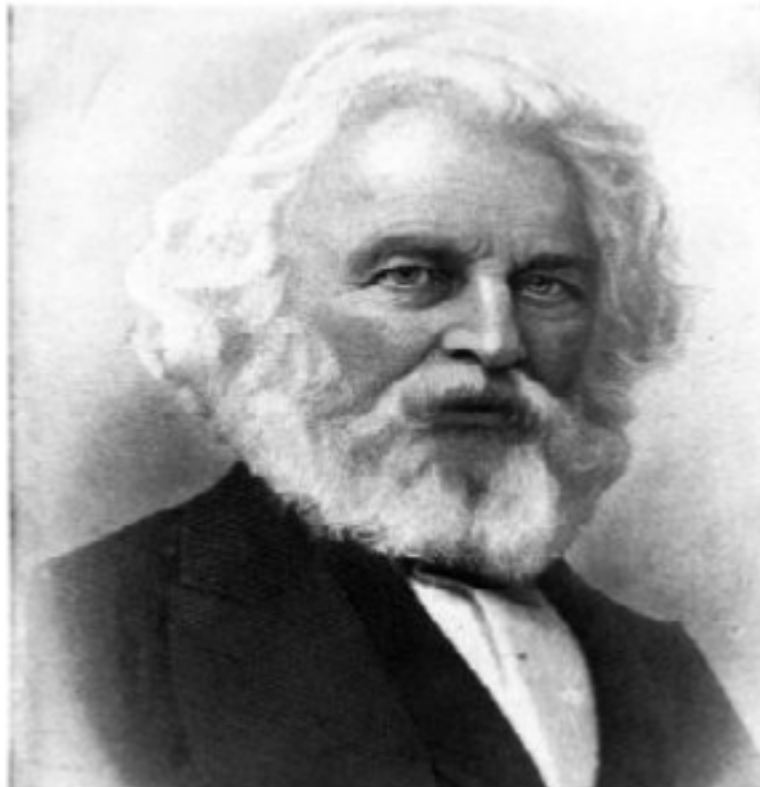


KEN DAVIES

# A Psalm of Life

an art song setting of the poem by  
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



KD 707

kenvad music

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U.S.A.

# A Psalm of Life

for high voice and piano

Duration 4:35

Text by  
HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW  
(1807-1882)  
Moderately ♩ = 80

Music by  
KEN DAVIES  
(b. 1944)

Tenor

Moderately ♩ = 80

Piano

*p*

Tell me

7

not, in mourn - ful num - bers, Life is but an emp - ty dream! For the

12

soul is dead that slum - bers, And things are not what they seem. \_\_\_\_\_

17

*f*

Life is real! Life is earn - est! And the grave is not its goal; Dust thou

22

art, to dust re - turn - est, Was not spo - ken of the soul \_\_\_\_\_

27

*dim.*

34

*p*

Not en - joy - ment, and not sor - row, Is our des - tined end or way;

incomplete

## **A Psalm of Life**

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

*What The Heart Of The Young Man Said To The Psalmist.*

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,  
Life is but an empty dream!  
For the soul is dead that slumbers,  
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!  
And the grave is not its goal;  
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,  
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,  
Is our destined end or way;  
But to act, that each to-morrow  
Find us farther than to-day.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,  
And our hearts, though stout and brave,  
Still, like muffled drums, are beating  
Funeral marches to the grave.

In the world's broad field of battle,  
In the bivouac of Life,  
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!  
Be a hero in the strife!

Trust no Future, howe'er pleasant!  
Let the dead Past bury its dead!  
Act,— act in the living Present!  
Heart within, and God o'erhead!

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time;

Footprints, that perhaps another,  
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labor and to wait.

Choral and Vocal Music  
by Ken Davies  
from **kenvad music**  
[www.kendavies.net/kenvad](http://www.kendavies.net/kenvad)

**VOCAL**

Mountain Dreams - tenor or soprano & piano  
Nature's Paintbrush - tenor or soprano & piano  
Beach Thoughts - tenor or soprano & piano  
Window To The Stage - tenor or soprano & contrabass  
Bayou Sketches - soprano, horn in F, & piano  
Message In A Bottle - medium voice & piano  
A Psalm Of Life - tenor or soprano & piano  
If Any Man Serve Me (The Deacon's Song) - medium voice & piano  
Our Lord's Prayer (pop style new music) - baritone solo - w. SATB optional - track or charts  
Thank You, Mom (pap ballad) - medium voice and piano (accompaniment track available)  
Our Lord's Prayer - (new music) - medium voice and recorded accompaniment track

**CHORAL**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence SATB/organ, 2 tpts, 2 tbns  
An Easter Call To Worship SATB a cappella  
Psalm 117 SATB/piano  
God, The Artist Of Creation SATB/organ  
Who Shall Separate Us From The Love Of Christ? SATB a cappella  
Psalm 153 SATB a cappella  
Day And Night SATB a cappella  
Psalm 53 SATB a cappella  
Make A Joyful Noise - SATB & rock band w. horns or track  
Our Lord's Prayer - (new music) - medium solo voice, SATB choir & rock band