

THE PROMISE OF LIVING
Thanksgiving Song from "The Tender Land"
(1954)

Words by
HORACE EVERETT

Music by
AARON COPLAND
(1900-1990)

Gently flowing ($\text{♩} = 80$) *8va*.....

I
Piano*
II

p dolce, semplice

p dolce, semplice

8va.....

5

I
II

8va.....

8

I
II

* Also available with orchestral accompaniment: 2.2.2.2.-2.2.2.0. — perc., harp, str.
or with instrumentation to match the Suite: 3.2.2.2.-4 3.3.1. — perc., harp, str.

© Copyright 1954 by The Aaron Copland Fund For Music, Inc. Copyright Renewed.
Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., Sole Licensee.
Copyright for all countries. All rights reserved.

OCTB5020

Printed in U.S.A.

2

Tenors *p* 15

T+B1 11

The prom-ise of liv-ing — With hope and thanks-giv-ing —

8va.....

I

II

(*p*)

T+B1 17 20

— Is born of our lov-ing — our friends and our la-bor. —

mf *espress.*

I

II

mf *espress.*

23 Sopranos *mp* 25 (♩ = ♩)

The prom-ise of grow - ing — With faith and with

Tenors *mp*

The prom-ise of grow - ing — With faith and with

I *mp*
semplice

II *mp*

28

S know - ing — Is born of our shar - ing — our love

T+B1 know - ing — Is born of our shar - ing — our love

I

II

38
S
A
T+B

prom - ise of grow - ing — Is born of our
 prom - ise of grow - ing — Is, born of our
 prom - ise of grow - ing — Is born of our

I
II

41
S
A
T+B

sing - ing in joy and thanks - giv - ing.
 sing - ing, in joy and thanks - giv - ing.
 sing - ing in joy and thanks - giv - ing.

I
II

mf espress.

mf espress.

Red.

6

T+B

45 Basses II

48

mf

I

mp *semplice* *p*

II

semplice
mp *p*

For sea.....

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

49 T+B

(♩ = ♩.)

man-y a year we've known these fields And known all the work that makes them

I

mf

II

mf

Red.

52

Bass I

35

T+B1

7

Bass II

We're read-y to work, we're

yield, — Are you read - y to lend a hand?

I

II

mf

55

T+B1

read - y to lend a hand.

We'll bring in the har-vest

B2

By work-ing to - geth - er we'll bring in the har - vest, —

I

cresc.

II

cresc.

58 Tenor *mf* We plant each row with

Bass I har-vest, the bless-ings of har-vest.

B2 the bless-ings of har-vest.

I *mf*

II *mf*

61 T seeds of grain, And Prov-i-dence sends us the sun and the rain, By

B1 *mf* We plant each row with

B2 *mf* We plow and plant each row with

I

II *mf*

63

64
T
lend-ing a hand, By lend-ing an arm. Bring out, bring
B1
seeds By lend-ing an arm. Bring out, bring
B2
seeds of grain, Bring in from the land bring
I
cresc.
II
cresc.

69
T
out from the farm, Bring out the bless-ings, the bless-ings of *har-vest*
B1
out from the farm, Bring out the bless-ings of *har-vest*, the bless-ings of *har-vest*
B2
out the bless-ings of *har-vest*, the bless-ings of *harvest*
I
II

70

Soprano *mf(exalted)*
 O let us be joy - ful, O

Alto *mf(exalted)*
 Give thanks there was sun - shine, Give thanks there was rain, Give

Tenor
 har - vest. _____

Bass I
 har - vest. _____

Bass II
 har - vest. _____

I *legato mf*

II *mf* *legato*

Red. * Red. *

13 Soprano
S - let us be grate - ful, Come

Alto
A - thanks we have hands to de - liv - er the grain, — O let us be

I

II

15 *Red. sim.*

S - join us in thank - ing — the Lord for — His *bless - ing*

A - joy - ful, — O let us be grate - ful — to the Lord — for — His *bless - ing*

I

II

78

Soprano
S
bless - ing. O let us _____ sing

Alto
A
bless - ing. O let us sing our song,

Tenor
T
The prom - ise of end - ing In

Bass I
B1
The prom - ise of end - ing In

Bass II
B2
The prom - ise of end - ing In

80

I
II

81 83

S
 our song, — and let our song be heard. Let's sing our song *with our*

A
 And let our song be heard. Let's sing our song *with our*

T
 right un - der - stand - ing is peace in our *own*

B1
 right un - der - stand - ing is peace in our *own*

B2
 right un - der - stand - ing is peace in our *own*

I
gva...

II

14

84

86

with our hearts, a prom-ise in that song. The *ff*

with our hearts, and find a prom-ise in that song. The *ff*

own hearts — and peace with our neigh - bor. The *ff*

own hearts — and peace with our neigh - bor. The *ff*

own hearts — and peace with our neigh - bor. The *ff*

8va..... *ff marc.*

ff marc.

ff marc.

ff

87

prom - ise of liv - ing The prom - ise of

grow-ing

prom - ise of liv - ing The prom - ise of

grow-ing

prom - ise of liv - ing The prom - ise of

grow-ing

prom - ise of liv - ing The prom - ise of

grow-ing

prom - ise of liv - ing The prom - ise of

grow-ing

gaa.....

I

II

gaa bassa.....

90

S

grow - ing The prom - ise of end - ing is

A

grow - ing The prom - ise of end - ing is

T

grow - ing The prom - ise of end - ing is

B1

grow - ing The prom - ise of end - ing is

B2

grow - ing The prom - ise of end - ing is

8.

I

II

8va bassa.....

93

S

ing

A

ing

T

ing

B1

ing

B2

ing

gaa.....

I

II

40

*

96 98

S1
S2
A
T
B1
B2

I

ing. *8va* *8va*.....

gradually diminish sonority to piano

II

100

I

rit. p

II

rit. p

* *8va* *8va*..... *sim.*