Commissioned to the glory of God by Saint Alban's Episcopal Church on the occasion of its 150th anniversary, and in memory of Phoebe Nourse, who, upon her death at age 24, left a small sum from the sale of her needlework to establish the first "free" church in Washington, DC — Saint Alban's Parish.

Most Glorious Lord of Life

Amoretti: Sonnet 68

SATB *a cappella*

Edmund Spenser

Gary Davison

With breadth (♩ = 56)

Soprano: Most glo - rious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy tri - umph o - ver death and sin, and hav-ing har-rowed

Alto: Most glo - rious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy tri - umph o - ver death and sin, and hav-ing har-rowed

Tenor: Most glo - rious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy tri - umph o - ver death and sin, and hav-ing har-rowed

Bass: Most glo - rious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy tri - umph o - ver death and sin, and hav-ing har-rowed

Piano: *for rehearsal only*

Text: Sonnet 68 from *Amoretti*, by Edmund Spenser, 1552–1599, and published in 1595 (PD).
Music: Gary Davison, newly composed, and copyright © 2023 Birnamwood Publications.

4

unis.

hell, didst bring a - way cap - ti - vi - ty thence cap - tive, us to win:

hell, didst bring a - way cap - ti - vi - ty thence cap - tive, us to win:

hell, didst bring a - way cap - ti - vi - ty thence cap - tive, us to win:

hell, didst bring a - way cap - ti - vi - ty thence cap - tive, us to win:

11

mp

This joy - ous day, dear Lord, with joy be - gin, and grant that

unis. *mp*

This joy - ous day, dear Lord, with joy be - gin, and grant that

mp

This joy - ous day, dear Lord, with joy be - gin, and grant that

mp

This joy - ous day, dear Lord, with joy be - gin, and grant that

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6

that thy love we weigh-ing wor-thi-ly, may like - wise

that thy love we weigh-ing wor-thi-ly, may like-wise love thee,

mp
And that thy love we weigh-ing wor - thi-ly, may like - wise

mp *unis.*
And that thy love we weigh-ing wor-thi-ly, may like - wise

unis. *p*
love thee for the same a-gain, the same a - gain; And for thy sake, that

unis. *p*
love thee for the same a-gain, the same a - gain; And for thy sake, that

p
love thee for the same a-gain, the same a - gain; And for thy sake, that

p
love thee for the same a-gain, the same a - gain; And for thy sake, that

all like dear didst buy, with love, with love, with

all like dear didst buy, with love, with love, with

all like dear didst buy, with love, with

all like dear didst buy, with love, with

love may one an - oth - er en - ter - tain;

love may one an - oth - er en - ter - tain;

love may one an - oth - er en - ter - tain;

love may one an - oth - er en - ter - tain; So

7

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8

Tempo I

32

unis. *p*

So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought;

p

So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought;

unis. *p*

So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought;

p

let us love, dear Love, like as we ought;

Tempo I

Meno mosso

35

pp

Love is the les - son which the Lord us taught.

pp

Love is the les - son which the Lord us taught.

pp

Love is the les - son which the Lord us taught.

pp *unis.*

Love is the les - son which the Lord us taught.

Meno mosso