

2 Very

For Laura Mahler, pure light and beauty

MAY THE ROAD RISE TO MEET YOU

Refrain: Trad. Irish blessing
 Verses: based on Ecclesiastes 3:2-8; adapt. L.T.

Music: Lori True

Prayerfully ♩ = 80-85

§ Refrain

Descant

S, A
mp-mf § C G/B F/A

May the wind be at your side, may the road rise to meet you. May the wind be at your side, may the road rise to meet you.

T, B unis.
mp-mf

§

mp-mf

Background and Liturgical Use: This is a communal setting of the popular Irish Blessing, intertwined with verses inspired from Ecclesiastes. This piece has several possibilities for use in liturgical and non-liturgical gatherings. The refrain could be used alone without verses as a final blessing at a variety of liturgies; and the refrain combined with verses could be used at weddings, funerals, graduations, celebrations of ministry, or any celebration where a blessing or "sending forth" is called for.

Performance: This piece deserves a careful and intentional tenderness without becoming overly sentimental. Best done with the simplest of instrumentation, the piece needs to achieve a good sense of movement without feeling rushed. When a choir is singing the refrain, it is important that a good blend is achieved so that the melody is not buried in the SAB texture. The refrain would be best done by a single voice or a small group of sopranos singing lightly with little vibrato.

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at your back. Shine warm - ly
 your face.

back. May the sun shine warm up-on your face, up-on your
 up-on your

G^{SUS4} G Am⁹ Am/G F

9

on your face, soft - ly.

face. May the rain fall soft-ly on your fields, And un - til we meet a -
 face. May the rain fall on your fields, And un - til we meet a

G^{SUS4} G Am Am/G Fmaj⁷ C G/B

13

Till we meet a - gain, gen - tle, -

Am Em/G FADD11 C/E

gain, _____ may you keep safe_ in the gen - tle, -

gain, _____ keep safe_ in the gen - tle_

16

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>To Verses</i> | <i>Final ending</i> |
| lov - ing God. | God. | God. |

Dm⁷ G^{SUS4} G

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| <i>To Verses</i> | <i>Final ending</i> |
| C | C |

lov - ing arms _____ of God. _____ 1.-6. For ev-'ry- God.

lov - ing arms of God. God.

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| <i>To Verses</i> | <i>Final ending</i> |
| | |

Verses

19 Fmaj7 C G/B Am Em/G

(1.) thing there is a sea - son; — a time for meet - ing, a time to say good-
 (2.) thing there is a sea - son; — a time for lis - t'ning, a time to speak the
 (3.) thing there is a sea - son; — a time for laugh - ter, a time for tears and
 (4.) thing there is a sea - son; — a time for search - ing, a time for calm and
 (5.) thing there is a sea - son; — a time for lov - ing, a time for let - ting
 (6.) thing there is a sea - son; — a time for liv - ing, a time for go - ing

22 F Am Em/G
div.

bye. _____
 truth. _____
 pain. _____
 peace. _____ In all things God is near, — al-ways
 go. _____
 home. _____

25 Dm7 G^{SUS4} G F/G G D.S.

guid - ing — your way. _____ May the

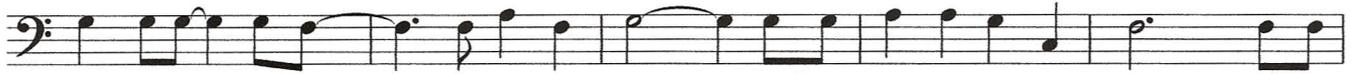
May the Rose Rise to Meet You

Lori True

♩=85



May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be at your back. May the sun shine



warm up-on your face, up-on your face. May the rain fall on your fields, and un-



- til we meet a - gain, keep safe in the gen - tle lov - ing arms of



God.