



For the Common Things of Earth

commissioned by the Shenandoah Music Camp

Geoffrey Studdert-Kennedy
1921

Larry Nickel

♩ = 86 **A**

Choir

Not here for high and ho - ly ren - der thanks to thee,

Not here for high and things, we ren - der thanks to thee,

Choir

But for these things of earth, the pur - ple pag - eant - ry

But these com - mon things of earth, the pur - ple pag - eant - ry

Choir

Of dawn - ing and of dy - ing days, the splen - dor of the sea.

Of dawn - ing and of dy - ing days, the splen - dor of the sea.

B tenors and basses

16 *mf*

T. *mf*

The roy - al robes of au - tumn moors, the gold - spring,

B. *mf*

The roy - al robes of au - tumn moors, thr en gates of spring,

21

T. *mf*

The vel - vet of soft sum - r sil - ver glis - ter - ing

B. *mf*

The vel - vet of s aer nights, the sil - ver glis - ter - ing

26 *dolce*

T. *dolce*

Of mil - lion mil - lion_ stars, the si - lent song they sing.

B. *dolce*

all the mil - lion mil - lion_ stars, the si - lent song they sing.

C altos and sopranos

31 *f*

S. A - wake, a-wake to love and work! the lark is in th ky

A. A - wake, a-wake to love and work! the lark sky

36

S. the fields are wet with dia-mond dew, the a - wake to cry

A. the fields are wet with dia-mond worlds a - wake to cry

41 *mp rit.*

S. Their bless - ings on d of life as He goes meek - ly by.

A. Their bless our Lord of life as He goes meek - ly by.

46 *mp* *f*

S. Ah Come

A. Ah Come

T. Ah Come

B. *mf* Ah Come

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

♩ = 78

D **maestoso**

50

Choir

Let your voice be one with theirs and sing a song of praise;

Let your voice be one with theirs and sing of praise;

54

Choir

See how the gi - ant sun soars up, of years and days!

See how the gi - ant sun great lord of years and days!

59

Choir

So let the Je - sus come and set your soul a - blaze.

So let the love of Je - sus come and set your soul a - blaze.

rit.



Geoffrey Anketell Studdert Kennedy MC (1883-1929) was an English Anglican priest and poet.

On the outbreak of World War I, Studdert Kennedy volunteered as a chaplain to the army on the Western Front, where he gained the nickname "Woodbine Willie" for giving Woodbine cigarettes to the soldiers he met, as well as spiritual aid to injured and dying soldiers. In 1917, he was awarded the Military Cross at Messines Ridge after running into no man's land to help the wounded during an attack on the German frontline.

After the war, Studdert Kennedy was given charge of St Edmund, King and Martyr in Lombard Street, London. Having been converted to Christian socialism and pacifism during the war, he wrote *Lies* (1919), *Democracy and the Dog-Collar* (1921) (featuring such chapters as "The Church Is Not a Movement but a Mob", "Capitalism is Nothing But Greed, Grab, and Profit-Mongering" and "So-Called Religious Education Worse than Useless"), *Food for the Fed Up* (1921), *The Wicket Gate* (1923), and *The Word and the Work* (1925). He moved to work for the Industrial Christian Fellowship, for whom he went on speaking tours of Britain. His appointment as missionary for ICF released him from routine clerical duties to become an outspoken advocate for the working classes. One of his celebrated quotes was: "If finding God in our churches leads to us losing Him in our factories, then better we tear down those churches for God must hate the sight of them."

It was on one of these tours that he was taken ill with the flu, which was complicated by his weak lungs. He died in Liverpool on 8 March 1929, exhausted at the age of 45.