: Who will
** The break should be only as long as a breath (a gasp), then continue in tempo.