

To my daughter Julia

# FATHER, INTO YOUR HANDS

Psalm 31

SATB Choir, Cantor, Assembly, Oboe, Guitar, Keyboard

Paul Hillebrand

Keyboard arr. by Ron Rendek

Ps 31

## INTRODUCTION

♩ = c. 84

Cantor/Choir/Assembly

## REFRAIN

*mf*

S.A.

T.B.

Em D/E C/E D/E D/E Em

*mp* *mf*

Fa - ther, in - to your

4

hands, in - to your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

D/C Bm/D Bm7/F# D/C C

006226

Composer's notes can be found on page 11.

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Cantor  
*mf*

7

1. In

Em D/E C/E D/E

*mp*

VERSE 1

9 Cantor

1. you, O LORD, I take ref - uge; let me nev - er be put to

C D Em Bm7

*mf*

12

1. shame. In your jus - tice res - cue me. In - to your

B/D# G Am Fmaj7

15

1. hands I com-mend my spir - it; you will re -

Em Bm/D Cmaj7

*p*

18

1. deem me, O LORD, O faith-ful God.

Em Bm7 Em D/E C/E D/E

REFRAIN

Cantor/Choir/Assembly

21

Fa - ther, in - to your hands, in - to your hands I com-mend my

*mf*

D/E Em D/C Bm/D Bm7/F#

24

*Cantor*  
*mf*

spir - it.

2. For all my

D/C C Em D/E C/E D/E

*mp*

VERSE 2

27 *Cantor*

2. foes I am an ob-ject of re-proach, a laugh-ing-stock to my

C D Em Bm7

*mf*

30

2. neigh - bors, and a dread to my friends; they who

B/D# G Am Fmaj7

33

2. see me a-broad flee from me. I am for -

Em Bm/D Cmaj7

*p*

36

2. got - ten like the un - re - mem - bered dead; I am like a

Em Bm7 Cmaj7 Em Bm/D

39

2. dish that is bro - ken.

C Bm A Em D/E C/E D/E

REFRAIN

Cantor/Choir/Assembly

43 *mf*

Fa - ther, in - to your hands, in - to your hands I com-mend my

*mf*

D/E Em D/C Bm/D Bm7/F#

46 *Cantor mf*

spir - it. 3. But my

D/C C Em D/E C/E D/E

*mp*

VERSE 3

49 *Cantor*

3. trust is in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my

C D Em Bm7

52

3. God. In your hands is my des - ti - ny;

B/D# G Am Fmaj7

55

3. res - cue me from the clutch - es of my en - e - mies and my

Em Bm/D Cmaj7

*p*

59

3. per - se - cu - tors."

Em Bm7 Em D/E C/E D/E

REFRAIN

Cantor/Choir/Assembly

62 *mf*

Fa - ther, in - to your hands, in - to your hands I com-mend my

*mf*

D/E Em D/C Bm/D Bm7/F#

65 *Cantor mf*

spir - it. 4. Let your

D/C C Em D/E C/E D/E

*mp*

VERSE 4

68 *Cantor*

4. face shine up - on your serv - ant; save me in your

C D Em Bm7



71

4. kind - ness. Take cour - age — and be stout - heart - ed, take —

B/D# G Am Fmaj7

74

4. cour - age and be stout - heart - ed, all —

Em Bm/D Cmaj7

*p*

77

4. you who hope in the LORD.

Em Bm7 Em D/E C/E D/E

## FINAL REFRAIN

*Cantor/Choir/Assembly*

80 *mf*

Fa - ther, in - to your hands, in - to your hands I com-mend my

*mf*

D/E Em D/C Bm/D Bm7/F#

83

spir - it.

*mp*

D/C C Em D/E C/E D/E E5

## Composer's Notes:

To put our lives in God's hands and to commend our spirits to the Father is to relinquish all that we are, offering ourselves back to the God who gave all to and for us. My daughter Julia, who has an inoperable brain tumor, has given us a beautiful example of this attitude. For more than a year, we have watched her put her life in God's hands each day. Our hope is that she will be able to commend her spirit to God in peace and confidence, knowing that she has been a witness to what this psalm is all about.

The motif in the introduction is played before and after each verse. The refrain (measures 3–6) should be sung the first time only by the cantor and then repeated with choir and assembly before playing measures 7 and 8 and going to the verses. When an oboe or C instrument is available, the performer should play the two-measure motif and the keyboard need not double the melody. The tempo in this piece should not be strict, but should have an ebb and flow to accentuate the text.