

Wonderful Words of Life

Choral Anthem
for a cappella SATB Voices

Words
Phillip P. Bliss, alt.

Music
Arr. Larry E. Schultz

LarryE.Schultz.com

This hymn arrangement is dedicated to the memory of Mary Ruth Crook, who for more than two decades, composed a weekly prayer for the Chancel Choir of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina. The prayers were based on each Sunday's particular service of worship and provided a means for the choir to engage in the spiritual discipline of centering and worship preparation.

As a maker of banners for Pullen Church, Mary Ruth once crafted a banner to depict the feminine Wisdom-image of God (personified in the Hebrew Scriptures as a woman crying out in the streets, and named "Sophia" in the Christian Scriptures). As Word and Wisdom are scripturally intertwined descriptions for the Divine, this setting of "Wonderful Words of Life" incorporates Sophia imagery, to celebrate the Wisdom and Word known through Mary Ruth Crook and in all.

**Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life.
Words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty;
beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.**

**Wisdom graciously gives to all wonderful words of life.
Listen now to Her loving call, wonderful words of life.
All so freely given moving us to heaven;
beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.**

**Sweetly echo Sophia's call, wonderful words of life.
Offer justice and peace to all, wonderful words of life.
Wisdom Guide and Savior sanctify forever;
beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.**

-Phillip P. Bliss, alt.

in memory of Mary Ruth Crook

Wonderful Words of Life

for A Cappella SATB Voices

Phillip P. Bliss

Arr. Larry E. Schultz

Freely Expressive ♩ = ca.86

mp

SA

TB

Sing them o - ver; sing them o - ver a -

mp

g

3

gain to me, won - der - ful words of

life,

life, words of life;

won - der - ful words of life;

5

let me more of their

life,

life, words of life;

won - der - ful words of life;

7

beau - ty see, won - der - ful words of

life,

life, words of life;

won - der - ful words of life;

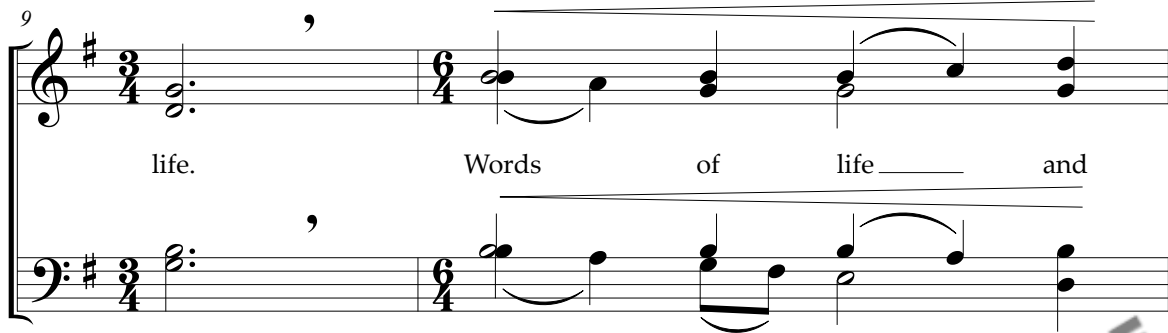
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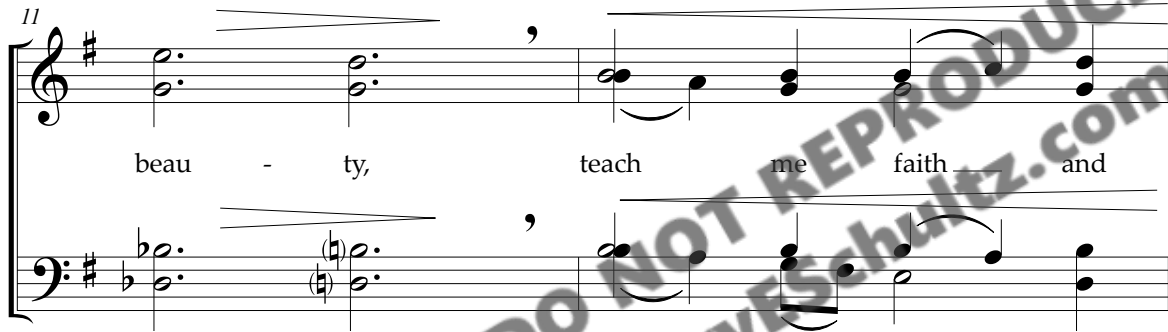
Wonderful Words of Life

9



life. Words of life and

11



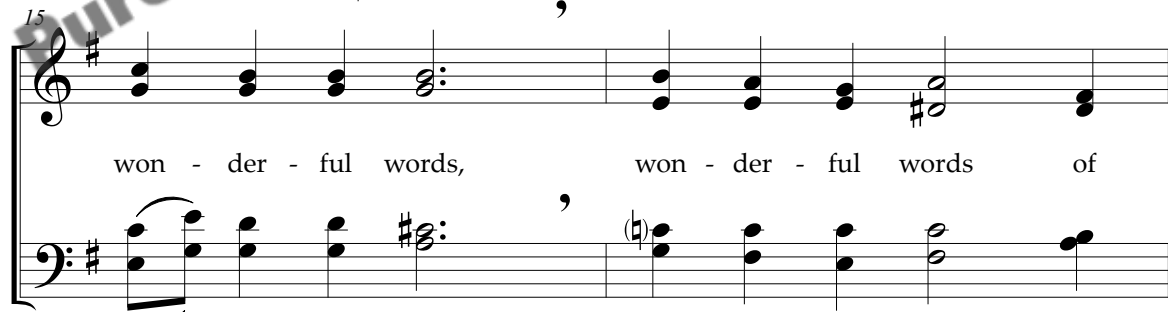
beau - ty, teach me faith and

13



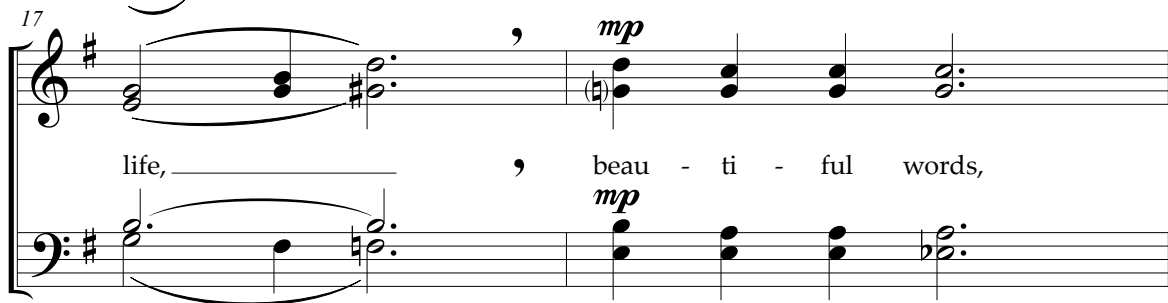
du - ty; beau - ti - ful words,

15



won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of

17



life, beau - ti - ful words,

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19

won - der - ful words, , won - der - ful words of

21

Faster and Flowing (in two) $\text{♩} = 54$
mf

life. , Wis - dom gra - cious - ly

23

won - der - ful words of
 gives to all , won - der - ful

25

life, of life. ,
 words of life. *mf*
 Lis - ten now to Her

27

won - der - ful words of
 lov - ing call, , words of

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29

life. All so free - ly

life.

31

giv - en mov - ing us to

33

heav - en; beau - ti - ful words,

f Ah!

35

won - der - ful words, won - der ful words of

37

life, beau - ti ful words,

mf

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Wonderful Words of Life

39 *mp*

won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of

won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of

41 *rit.* **Slightly Slower** $\text{♩} = 50$

life. Sweet - ly ech - o So -

life. Sweet - ly ech - o So -

Oo

43 *mf*

phi - a's call, won - der - ful

phi - a's call, won - der - ful

won - der - ful words of

45 *mf*

words of life. Ah

words of life. Ah

life, of life, Of - fer jus - tice and

47

peace to all, won - der - ful words of

49

Slower, Freely $\text{♩} = 46$

mf

Wis - dom - Guide and
life.

51

p

Sa - vior sanc - ti - fy for -

53

mp

ev - er; beau - ti - ful words, beau - ti - ful

55

won - der - ful words,
words, won - der - ful, won - der - ful words of

57

life, beau - ti - ful words, beau - ti - ful

mp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 57 and 58. The vocal line starts with a half note 'life,' followed by a melodic phrase for 'beau - ti - ful words,' and another half note 'beau - ti - ful'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present.

59

won - der - ful words, words, won - der - ful, won - der - ful words of

rit.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 59 and 60. The vocal line continues with 'won - der - ful words,' followed by a phrase 'words, won - der - ful, won - der - ful words of'. The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the bass. A *rit.* marking is present.

61

Sing them o - ver; sing them o - ver: life.

Tempo I ♩ = ca.86

Detailed description: This system contains measures 61 and 62. The vocal line has 'Sing them o - ver;' and 'sing them o - ver:'. The piano accompaniment has a steady accompaniment. A tempo marking 'Tempo I' with a quarter note equal to ca. 86 is shown.

63

won - der - ful words of life, of life. won - der - ful words of life, of life.

p rit. *pp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 63 and 64. The vocal line has 'won - der - ful words of life, of life.' and 'won - der - ful words of life, of life.'. The piano accompaniment has a melodic line. Dynamic markings *p rit.* and *pp* are present.