

O My Father

Medium-voice solo

Text by Eliza R. Snow
Melody from John Wyeth's
"Repository of Sacred Music," Part Second
Arranged by Sally DeFord

Gently, about $\text{♩} = 70$

The first system of the piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays a melody of eighth notes, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4.

The second system features a vocal line on a single staff and piano accompaniment on two staves. The vocal line begins at measure 8 with the lyrics: "O my Fa - ther, thou that dwell - est in the high and glo - rious place, When shall wise and glo - rious pur - pose thou hast placed me here on earth, And with -". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines. A piano (*p*) dynamic is indicated at the start of the system.

The third system continues the vocal and piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts at measure 14 with the lyrics: "I re - gain thy pre - sence and a - gain be - hold thy face, In thy ho - ly hab - i - ta - tion did my held the rec - ol - lec - tion of my for - mer friends and birth, Yet oft - times a sec - ret some - thing whis - pered, -". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The vocal line begins at measure 20 with the lyrics: "spi - rit once re - side? In my first pri - me - val child - hood, was I nur - tured near thy 'You're a stran - ger here.' And I felt that I had wan - dered from a more ex - alt - ed". The piano accompaniment includes markings for *rit.* (ritardando) and *a tempo* (return to original tempo). The system ends at measure 24.

1. 26 28

side? For a

2. 30 32 34 36

sphere.

mf

38 40 42

mf

I had learned to call thee Fa - ther, Thru thy Spir - it from on high, But, un -

44 46 48

til the key of knowl - edge was re - stored, I knew not why. In the ___ heav'ns are par ents sin - gle? No, the _

rit. 50 *a tempo* 52 54

thought makes rea - son stare! Truth is rea - son, Truth e - ter - nal tells me I've a mo - ther there. _____

rit. *a tempo*

56 58 60 62

p *rit.* *tacet*

62 *mp* 64 66

When I leave this frail ex - is - tence, When I lay this mor - tal by, Fa - ther, Mo - ther, may I

68 70 *mf* 72

meet you in your roy - al courts on high? Then, at ___ length when I've com - plet - ed all you ___

rit. 74 *mp* *a tempo* 76 78

sent me forth to do, With your mu - tual ap - pro - ba - tion, let me come and dwell with you. ___

80 *p* 82 84 86

___ Let me come and dwell with you.

p *rit.* *pp*