

JUDITH SHATIN

We Hold These Truths

SATB Chorus and Piano



Program Note: *We Hold These Truths*

We Hold These Truths (1992), is a setting of a large portion of the *Declaration of Independence* and is scored for chorus, brass quintet and timpani, also available for chorus and piano. Commissioned by the University of Virginia for the celebration of Jefferson's 250th birthday on April 13, 1993, it was premiered on the Lawn of the University by Coro Virginia, tympanist Conrad Alexander and the US Army Brass Quintet following Mikhail Gorbachev's keynote address. As a Professor of Music at the university founded by Jefferson, I was drawn to set portions of this key document, drafted by Jefferson. I was inspired by the passion, contemporary resonance and power of its revolutionary aspects. I composed this piece during a residency at MacDowell, itself a place where artists are free to exercise their creative imaginations.

Celebrating the upcoming 50th anniversary of the signing Jefferson wrote: "May it be to the world, what I believe it will be (to some parts sooner, to others later, but finally to all), the signal of arousing men to burst the chains under which monkish ignorance and superstition had persuaded them to bind themselves, and to assume the blessings and security of mankind. That form which we have substituted, restores the free right to the unbounded exercise of reason and freedom of opinion. ...the mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few booted and spurred, ready to ride them legitimately, by the grace of God. These are grounds of hope for others. For ourselves, let the annual return of this day forever refresh our recollections of these rights, and an undiminished devotion to them."

World Premiere Coro Virginia Conrad Alexander, Timpani US Army Brass Quintet The Lawn UVA 04/13/2003

Duration: 15:00

We Hold these Truths

Thomas Jefferson

Judith Shatin

Forcefully *emphatically declaimed*

1 ♩ = 92

Chorus

When, in the course of hu-man e-vents,

it be-comes nec-es-sar-y for one peo-ple to dis-solve the po-lit-i-cal

bands which have con-nect-ed them with an-oth-er, and to as-sume a-mong the pow-ers of the

sf *sf* *sf* *f* *mf* *f* *mp* *mp*

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

14 *f* *mf* 3

earth the sep-a- rate and e- qual sta- tion to which the laws of na- ture and of na- ture's

18 *f* *mf* 3 3

God en- ti- tle them, a de- cent re- spect to the o- pin- ions of man- kind

22 *f* 3

re- quires that they should de- clare the caus- es which im- pel them to the sep- a- ra- tion.

26 *poco accel.*

A

♩ = 96

26 *poco accel.*

♩ = 96

f

Red. -----

Red. -----

Red. -----

29

Red. -----

Red. -----

Red. -----

32

sub. 3 mp

f

sub. 3 mp

Red. -----

Red. -----

Red. -----

35

ff

f

sf mf

Red. -----

Red. -----

Red. -----

B with conviction

ff

38

sop. *ff* We hold, we

alto *ff* We hold, we

ten. *ff* We hold, we

bass *ff* We hold, we

ff

f

Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red.

42

sop. hold these truths to be self—ev-i dent:

alto hold these truths to be self—ev-i dent:

ten. hold these truths to be self—ev-i dent:

bass hold these truths to be self—ev-i dent:

sub. p

Red. Red. Red.

52

mf *mp* *mf*

sop. they are en- dowed by their Cre a- tor with

alto they are en- dowed by their Cre a- tor with

ten. they are en- dowed by their Cre a- tor with

bass they are en- dowed by their Cre a- tor with

they are en- dowed by their Cre a- tor with

mp *mf*

Red. Red. Red.

55

f *mf* *f*

sop. cer- tain in- a- li- en- a- ble rights; that a- mong these are life, lib- er- ty,

alto cer- tain in- a- li- en- a- ble rights; that a- mong these are life, lib- er- ty,

ten. cer- tain in- a- li- en- a- ble rights; that a- mong these are life, lib- er- ty,

bass cer- tain in- a- li- en- a- ble rights; that a- mong these are life, lib- er- ty,

cer- tain in- a- li- en- a- ble rights; that a- mong these are life, lib- er- ty,

f *f*

Red. Red. Red.

59

sop.

and the pur-suit of hap-pi-ness, hap-pi-ness; *mp*

alto

and the pur-suit of hap-pi-ness, hap-pi-ness; *mp*

ten.

and the pur-suit of hap-pi-ness, hap-pi-ness; *mp*

bass

and the pur-suit of hap-pi-ness, hap-pi-ness; *mp*

Red. ---

Red. ---

C

63

sub.
f

sub.
f

mf

Red. ---

Red. ---

67

mf

mf

mf

mf

that to se—cure these rights,

that to se—cure these rights,

that to se—cure these rights,

that to se—cure these rights,

mp

mf

Red. -----

71

f

f

f

f

gov— ern— ments are in— sti— tu— ted a— mong men,

gov— ern— ments are in— sti— tu— ted a— mong men,

gov— ern— ments are in— sti— tu— ted a— mong men,

gov— ern— ments are in— sti— tu— ted a— mong men,

f

f

Red. -----

Red. -----

sop. de- riv- ing their just pow-ers from the con- sent of the gov-erned;

alto de- riv- ing their just pow-ers from the con- sent of the gov-erned;

ten. de- riv- ing their just pow-ers from the con- sent of the gov-erned;

bass de- riv- ing their just pow-ers from the con- sent of the gov-erned;

Red. - - -

sop. that when- *mp*

alto

ten.

bass

f *p*

Red. - - - *Red. - - -* *Red. - - -*

E*Agitated**rit.*

♩ = 86

*mf cresc.**f*

92

sop. it is the right it is the right of the peo-ple

alto it is the right it is the right of the peo-ple

ten. it is the right it is the right of the peo-ple

bass it is the right it is the right of the peo-ple

mf cresc. *cresc.* *f*

E*Agitated**rit.*

♩ = 86

mp *cresc.* *sf*

96

sop. it is the right it is the right of the peo-ple to al-ter or a—bol-ish it,—

alto it is the right it is the right of the peo-ple to al-ter or a—bol-ish it,—

ten. it is the right it is the right of the peo-ple to al-ter or a—bol-ish it,—

bass it is the right it is the right of the peo-ple to al-ter or a—bol-ish it,—

mp cresc. *f* *3*

sf

100

sop.

mf

a new gov-ern- ment. a

alto

mf

a new gov-ern- ment. a

ten.

mf

and in-sti-tute a new gov-ern- ment. a

bass

mf

and in-sti-tute a new gov-ern- ment. a

mf

104

sop.

mp

new gov-ern- ment.

alto

mp

new gov-ern- ment.

ten.

mp

new gov-ern- ment.

bass

mp

new gov-ern- ment.

mf

p

mp mf

Red.

F Reflective

109

Baritone solo *mp* *mf*

All ex— pe— ri— ence hath

p *pp* *p*

Red.

115

shown that man— kind are more dis— posed to

mp *mf*

121

suf— fer while e— vils are suf— fer— a— ble, then to

f *mp* *mf* *mp*

Red.

127

b.

right them-selves by a — bol- ish- ing the forms to which they were

mf *f* *mf*

mp

132

b.

ac — cus — — — — — to med. — — — — —

mp *pp*

p *pp*

Red.

G *Urgently*
piu mosso

137 $\bullet = 100$

pp *mf*

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

141

passionately
f

sop. But when a long—

alto But when a

ten. But when a long—

bass But when a

sfmp *ff*

Red.---

145

sop. long—

alto long—

ten. long—

bass long—

p *mf*

sf *p* *Red.---*

148

sop.

f

But when a long

alto

f

But when a long

ten.

f

But when a long

bass

f

But when a long

f mp ff sf

Red.

152

sop.

train of a bus- es and u- sur- pa- tions e-

alto

train of a bus- es and u- sur- pa- tions e-

ten.

train of a bus- es and u- sur- pa- tions e-

bass

train of a bus- es and u- sur- pa- tions e-

f

Red.

sop. vin-ces a de-sign to re-duce them un-der ab-so-lute des-po-ti-sm,

alto vin-ces a de-sign to re-duce them un-der ab-so-lute des-po-ti-sm,

ten. vin-ces a de-sign to re-duce them un-der ab-so-lute des-po-ti-sm,

bass vin-ces a de-sign to re-duce them un-der ab-so-lute des-po-ti-sm,

sop.

alto

ten.

bass

pp cresc.

Red.

163 *rit.* ----- ♩ = 84

f

sop. it is their right, it is their right,

alto *f* it is their right, it is their right, it is their right,

ten. *f* it is their right, it is their right,

bass *f* it is their right, it is their right, it is their right,

rit. ----- ♩ = 84

sf mp f sf sf

it is their right, it is their right, it is their right,

167

sop. It is their du— ty to throw off, to throw off such gov— ern— ment.—

alto It is their du— ty to throw off, to throw off such gov— ern— ment.—

ten. It is their du— ty to throw off, to throw off such gov— ern— ment.—

bass It is their du— ty to throw off, to throw off such gov— ern— ment.—

sf sf mf

Red-----

172

sop.
alto
ten.
bass

mp
mf
mf
 3
 Red.

177

sop.
alto
ten.
bass

mp
mf
mp
p
pp
 Red.

H*with restraint*

181

pp *mp* *pp* *p* *mp* 3

pp *mp* *pp* *p* *mp* 3

pp *mp* *p* *mp* 3

pp *mp* *mp* 3

Such has been the pa-tient suf-fer-ance of these col-o-nies; —

Such has been the pa-tient suf-fer-ance of these col-o-nies; —

the pa-tient suf-fer-ance of these col-o-nies; —

the pa-tient suf-fer-ance col-o-nies; —

H

185

mp

mp

mp

mp

and

and

and

and

and

p *mp* *p* *mf*

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

202

(cresc.) *f* *with anger*

sop. for— mer sys—tems of gov— ern— ment. The his—to—ry of the

alto for— mer sys—tems of gov— ern— ment. The his—to—ry of the

ten. for— mer sys—tems of gov— ern— ment. The his—to—ry of the

bass for— mer sys—tems of gov— ern— ment. The his—to—ry of the

PERUSIA SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

207

mf

sop. pres— ent King of Great Brit— ain is a his—to—ry of re—

alto pres— ent King of Great Brit— ain is a his—to—ry of re—

ten. pres— ent King of Great Brit— ain is a his—to—ry of re—

bass pres— ent King of Great Brit— ain is a his—to—ry of re—

PERUSIA SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

211

sop. *f* *mf* *f*
 peat— ed— in— jur— ies and u— sur— pa— tions, all

alto *f* *mf* *f*
 peat— ed— in— jur— ies and u— sur— pa— tions, all

ten. *f* *mf* *f*
 peat— ed— in— jur— ies and u— sur— pa— tions, all

bass *f* *mf* *f*
 peat— ed— in— jur— ies and u— sur— pa— tions, all

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

215

sop. *f* *f* *f*
 hav— ing in di— rect ob— ject the es— tab— lish— ment of an

alto *f* *f* *f*
 hav— ing in di— rect ob— ject the es— tab— lish— ment of an

ten. *f* *f* *f*
 hav— ing in di— rect ob— ject the es— tab— lish— ment of an

bass *f* *f* *f*
 hav— ing in di— rect ob— ject the es— tab— lish— ment of an

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

220

sop.

ab- so- lute

tyr- an- ny

o- ver these

states.

alto

ab- so- lute

tyr- an- ny

o- ver these

states.

ten.

ab- so- lute

tyr- an- ny

o- ver these

states.

bass

ab- so- lute

tyr- an- ny

o- ver these

states.

ff

mf

f

ff

mf

f

ff

mf

f

ff

mf

f

ff

mf *f*

Red. -

226

mf *f*

Red. -

Red. -

231

fp cresc.

mp

Red. -

Red. -

Red. -

Red. -

Red. -

J

236

f

sop. He has re- fused his as- sent to laws most whole- some and nec- es- sa- ry to the pub- lic good.

alto He has re- fused his as- sent to laws most whole- some and nec- es- sa- ry to the pub- lic good.

ten. He has re- fused his as- sent to laws most whole- some and nec- es- sa- ry to the pub- lic good.

bass He has re- fused his as- sent to laws most whole- some and nec- es- sa- ry to the pub- lic good.

J

He has re- fused his as- sent to laws most whole- some and nec- es- sa- ry to the pub- lic good.

sf *f* *f*

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

241

sop. He has called to- geth- er leg- is- la- tive bo- dies at *mp*

alto He has called to- geth- er leg- is- la- tive bo- dies *mp* at pla- ces

ten. He has called to- geth- er leg- is- la- tive bo- dies *mp* at pla- ces

bass He has called to- geth- er leg- is- la- tive bo- dies *mp* at pla- ces

sop. pla-ces un- com- for- ta- ble, and dis- tant.

alto un- com- for- ta- ble, and dis- tant.

ten. *mf* un- us- u- al, and dis- tant. He has dis- solved rep- re- sen- ta- tive hou- ses re-

bass *mf* un- us- u- al, and dis- tant. He has dis- solved rep- re- sen- ta- tive hou- ses re-

f *sf* *mf*

sop. for op- pos- ing his in- va- sion of the rights of the peo- ple.

alto *mf* for op- pos- ing his in- va- sion of the rights of the peo- ple.

ten. peat- ed- ly

bass peat- ed- ly

f

253

mf *f* *mf*

sop. He has re— fused for a long time af— ter such dis— so— lu— tions

alto He has re— fused for a long time af— ter such dis— so— lu— tions

ten. He has re— fused for a long time af— ter such dis— so— lu— tions

bass He has re— fused for a long time af— ter such dis— so— lu— tions

He has re— fused for a long time af— ter such dis— so— lu— tions

f 3 3

257

sop. to cause oth— ers to be e— lect— ed,

alto to cause oth— ers to be e— lect— ed,

ten. to cause oth— ers to be e— lect— ed,

bass to cause oth— ers to be e— lect— ed,

to cause oth— ers to be e— lect— ed,

mf *f* 3 3

261

mf

sop. the state re— main— ing ex— posed

mf

alto the state re— main— ing ex— posed

mf

ten. re— main— ing ex— posed

mf

bass re— main— ing ex— posed

mf

mf

3

264

f

sop. to all the dan—gers of in— va— sion from with— out con—

f

alto to all the dan—gers of in— va— sion from with— out con—

f

ten. to all the dan—gers from with— out and con— vul— sions from with—

f

bass to all the dan—gers from with— out and con— vul— sions from with—

f

K

267

sop. vul— sions from with— in. He has en—

alto vul— sions from with— in. He has en—

ten. in.

bass in.

mp

mp

K

mf

p

Red. — Red. — Red. —

271

sop. deav— ored to pre— vent the pop— u— la— tion of these states;

alto deav— ored to pre— vent the pop— u— la— tion of these states;

Red. — Red. — Red. — Red. —

sop. *mp* He has ob—

alto *mp* He has ob—

ten. *mp* He has ob— *mf* tra— tion of *mp* jus— tice.

bass *mp* He has ob— *mf* tra— tion of *mp* jus— tice.

He has ob— struc— ted, the ad— min— is— tra— tion of jus— tice.

mp

Red.

sop. struc— ted, He has kept a— mong us in times of peace

alto struc— ted, He has kept a— mong us in times of peace

ten. He has kept a— mong us in times of peace

bass He has kept a— mong us in times of peace

He has kept a— mong us in times of peace

f *sf* *mf*

Red.

sop. stand— ing ar— mies with— out the con— sent of our

alto stand— ing ar— mies with— out the con— sent of our

ten. stand— ing ar— mies with— out the con— sent of our

bass stand— ing ar— mies with— out the con— sent of our

f

sop. leg- is- la- tures.

alto leg- is- la- tures. in- de— *f*

ten. leg- is- la- tures. He has af- fect- ed to ren- der the mil- i- tar- y *mf*

bass leg- is- la- tures. He has af- fect- ed to ren- der the mil- i- tar- y in- de— *f*

f

f

sop. and su— pe-ri- or to civ- il pow— er. He has

alto pen- dent of— civ- il pow— er. He has

ten. *f* and su— pe-ri- or to civ- il pow— er. He has

bass pen- dent of— civ- il pow— er. He has

f

Red. ---

sop. ab- di— ca— ted gov- ern- ment here by de- clar- ing us out of his pro-

alto ab- di— ca— ted gov- ern- ment here by de- clar- ing us out of his pro-

ten. ab- di— ca— ted gov- ern- ment here by de- clar- ing us out of his pro-

bass ab- di— ca— ted gov- ern- ment here by de- clar- ing us out of his pro-

sop. tec-tion and wag- ing war, wag- ing, wag- ing war a— gainst us.

alto tec-tion and wag- ing war, wag- ing, wag- ing war a— gainst us.

ten. tec-tion and wag- ing, wag- ing war, wag- ing war a— gainst us.

bass tec-tion and wag- ing, wag- ing war, wag- ing war a— gainst us.

L

sop. He has plun— dered our seas,

alto He has plun— dered our seas,

ten. He has plun— dered our

bass He has plun— dered our seas,

L

poco accel. ----- ♩ = 84

309

sop. *alto* *ten.* *bass*

seas, rav— aged our coasts, burned our towns, rav— aged our coasts, burned our

f *f* *f* *f*

poco accel. ----- ♩ = 84

sub. mp *sf*

Red. *Red.*

313

sop. *alto* *ten.* *bass*

towns, and de— stroyed the lives of our peo— ple. and de— stroyed the lives of our peo— ple. and de— stroyed the lives of our peo— ple. towns, and de— stroyed the lives of our peo— ple.

mp *sf*

Red.

3

Red. _____

Red. Red. Red.

323

*cresc.**ff*

sop.

death,

the works of death, des-o-la-tion and

tyr-an-ny.

alto

death,

the works of death, des-o-la-tion and

tyr-an-ny.

ten.

death,

the works of death, des-o-la-tion and

tyr-an-ny.

bass

death,

the works of death, des-o-la-tion and

tyr-an-ny.

Red. -----

ff 3

Red. -----

327

sop.

alto

ten.

bass

mf 3

Red. Red. Red.

M

with subdued rage

p

M

with subdued rage

Le

Red.

ti-

 m

341

sop. Our re—peat—ed pe—ti—tions have been ans—wered on—ly

alto Our re—peat—ed pe—ti—tions have been ans—wered on—ly

ten. Our re—peat—ed pe—ti—tions have been ans—wered on—ly

bass Our re—peat—ed pe—ti—tions have been ans—wered on—ly

mf *f* *mf*

Accel. -----

346

sop. on—ly by re—peat—ed in—ju—ries.

alto on—ly by re—peat—ed in—ju—ries.

ten. on—ly by re—peat—ed in—ju—ries.

bass on—ly by re—peat—ed in—ju—ries.

f *3* *3* *3* *3*

Accel. -----

Red. -----

351 (accel.) $\bullet = 92$ **N** Proudly *ff*

sop. We, there-fore the rep-re-

alto We, there-fore the rep-re-

ten. We, there-fore the rep-re-

bass We, there-fore the rep-re-

(accel.) $\bullet = 92$ **N** Proudly *ff*

there-fore the rep-re-

356

sop. sen-ta-tives of the U-ni-ted States of A-mer-i-ca

alto sen-ta-tives of the U-ni-ted States of A-mer-i-ca

ten. sen-ta-tives of the U-ni-ted States of A-mer-i-ca

bass sen-ta-tives of the U-ni-ted States of A-mer-i-ca

sen-ta-tives of the U-ni-ted States of A-mer-i-ca

sop. *f* in gen-er-al Con- gress as- sem- bled, *mp* ap- peal- ing to the su

alto *f* in gen-er-al Con- gress as- sem- bled, *mp* ap- peal- ing to the su

ten. *f* in gen-er-al Con- gress as- sem- bled, *mp* ap- peal- ing to the su

bass *f* in gen-er-al Con- gress as- sem- bled, *mp* ap- peal- ing to the su

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

364 *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

sop. preme judge of the world for the rec- ti- tude of our in-

alto *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

preme judge of the world of our in-

ten. *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

preme judge of the world for the rec- ti- tude of our in-

bass *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

preme judge of the world of our in-

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

377

sop. sol- emn- ly pub- lish and de- clare, that these u- ni- ted col- o- nies are free and

alto sol- emn- ly pub- lish and de- clare, that these u- ni- ted col- o- nies are free and

ten. sol- emn- ly pub- lish and de- clare, that these u- ni- ted col- o- nies are free and

bass sol- emn- ly pub- lish and de- clare, that these u- ni- ted col- o- nies are free and

mf *f*

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

381

sop. in- de- pen- dent states that they are ab- solved from all al-

alto in- de- pen- dent states that they are ab- solved from all al-

ten. in- de- pen- dent states that they are ab- solved from all al-

bass in- de- pen- dent states that they are ab- solved from all al-

mf *mf* *mf* *mf*

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

385

f

sop. le-giance to the Brit-ish crown, that all po-lit-i-cal con-nec-tion be-tween

alto le-giance to the Brit-ish crown, that all po-lit-i-cal con-nec-tion be-tween

ten. le-giance to the Brit-ish crown, that all po-lit-i-cal con-nec-tion be-tween

bass le-giance to the Brit-ish crown, that all po-lit-i-cal con-nec-tion be-tween

Red. - - -

Red. - - -

PERFORM

389

sop. them and the state of Great Brit-ain is to-tal-ly dis-solved;

alto them and the state of Great Brit-ain is to-tal-ly dis-solved;

ten. them and the state of Great Brit-ain is to-tal-ly dis-solved;

bass them and the state of Great Brit-ain is to-tal-ly dis-solved;

PERFORM

mp

sop. and that as free and in-de- pen- dent states, they have full

alto *mp* and that as free and in-de- pen- dent states,

ten. *mp* and that as free and in-de- pen- dent states, they have full

bass *mp* and that as free and in-de- pen- dent states,

mp *f*

Red. ----- Red. ----- Red. ----- Red. -----

sop. pow- er ————— lev- y war,

alto *f* they have full pow- er lev- y war,

ten. pow- er ————— to lev- y war,

bass *f* they have full pow- er to lev- y war,

Red. ----- Red. ----- Red. ----- Red. ----- Red. ----- Red. -----

mp *mf*

sop. con- clude peace, es- tab- lish com- merce, and do all oth- er acts and

alto con- clude peace, es- tab- lish com- merce, and do all oth- er acts and

ten. con- clude peace, es- tab- lish com- merce, and do all oth- er acts and

bass con- clude peace, es- tab- lish com- merce, and do all oth- er acts and

mp *mf*

Red. -----

sop. things that in- de- pen- dent states may do. And for the sup-

alto things that in- de- pen- dent states may do. And for the sup-

ten. things that in- de- pen- dent states may do. And for the sup-

bass things that in- de- pen- dent states may do. And for the sup-

f *f* *f* *f*

3 3 3 3 3

Red. -----

sop. port of this dec- la- ra- tion, we mu- tual- ly

alto port of this dec- la- ra- tion, we mu- tual- ly

ten. port of this dec- la- ra- tion, we mu- tual- ly

bass port of this dec- la- ra- tion, we mu- tual- ly

Red. -----

sop. pledge to each oth- er our lives, our for- tunes,

alto pledge to each oth- er our lives, our for- tunes,

ten. pledge to each oth- er our lives, our for- tunes,

bass pledge to each oth- er our lives, our for- tunes,

Red. -----

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sop.

and our sa— cred hon— our.

alto

and our sa— cred hon— our.

ten.

and our sa— cred hon— our.

bass

and our sa— cred hon— our.

Red.

FOR PERFORMANCE