

HOPE, PEACE, JOY: A TRILOGY

I. The Heartbeat of Hope II. The Breath of Peace
III. The Dance of Joy

SSA Voices with Piano and Body Percussion

Mark Burrows

BriLee Music
Part-by-Part



For Accompaniment and Rehearsal Audio
Go to: BriLeeMusic.com/BL1222

Ranges:

Sop 1  Sop 2 
Alto 

Language: English

Use: General

Time: Approx. 7:50 (I. 2:48, II. 2:25, III. 2:30)

*Difficulty: Moderate

BriLee Music

the Voice of Choral Music

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Hope, Peace, Joy – A Trilogy is a set of three pieces each based on a state of being crucial to the human experience. Each movement is built on a round, or round-like material, and incorporates a primary gesture to deepen the expression of each state:

Hope – a steady heartbeat rhythm

Peace – breath

Joy – dance-like stomping, clapping, and patting

Each movement was intentionally written to connect with the others but also to provide as much contrast and variety as possible.

Movement 1 - minor key (mostly minor pentatonic), moderate tempo, $\frac{4}{4}$ time, medium volume, Soprano I taking the lead.

Movement 2 - major key, slower tempo, $\frac{3}{4}$ time, softer volume, Alto taking the lead

Movement 3 - mixolydian mode, up tempo, $\frac{6}{8}$ time, forte, Soprano II taking the lead.

Both the first and last movements include body percussion. The more involved body percussion is performed when the voices are tacet so that singers won't have to divide their attention. (There are many people perfectly capable of walking and chewing gum at the same time. This humble composer is *not* one of them.) Here are a few body percussion thoughts:

Make sure the enthusiasm of your playing doesn't harm the instrument – you. Music isn't supposed to hurt. Take care that the body percussion never overpowers the voices.

Stomps – How light or strong depends on where you're standing. If you're on choral risers, a lighter touch is best. If you're standing on the floor, especially a carpeted surface, lean into the stomps a little more.

Pats – Chest pats are indicated wherever a deeper sound is preferable. Otherwise pat the sides or tops of the thighs.

Claps – You can get many different tone colors depending on how much you cup your hands.

I. The Heartbeat of Hope

Hope is more than a dream or a wish. Hope is the belief that something can happen and the confident expectation that it *will*. The primary gesture for this movement is the steady heartbeat rhythm, which is played whenever a part is actively singing. If the heartbeat rhythm still feels too complicated to play while singing, simply play on beats 1 and 2, or even just on the downbeat of each measure. Parts playing the more intricate body percussion should always be sure to not overpower the voices.

At measures 33-40 we finally hear all three interlocking body percussion rhythms. Notice that this too is a round with each part playing the same rhythm one beat apart. A way to make sure this section stays in alignment is to remember that Part I stomps on beat 1, Part II stomps on beat 2, Part III stomps on beat 3.

II. The Breath of Peace

Peace is more than just the absence of war and conflict. Peace is a sense of wholeness that comes when we find ways to live in harmony and tranquility with others and within ourselves. The primary gesture for this movement is the breath. This movement is a kind of musical blessing that seeks to encourage peace in the words we say, the songs we sing, the very air we breathe.

Starting at measure 34 “(hhah)” indicates the sound of a whispered breath, just audible to the listener. And every occurrence of the unpitched “Peace” should be spoken softly, voiced rather than whispered.

III. The Dance of Joy

Joy is more than surface happiness. Joy is an inner sense of fulfillment that comes from living a life of meaning and purpose. Joy has the ability to radiate from within even when things outside our control feel overwhelming. Happiness is when your face is smiling. Joy is when your heart is smiling. The primary gesture for this movement is the dance-like interplay of layered body percussion.

Unlike the first two movements, *The Dance of Joy* is more vertical and homophonic. At measure 21 the body percussion starts to weave in with the singing. As in *The Heartbeat of Hope*, make sure the body percussion does not overpower the voices. The one section that incorporates round-like material is at measures 37-44. Each part plays the same six-measure rhythm but starting at a different point in the rhythm. The effect is more of a “rhythm exchange” with two-measure patterns bouncing from part to part.

Hope, Peace, Joy: A Trilogy

for SSA Voices with Piano and Body Percussion

1. The Heartbeat of Hope

MARK BURROWS

With a steady heartbeat groove ($\text{♩} = 92-96$)

Piano

mp

Sop. 1

chest pats

I am the mu-sic of heal-ing, a ra-di-ant rhy-thm, a

B.P. 1

mp

Sop. 2

chest pats

B.P. 2

mp

light stomps

Alto

chest pats

B.P. 3

mp

light stomps

Pno.

8

Sop. 1

soar-ing song, - a pulse, a prayer, a pow-er we share, a

B.P. 1

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

11

Sop. 1

heart - beat grow-ing strong: — the heart-beat of hope.

B.P. 1

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

14

Sop. 1

The heart-beat of hope.

B.P. 1

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

17

Sop. 1

mf

I am the mu-sic of heal-ing, a ra-di-ant rhy-thm, a

B.P. 1

mf

B.P. 2

mf

B.P. 3

mf

Pno.

mf

20

Sop. 1
soar-ing song, - a pulse, a prayer, a pow-er we share, a

B.P. 1

Sop. 2
mf
I am the mu-sic of heal-ing, a

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

23

Sop. 1
heart - beat grow-ing strong: — the heart-beat of hope.

B.P. 1

Sop. 2
ra-di-ant rhy-thm, a soar-ing song, - a pulse, a prayer, a

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

26

Sop. 1
The heart-beat of hope.

B.P. 1

Sop. 2
pow-er we share, a heart - beat grow-ing strong: — the heart-beat of

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

29

Sop. 1

B.P. 1
chest pats
light stomps

Sop. 2
hope. The heart-beat of hope.

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

32

B.P. 1

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

claps

full stomps

8ba

35

B.P. 1

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

8ba

38

B.P. 1

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

mp

8ba-----

41 chest pats

B.P. 1

mp

chest pats

B.P. 2

mp

chest pats

B.P. 3

mp

Pno.

45 *mp*

Sop. 1
I am the mu-sic of heal-ing, a ra-di-ant rhy-thm, a

B.P. 1

B.P. 2
chest pats

B.P. 3
chest pats
light stomps

Pno.

48

Sop. 1
soar-ing song, a pulse, a prayer, a pow-er we share, a

B.P. 1

Sop. 2
mp
I am the mu-sic of heal-ing, a

B.P. 2

B.P. 3

Pno.

51

Sop. 1
heart - beat grow-ing strong: — the heart-beat of hope.

B.P. 1

Sop. 2
ra - di - ant rhy - thm, a soar - ing song, - a pulse, a prayer, a

B.P. 2

Alto
mp
I am the

B.P. 3

Pno.

54

Sop. 1
The heart-beat of hope.

B.P. 1

Sop. 2
pow - er we share, a heart - beat grow-ing strong: — the heart-beat of

B.P. 2

Alto
mu - sic of heal - ing, a ra - di - ant rhy - thm, a soar - ing song, - a

B.P. 3

Pno.

57

chest pats

B.P. 1

light stomps

Sop. 2

hope. The heart-beat of hope.

B.P. 2

Alto

pulse, a prayer, a pow-er we share, a heart-beat grow-ing strong: _

B.P. 3

Pno.

60

B.P. 1

dim.

Sop. 2

B.P. 2

dim.

Alto

dim.

the heart - beat of hope.

B.P. 3

dim.

Pno.

dim.

2. The Breath of Peace

With gentle assurance ($\text{♩} = 100$)

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto

p

May your song be a

With gentle assurance ($\text{♩} = 100$)

Piano

p

Alto

6

source of com - fort. May your words be a wel - come

Pno.

Alto

11

friend. May your breath be the ver - y

Pno.

16 *mp*

Alto
breath of peace. May your

Pno.
cresc.

21 *mp*

Sop. 1

Sop. 2
mp
May your song be a

Alto
song be a source of com - fort. May your words be a

Pno.
mp

26

Sop. 1

Sop. 2
source of com - fort. May your words be a wel - come

Alto
wel - come friend. May your breath be the

Pno.

31

Sop. 1

Sop. 2
friend. May your breath be the ver - y

Alto
ver - y breath of peace. (hhah) Peace.

Pno.

36

Sop. 1
Peace. (hhah) Peace.

Sop. 2
breath of peace. Breathe peace. (hhah) Peace.

Alto
Breathe peace. Peace. Breathe peace.

Pno.

mp

sim.

* Whispered breath

** Spoken softly (voiced, not whispered)

42 *sim.*

Sop. 1
Peace.

Sop. 2
Breathe peace. *sim.* Peace.

Alto
Peace. May your song be a source of com - fort.

Pno.

48

Sop. 1
May your song be a

Sop. 2
May your song be a source of com - fort. May your words be a

Alto
May your words be a wel - come friend. May your breath

Pno.

54

Sop. 1
source of com - fort. May your words be a wel - come friend.

Sop. 2
wel - come friend. May your breath be the ver - y
as before

Alto
be the ver - y breath of peace. Peace.

Pno.

60

Sop. 1
May your breath be the ver - y breath of peace. *dim.*

Sop. 2
breath of peace. Breathe Peace. *as before dim.*
Peace. *dim.*

Alto
Breathe peace. Peace. Breathe peace. *dim.*

Pno.

66 *as before*

Sop. 1 *p*
Peace. Peace.

Sop. 2 *p*
Breathe peace. Peace. Breathe

Alto *p*
Peace. Breathe peace.

Pno. *p*
Play chord first time only

71 *pp*

Sop. 1 *pp*
Peace. Peace. (hhah) Peace.

Sop. 2 *pp*
peace. Peace. (hhah) Peace.

Alto *pp*
Peace. Breathe peace. (hhah) Peace.

Pno. *pp*

3. The Dance of Joy

Exuberantly (♩ = 63)

mf

Soprano 1
The dance of joy, the dance of joy.

mf

Soprano 2
The dance of joy, _____ the dance of joy.

mf

Alto
Joy, _____ the dance of joy, the dance of joy.

Exuberantly (♩ = 63)

mf

Piano

5

mf

Sop. 1
Joy, joy, the dance, the dance of joy. Joy, the

f

Sop. 2
Dance in the morn-ing, mar-vel-ous child. Joy, joy, the
Live in the mo-ment, cher-ish the chance.

mf

Alto
Joy, the dance, the dance of joy. Joy, the dance, the

f

Pno.

8

Sop. 1 *f*
dance_ of joy. Dance in the moon-light, won-drous and wild.
Join in the mu - sic, join in the dance.

Sop. 2 *mf*
dance_ of joy. Joy, joy, the dance, the dance_ of

Alto
dance of joy. Joy, the dance, - the dance of joy.

Pno.

11

Sop. 1 *f*
Joy, joy, the dance_ of joy. Joy, joy, the

Sop. 2 *f*
joy. Joy, the dance_ of joy. Joy, joy, the

Alto *f*
Joy, the dance, - the dance of joy. Joy, joy, the

Pno.

14

Sop. 1
dance_ of joy. Joy, joy, the dance_ of joy.

Sop. 2
dance of joy. Joy, joy, the dance of joy.

Alto
dance of joy. Joy, joy, the dance_ of joy.

Pno.

17

B.P. 1
f chest pats (to m. 5)

B.P. 2
f chest pats (to m. 5)

B.P. 3
clap
f stomp (to m. 5)

Pno. (to m. 5)

21

Sop. 1

Sop. 2 *mf*
Joy, dance joy. Joy, sing joy.

B.P. 2 *mf*

Alto

Pno. *mf*

25

Sop. 1 *mf*
Dance

B.P. 1 *mf*

Sop. 2
Joy, dance joy. Joy, sing joy. Joy, dance

B.P. 2 *mf*

Alto *mf*
Joy, dance joy. Sing joy.

B.P. 3 *mf*

Pno.

30

Sop. 1 joy, dance. Sing joy, sing. Breathe *cresc.*

B.P. 1 *cresc.*

Sop. 2 joy. Joy, sing joy. Joy, breathe *cresc.*

B.P. 2 *cresc.*

Alto Dance joy Sing joy. *cresc.*

B.P. 3 *cresc.*

Pno. *cresc.*

34

Sop. 1 joy, breathe. Be joy. Be *f*

B.P. 1 *f*

Sop. 2 joy. Joy, be joy. Be *f*

B.P. 2 *cresc.* *f*

Alto Breathe joy. Be *f*

B.P. 3 *f*

Pno. *f*

37

Sop. 1

B.P. 1

Sop. 2

B.P. 2

Alto

B.P. 3

Pno.

joy. pat stomp clap pat

joy. clap pat stomp

joy. clap pat stomp

f

40

B.P. 1

B.P. 2

Alto

B.P. 3

Pno.

pat stomp

pat stomp

clap pat clap pat stomp

44

Sop. 1
Joy, joy, the dance of joy.

B.P. 1

Sop. 2
Joy, joy, the dance of joy.

B.P. 2

Alto
Joy, joy, the dance of joy.

B.P. 3

Pno.

47

Sop. 1
Joy, joy, the dance of joy. Joy, joy, the dance of joy.

Sop. 2
Joy, joy, the dance of joy. Joy, joy, the dance of joy.

Alto
Joy, joy, the dance of joy. Joy, joy, the dance of joy.

Pno.

51

Sop. 1 Joy, joy, the dance of joy. The dance of *p sub.*

Sop. 2 Joy, joy, the dance of joy. The dance of *p sub.*

Alto Joy, joy, the dance of joy. The dance of *p sub.*

Pno. *p sub.*

54

Sop. 1 joy. pat The dance of joy. *mp*

B.P. 1 *p* stomp *mp*

Sop. 2 joy. pat clap The dance of joy. *mp*

B.P. 2 *p* *mp*

Alto joy. clap The dance of joy. *mp*

B.P. 3 stomp *p* *mp*

Pno. *mp*

57 *mf* *f*

Sop. 1 The dance of joy. The dance, the

B.P. 1 *mf* *f*

Sop. 2 The dance of joy. The dance, the

B.P. 2 *mf* *f*

Alto The dance of joy. The dance, the

B.P. 3 *mf* *f*

Pno. *mf* *f*

60

Sop. 1 dance of joy.

B.P. 1 *f*

Sop. 2 dance of joy.

B.P. 2 *f*

Alto dance of joy.

B.P. 3 *f*

Pno.