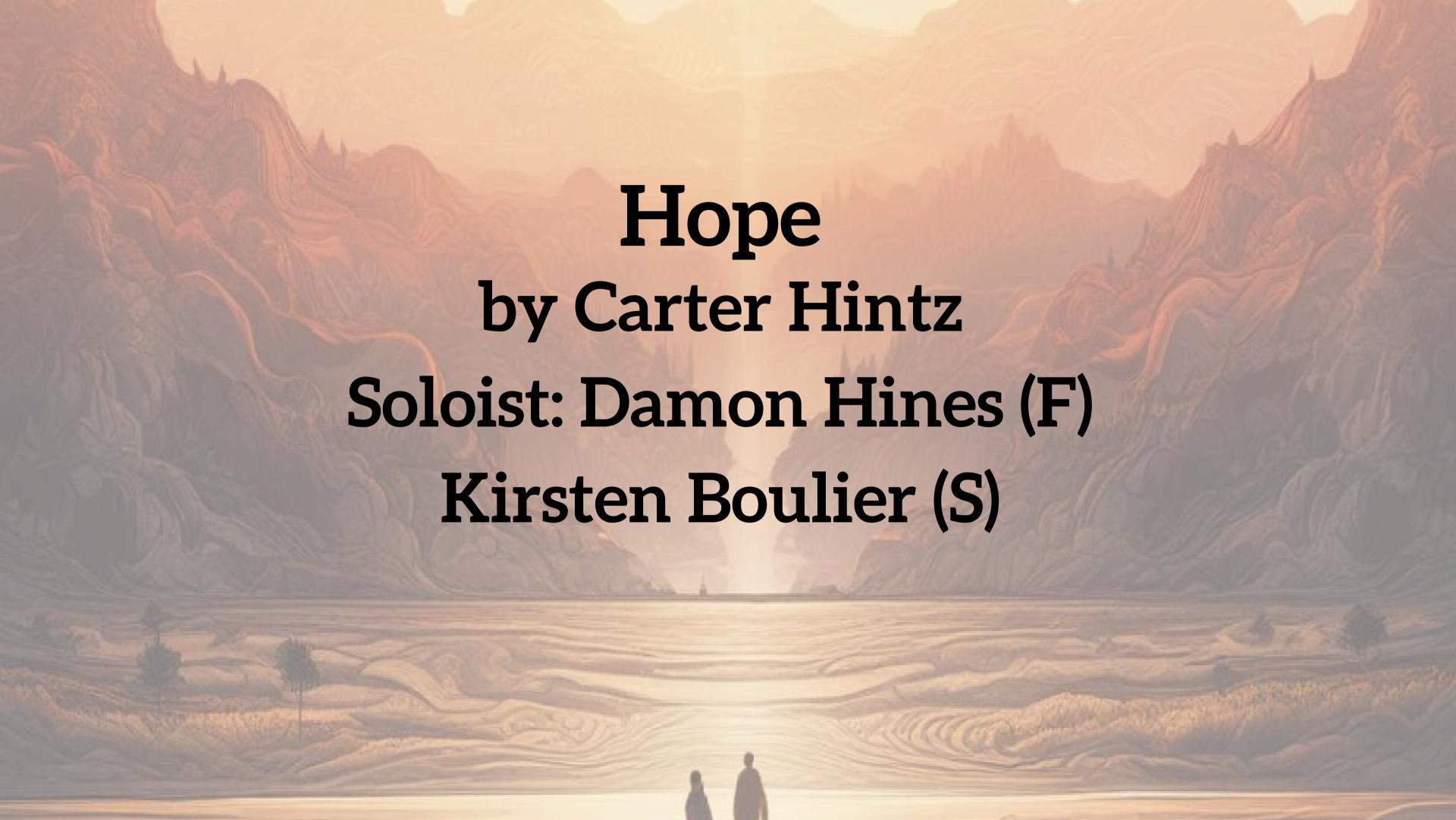
# Maple Ridge Chorus Presents

# Awakening: A Journey from Shadows to Serenity

Frank Zieginson, Artistic Director James Dekker, Pianist

FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2025, 7:00PM SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025, 2:30PM

> St. Paul's Lutheran Church 12145 Laity St., Maple Ridge



We can lose many things in life We may face our share of strife, But the one thing we can never, We can never lose, is our hope.

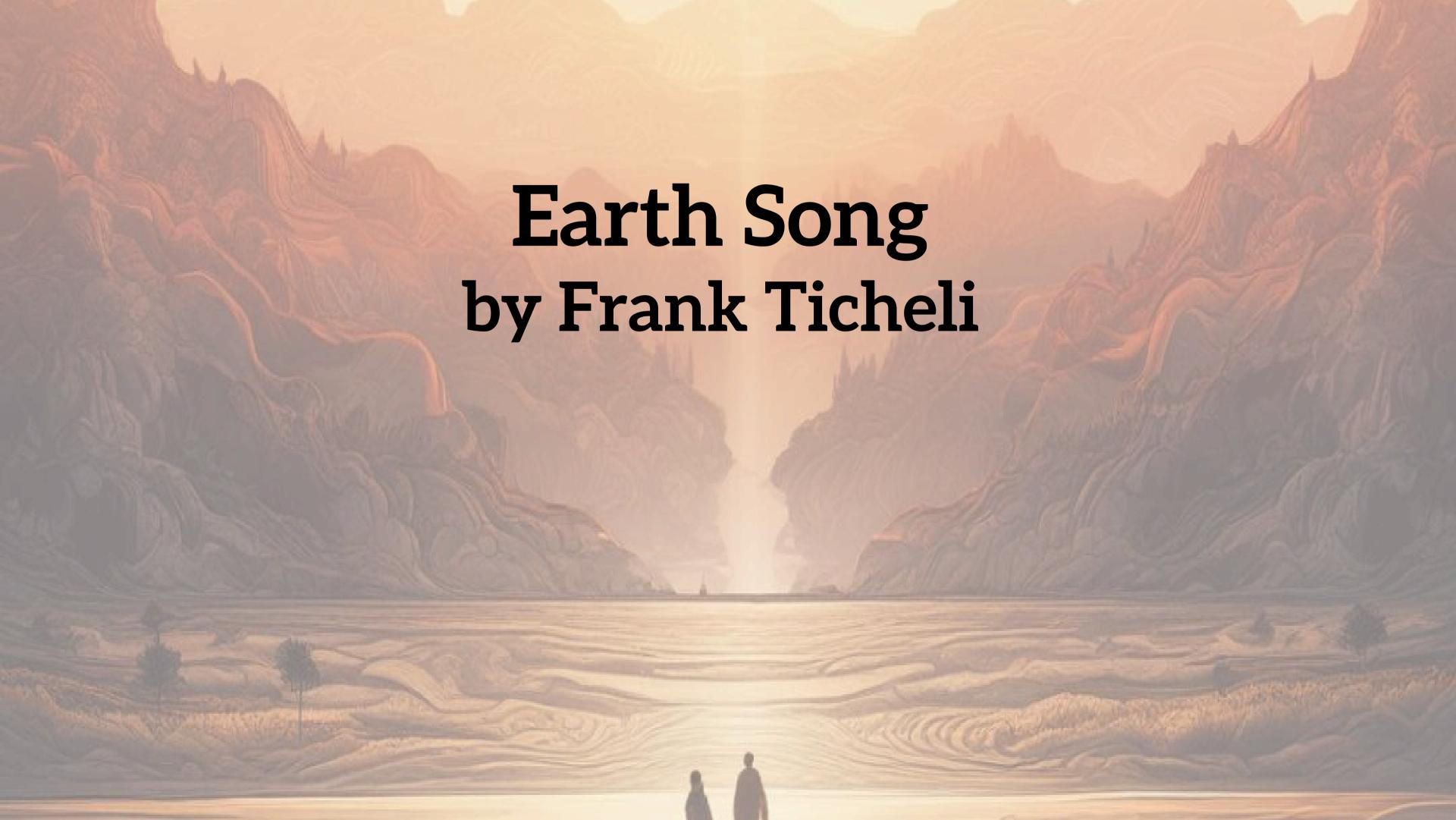
We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, yes we will hope.

For in hope, we can find the
Strength to move on,
Onward we go looking for
A brand new dawn.
Against the bleakness and the shame,
Our hope will rise above the pain,
We will hope, yes we will hope.

We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, yes we will hope.

Hope is the anchor,
that keeps us strong,
guiding us through,
our journey all along.
So let us hold onto
Hope's sweet sweet song,
Even when life's path seems long.

We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, hope, hope
We will hope, yes we will hope.



Sing

Be

Live

See

This dark hour, the wind, it stirs
The scorched Earth cries out
In vain

O war, power, you blind and blur The torn heart cries out in pain But music and singing shall be my refuge And music and singing shall be my light A light of song, shining strong: Hallelujah!

Through darkness and pain and strive

I'll sing

Be

Live

See

Peace.



What if instead of more violence, We let our weapons fall silent? No more revenge or retribution, No more war or persecution.

Can we see the other as our brother?
Can we sing the darkness to light?
Sounding chords of compassion and grace
Set the swords of judgement aside

It could be beautiful,

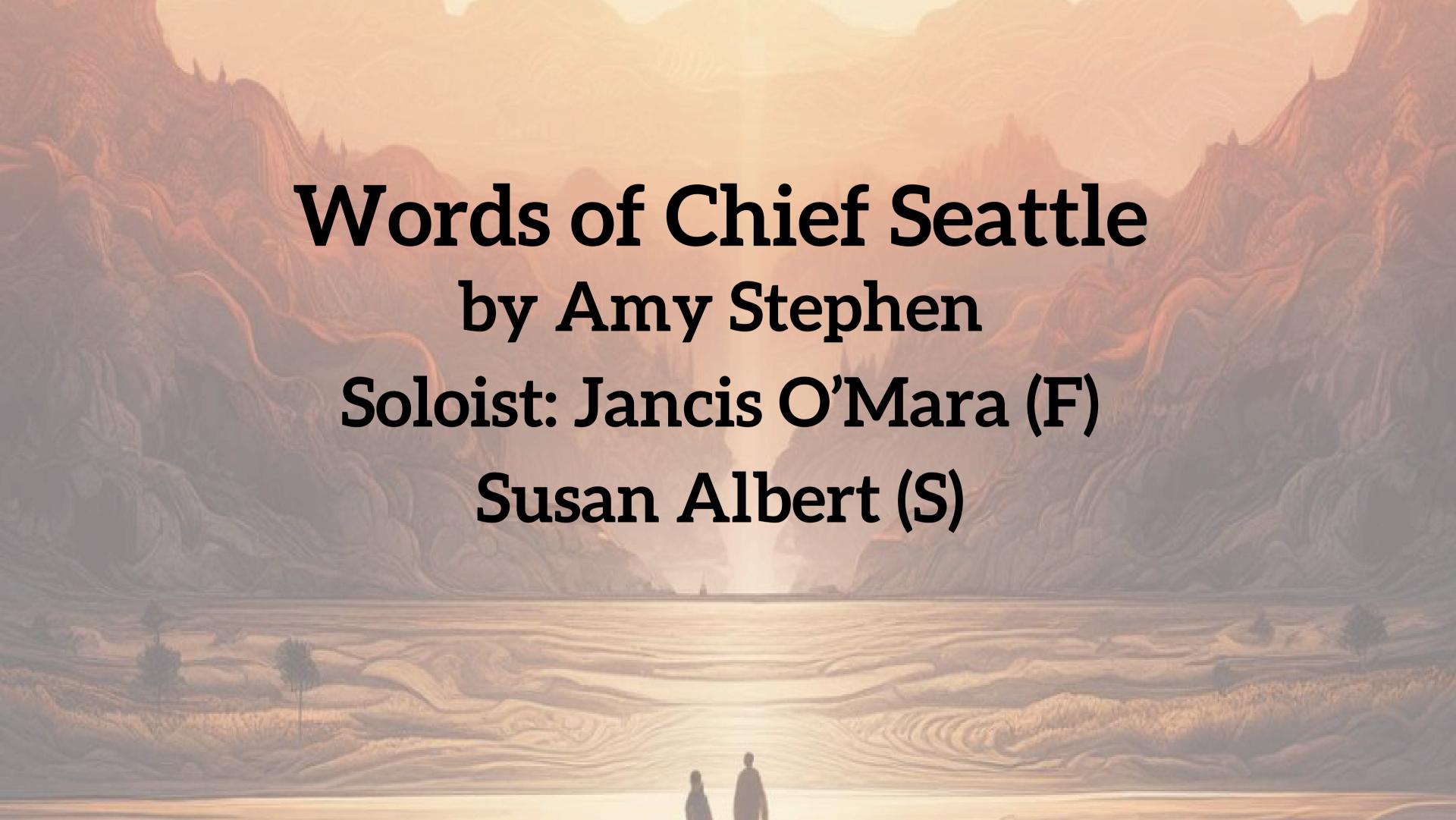
What if instead of our judgement,
We soften our hearts that have hardened?
Instead of certainty and pride,
We love and sacrifice?

Let mercy's eyes
See the other human face.

Can we sing the darkness to light?

Can we sing?

It could be beautiful,



The earth does not belong to us,
We belong to the earth.
All things are connected
like the blood that unites one family.

The earth is precious to God.

To harm the earth is to harm its Creator.

Every part of the earth is sacred to my people.

One thing I know; our God is the same God.

We do not weave the web of life
We are but a strand in the web of life.
And what we do to the web,
we also do to ourselves.

The earth does not belong to us we belong to the earth.



In the silence of the moment before rain comes down
There's a deep sigh
In the quiet of the forest and the tall tree's crown

Now hold me
Will you take the time to hold me
and embrace the chill?
Or miss me
Will you take the time to miss me
when the Earth stands still?

'Cause there's no use running
'Cause the storm's still coming
And you've been running for so many years
For so many years

In the silence of the moment
before shadows fall
Feel the tremor
Of your heartbeat matching heartbeat
as we both dissolve

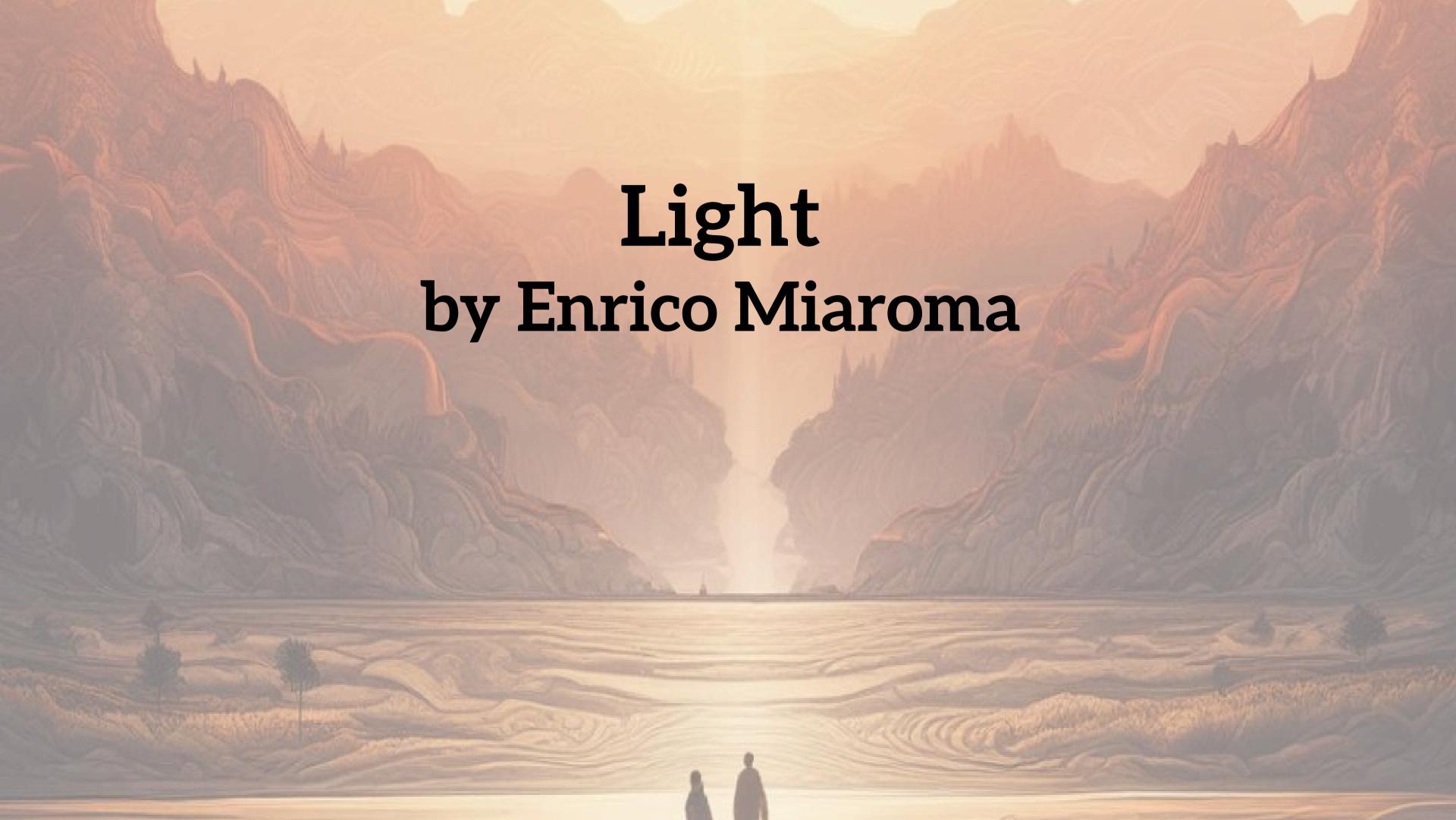
Now hold me
Will you take the time to hold me
and embrace the chill?
Or miss me
Will you take the time to miss me
when the Earth stands still?

'Cause there's no use running
'Cause the storm's still coming
And you've been running for so many
years

So stay with me
Held in my arms, like branches of a tree
They'll shelter you for many years
So many years

For so many years (stay with me)
Stay with me





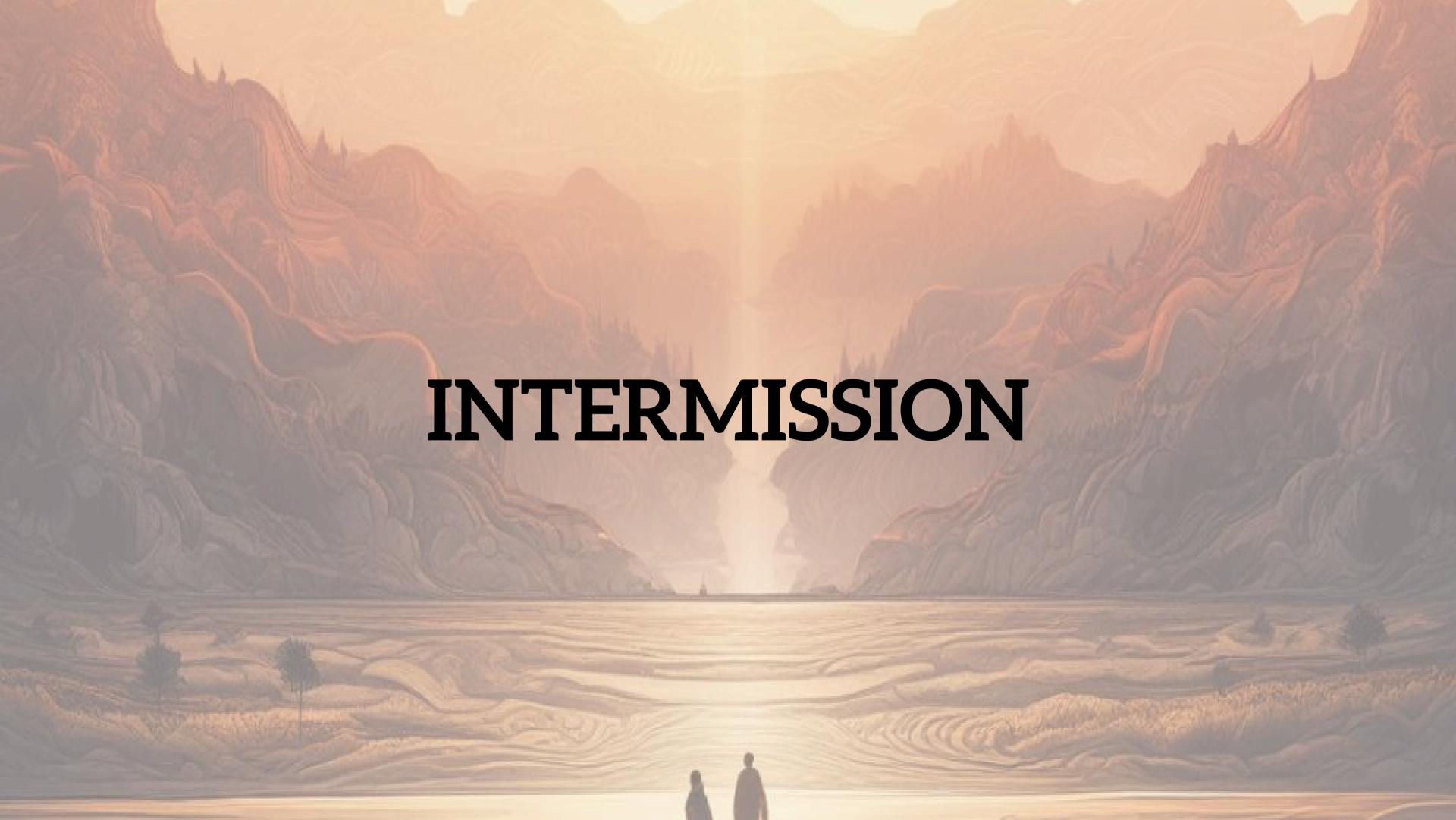
Light, my light, the world-filling light
The eye-kissing light, heart-sweetening
light!

Ah, the light dances, my darling, at the centre of my life;
The light strikes, my darling, the chords of my love;
The sky opens, the wind runs wild, laughter passes over the earth

The butterflies spread their sails on the sea of light
Lilies and jasmines surge up on the crest of the waves of light

The light is shattered into gold on every cloud, my darling And it scatters gems in profusion

Mirth spreads from leaf to leaf, my darling
And gladness without measure
The heaven's river has drowned its banks
And the flood of joy is abroad



I Dreamed of Rain by Jan Garret, arr. Larry Nickel Soloist: Adrian Bell (F) Glenda Speight (S)

I dreamed of rain and the rains came Soft and easy, sweet and clear. I dreamed of rain and the rains came, And peace spread over the land.

I dreamed of Summer and the winds changed,
And the green was easy and the rivers ran clear.
I dreamed of Summer and the winds changed
And peace spread over the land.

And the flowers bloomed in the desert,
And the air is fresh and clear.
I dreamed of rain and the rains came
And peace spread over the land.

I dreamed of freedom
and the moon rose,
And the way was easy
and the path was clear.
I dreamed of freedom
and the moon rose,
And peace spread over the land.

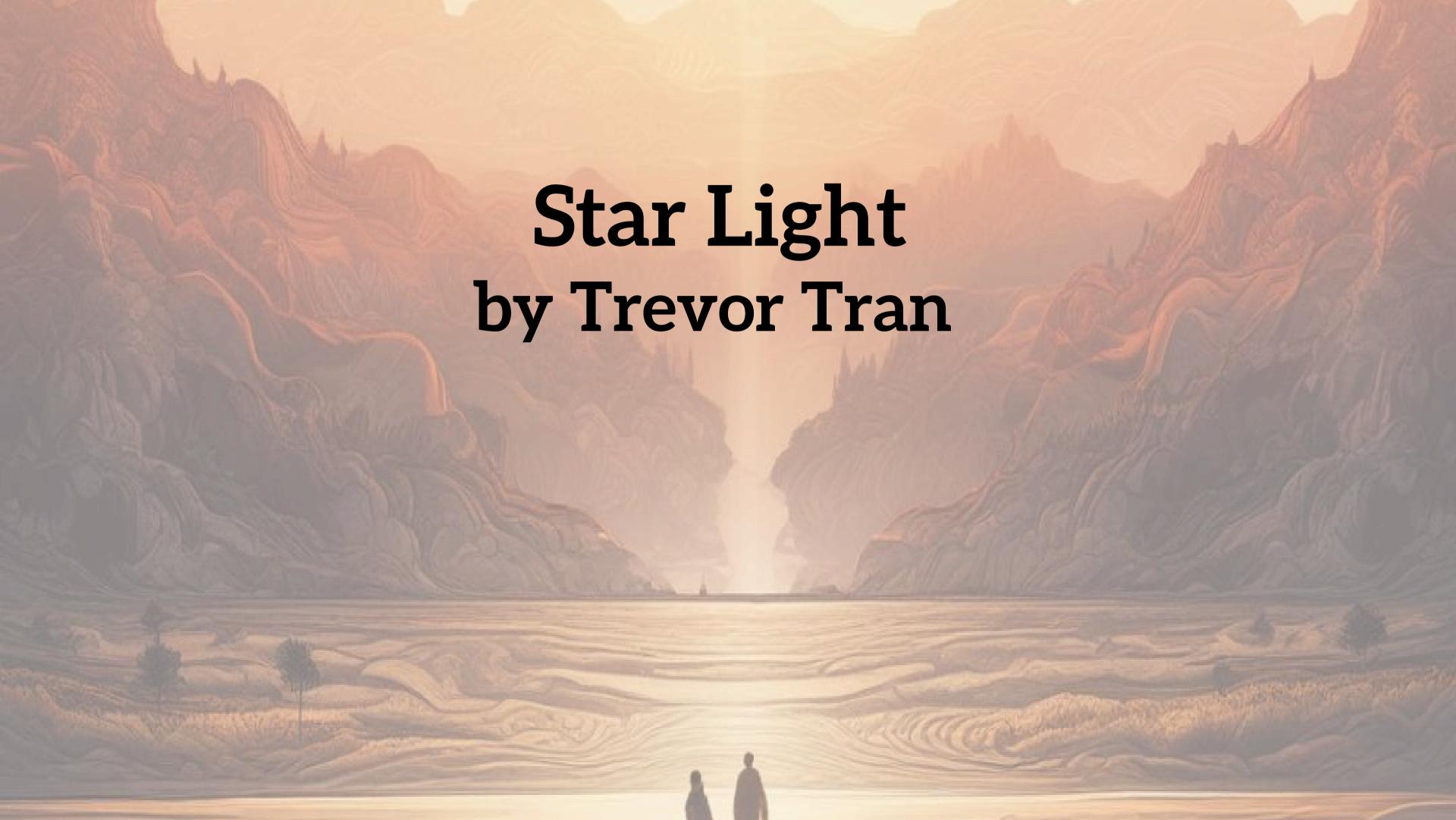
And the guardian stars are shining,
And the night is bright and clear.

I dreamed of freedom and the moon rose,
And peace spread over the land.

And the ancient pain is forgotten,
And the fathers' debts are clear.
I dreamed of heaven and the earth sang.
Peace spread over the land.

I dreamed of heaven and the earth sang,
And the sound was easy,
the song was clear.
I dreamed of heaven and the earth sang,
And peace spread over the land.

I dreamed of rain and the rains came.

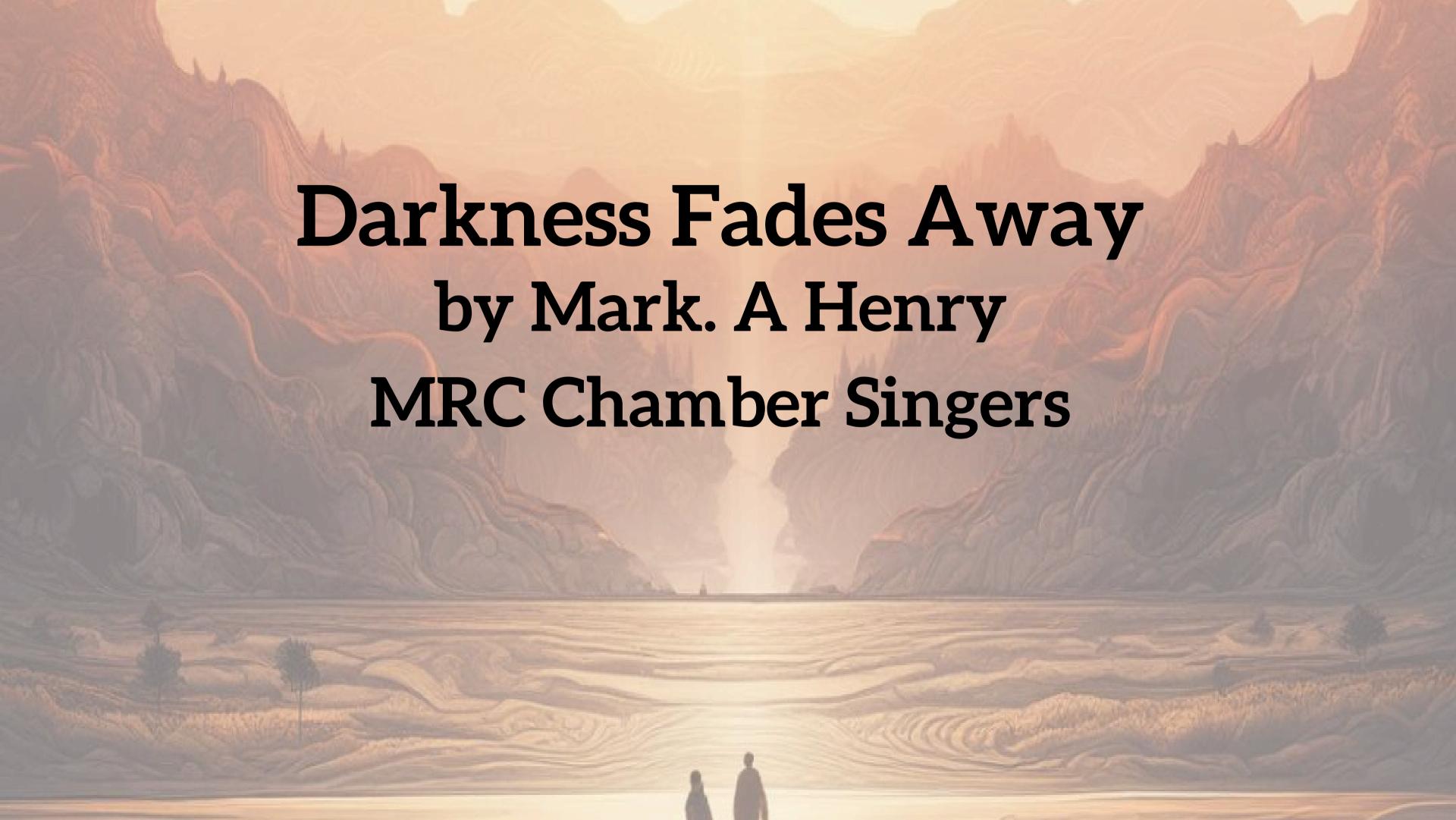


Star light, star bright, wish tonight
First star I see tonight
Wish I may, I wish I might,
Have the wish I wish tonight.

Star light, Star bright,
First star tonight;
Wish I may, I wish I might,
First star I see tonight,
I wish I may, I wish I might,
Have this wish I wish tonight.

Star light, star bright First star tonight. Wish I may, I wish I might.

Star light, star bright, wish tonight
First star I see tonight
Wish I may, I wish I might,
Have the wish I wish tonight.



The light of every dawn
And brighter still the day
Shines down from up above
And all the lands behold
As darkness fades away.

Yet even in her light,
Her children cry, "How long?"
For light without a heart
Will wane and soon depart

Let all this light pour down
And shower love anew
All kindness we possess
Breaks forth to ev'ry guest
And so to everyone.

The light of every dawn
And brighter still the day
Shines down from up above

And all the children know
And all children know
As darkness fades away
As darkness fades away

Darkness fades away



When hope is lost and darkness grows,
The light still burns; it always shows
The path to peace and all we need.
It shows the truth, eternity.

Let our earthly lives
Point to the truth.
Let our song be one of hope.
Let our vision be one of grace
And light and our hearts be full of joy.

Grace, Light, Hope, Joy.

When hope is lost and darkness grows,
The light still burns, it always shows
The path to peace and all we need.
It shows the truth, eternity.

Let our earthly lives
Point to the truth.
Let our song be one of hope.
Let our future prove
That light will prevail
For the Truth will never fail.

When hope is lost And darkness grows, The light burns, still.



Vitamin D. Sunlight. Go outside.

Get a good night

of sleep. Not too good.

Not shades drawn forever good. Not like you used to.

Open the windows.

Buy more houseplants. Breathe. Meditate. (One day, you will no longer be

afraid of being alone with your thoughts.)

**Exercise.** Actually exercise

instead of just Googling it. Eat well. Cook for yourself.

Organize your closet, the garage. Drink plenty of

water and repeat after me:

#### I am not a problem

to be solved. Repeat after me: I am worthy I am worthy

I am neither mistake nor

the punishment. Forget to take vitamins. Let the houseplant die.

Eat spoonfuls of peanut butter.

Shave your head. Forget this poem. It doesn't matter.

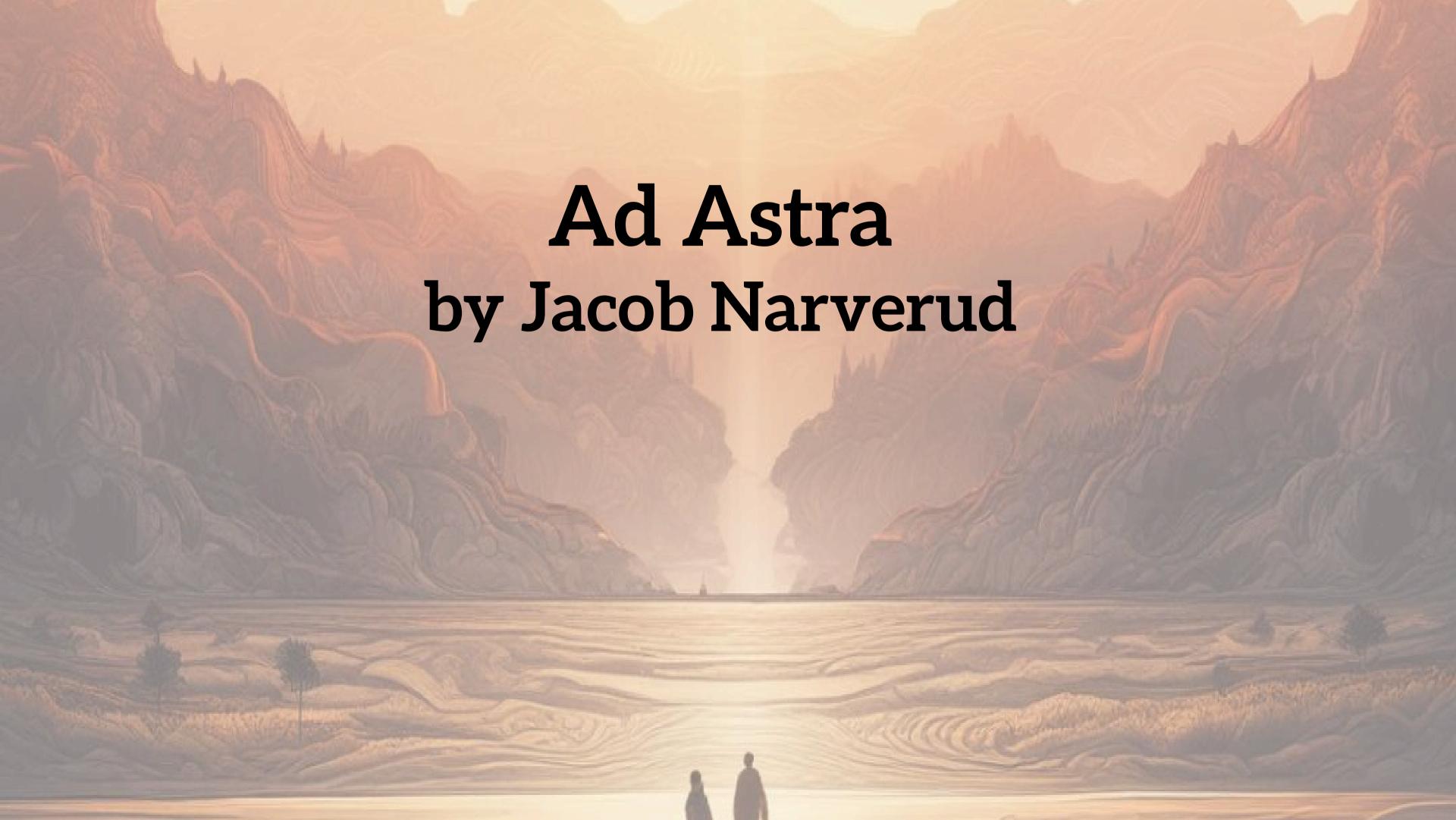
There is no wrong way

to remember the grace of your own body; no choice

that can unmake itself. There is only now, here,

look: you are already forgiven.

Flying Free by Don Besig with Mary Heaton, Marina Steeves, Susan Pichugin, Matt Laity & Beth MacKinnon



Ad astra per aspera
Ad astra per aspera
Ad astra per aspera
Ad astra!

To the stars
To the stars
Sursum, sursum, sursum
Sursum, sursum, sursum

When you're tired and troubled
And you have lost your way,
Don't let hard times lead you astray.
Though you may be weary
Just know you're not alone,
For the stars will guide you home.

Movere, deinceps, sinecure, post omnes.

Move forward, look upward,

Leave all cares behind.

Ad astra per aspera
Ad astra per aspera
Ad astra per aspera
Ad astra!

Ad astra!

Ad astra!

To the stars
To the stars
To the stars
Movere, deinceps, sinecure, post omnes.
Move forward, look upward,
Leave all cares behind.

Ad astra per aspera
Ad astra per aspera
Sursum, sursum, sursum
Sursum, sursum, sursum

Ad astra, ad astra Ad astra!

### **Our Singers**

#### Soprano

Courtney Belanger Carolyn Gosling Kathy Hachey Kristi Hines

Virginia Kuran

Nithya Mascarenhas

Heather McCain

Emmy O'Leary

Jancis O'Mara

Sarah Minett

Chrysthelle Olivares

Laura Pachal

Rosemarie Page

Claudia Peters

Marilyn Piticco

Melissa Pratas

Peggy Rogers

Katie Sather

Shawna Van Aert

#### Alto

Maria Agostino

Susan Albert Bonnie Allan

**Loraine Anchor** 

Geri Bolan

Kirsten Boulier

**Dianne Brooks** 

Jude Conroy

Pauline De Silva

Bianca Desaulniers

Michele Desponts

Ellen Flett

**Brooke Frostwood** 

Georgina Harris

**Beverley Jones** 

Rose Koyama

Sandra Kushniruk

Beth MacKinnon

Susan Pichugin

**Emily Seeton** 

Saphina Sha

Adeline Tufts

Patricia Vance

Debbie Wray

Youjay Zhao

#### Tenor

Adrian Bell

Kirk Brown

Julia Byrne

Mandy Fan

Thyra Gillese

Joe Grill

Mary Heaton

Ryan Hines

Shirley Jones

Jennifer Krajsek

Sherry

Schellenberg

Glenda Speight

Alex Van Aert

**Bass** 

Jim Biggar

Robert Bientjes

John Gardner

**Damon Hines** 

Kevin Hrankowski

Matt Laity

**Kevin Warburton** 

Asher Witwicki-Fishman



# Our 2024/2025 Maple Ridge Choral Society Board

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Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Member Representative

Concert Chair

Member At Large

**Artistic Director** 

Thyra Gillese

Geri Bolan

Violet Yuen

Kristi Hines

Carolyn Gosling

Susan Pichugin

Kathy Hachey

Shirley Jones

Jancis O'Mara

Laura Pachal

Shawna Van Aert

Frank Zieginson



#### **Our Artistic Director**

Canadian pianist **Frank Zieginson** is sought after as both performer and music educator, currently making his home in Vancouver, BC.

Since coming to the piano at the age of eighteen, Frank has established himself as a dynamic and versatile artist, known for his creative programming of repertoire be it for solo piano, art song, chamber music, or choral music. He has been described as "a highly gifted pianist who has a real sense of collaboration with other instrumentalists and singers" and was "easily the most outstanding pianist of the six pianists selected."

Stemming from his passion for chamber music and art song, Frank formed *Songscape Duo* with American soprano, Madeline Miskie-Jaeger in August of 2014. Frank is also the founding member of the Ricordanza Trio and the Founding and Artistic Director of the Ricordanza Summer Chamber Music Festival (Victoria, Canada).

In addition to his work as a musician and educator, Frank is also the Minister of Music at Lynn Valley United Church, Artistic Director of Lynn Valley Voices, The Rainbow Chorus, and the Maple Ridge Chorus.

He holds several degrees in music, including a Master of Music: Collaborative Piano (University of Maryland), Master of Music: Solo Performance (Brandon University), Bachelor of Music: Piano Performance (University of Lethbridge) and a Performance Diploma (Red Deer College).



#### **Our Pianist**

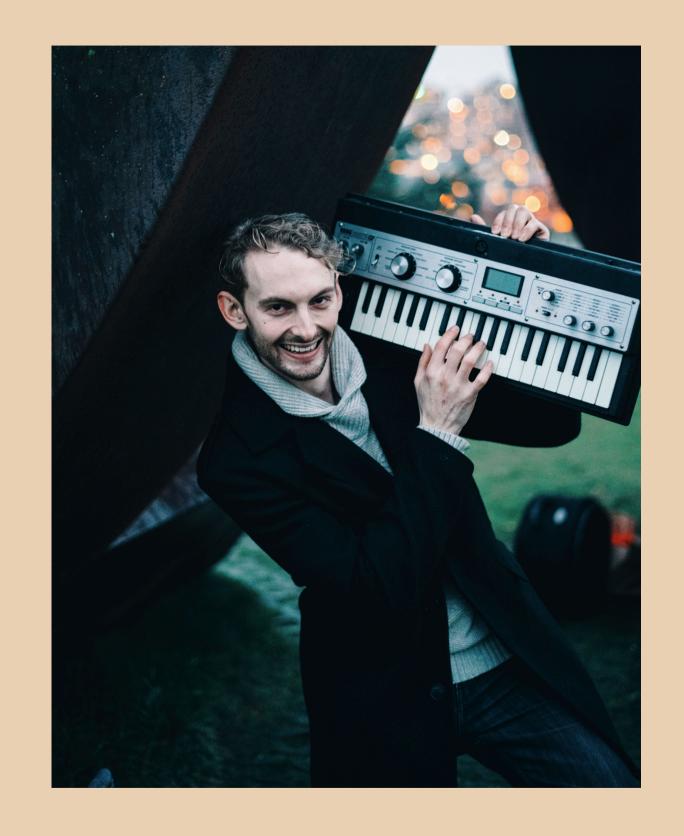
James Dekker is a talented multi-instrumentalist who enjoys performing and accompanying in many musical styles. He currently holds the accompanist position with the Maple Ridge Chorus and the Rainbow Chorus of New Westminster.

A proud graduate of Capilano University's Jazz Studies Program, he has had the opportunity of working with musicians such as Dee Daniels, Donny McCaslin, and many more.

James has been interested in music all his life, starting to play piano not long after learning to walk.

Recently, he has enjoyed performing and recording with groups such as the Jamie Lee Trio (a modern jazz/fusion group) and Big Madge (a ska/punk band formed with fellow Capilano graduates).

When he isn't playing music, James can often be found rock climbing or playing board games with friends.









### **Our Thanks**

We would like to acknowledge the following people and businesses for their support:

Marion Cox of "Marion Photography"
Concert Day Volunteers
Real Canadian Superstore
David Van Aert, van Aert Design

We gratefully acknowledge the unceded traditional territories of the Katzie First Nation and the Kwantlen First Nation on which we practice and perform.

This public concert is made possible by a generous 2024 Community Arts Partner Grant from the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council, and Community Gaming grant from the Province of BC, whom we thank for their support!

### Join Us!

Our Fall Season will commence on September 2, 2025

We welcome new members during the first 3 weeks of the season. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings at St. Paul's Lutheran Church 12145 Laity Street, Maple Ridge

### **Contact Us**

www.lovetosing.net

www.facebook.com/mapleridgechoralsociety

President@lovetosing.net

Info@lovetosing.net



# We're Going to New York!

In November 2024 we got the amazing news that Distinguished Concerts International New York accepted our audition and we have been invited to sing Heather Sorenson's 'Requiem' at Carnegie Hall in November 2025.

**50** of our members will be participating in this once in a lifetime experience!

## Two ways YOU can help us get to New York!

#### 1: Return-It Depots

- Put your empty beverage containers into clear or transparent plastic bags that are up to 90 liters in capacity, no sorting needed!
- Visit return-it.ca/locations to find an Express location near you.
- At the Express location, use 604-202-4837 to log in at the Express kiosk and print your bag labels. Remember to label each of your bags.
- Drop your bags off at the designated Express drop off area.
- Our choir will get credited with your returns!

#### THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!

www.lovetosing.net

Email: president@lovetosing.net

Facebook: MapleRidgeChoralSociety

#### 2: Liquor Store % of Sales

Thank you to the owners of Kanaka
Creek Liquor and Maple Ridge Liquor
Store (under Town Hall) for including us
in their fundraising program.
Make a purchase at either location and
mention "Maple Ridge Choral Society"
and 5% of your sale will come back to the
choir!



### **About Us**

The Maple Ridge Chorus is the oldest, largest, secular, all-inclusive, non audition community choir for adults in Maple Ridge.

Although as a non-profit we still officially operate as the Maple Ridge Choral Society (our original name), we now publicize our choir as the

#### Maple Ridge Chorus.

We enjoy singing an eclectic mix of music: popular, show tunes, Christmas, folk, sacred, classical, and more.



# Thank you for attending!



See you December 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> for our Christmas Concerts!