

VERSES ON SOLID ROCK/SINKING SAND (2015)

for unaccompanied mixed voices

Arthur B. Hunkins

Based on the hymn, *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*
Words: Edward More Original music: William B. Bradbury

Performance Directions

1. This music is intended to sound enthusiastic, even rather rowdy - reflecting the tradition of shaped-note singing. Tempo is unwavering and not too fast. Rhythmic ensemble is important; blend is not.
2. Performance always begins with the musical verse indicated as First, and ends with the Last. In between, at least three other musical verses of the remaining six are selected, of which a minimum of three are to be 3- or 4-voice. No musical verse is repeated. 2-voice verses are available for either men's or women's voices; only a single version of each pair may be chosen per performance. Selection and order of internal musical verses is totally at the director's discretion..
3. The First and Last musical verses use the initial textual verse of the hymn. The inner musical verses use textual verses 2-4 (they are printed in order). Text to be sung to the musical verses always follows their arrangement in the original hymn: 1-4, then (as necessary) 2-4, ending with 1.
3. Verses segue immediately.
4. To facilitate rehearsal and performance, the director should only distribute (and put in order) the particular music pages relevant to that performance, and highlight (or otherwise clearly indicate) the text for each internal musical verse.
5. Dynamics are loud throughout.
6. The original tune, as sung by both tenor and soprano in the opening stanza, is present throughout. The tune should always stand out a bit above the other voices..

Verses 4-Voice First

S
A
T
B

My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and right-eous-ness; I

dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but whol-ly lean on Je-sus' name. On Christ, the sol-id

Rock I stand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

Verses 4-Voice Middle

S

A

T

B

When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in
His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood, sup - port me in the whelm - ing flood; when
When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed

ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
all a - round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol - id
in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.

Rock I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Verses 4-Voice Last

S
A
T
B

My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and right - eous-ness; I

This system contains the first four staves of the musical score. The Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B) parts are written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics 'My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and right - eous-ness; I' are aligned under the corresponding notes.

dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name. On Christ, the sol - id

This system contains the next four staves of the musical score. The lyrics 'dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name. On Christ, the sol - id' are aligned under the corresponding notes.

Rock I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all

This system contains the final four staves of the musical score. The lyrics 'Rock I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all' are aligned under the corresponding notes.

4-Voice Last - continued

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is

sink - ing sand.

div.

Duration: 2 min. 45 sec. minimum
(at ♩=c100)
Each additional verse adds 40 sec.

Verses 3-voice 1

S
A
T

When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un-chang-ing grace; in
His oath, his cov-e-nant, his blood, sup-port me in the whelm-ing flood; when
When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of a three-part vocal setting. It features three staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), and Tenor (T). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the staves, with some words split across lines. The Soprano part begins with a half note, followed by quarter notes. The Alto and Tenor parts follow a similar rhythmic pattern, with the Tenor part starting on a lower pitch.

ev-ery high and storm-y gale, my an-chor holds with-in the veil.
all a-round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol-id
in his right-eous-ness a-lone, fault-less to stand be-fore the throne.

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the three-part vocal setting. It continues the musical lines for Soprano, Alto, and Tenor. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, showing the continuation of the previous system. The Soprano part has a melodic line with some ties. The Alto and Tenor parts provide harmonic support.

Rock I stand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of the three-part vocal setting. It concludes the musical lines for Soprano, Alto, and Tenor. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, showing the continuation of the previous system. The Soprano part ends with a half note and a fermata. The Alto and Tenor parts also end with half notes and fermatas.

Verses 3-voice 2

S

When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un-chang-ing grace; in
His oath, his cov-e-nant, his blood, sup-port me in the whelm-ing flood; when
When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed

A

T

ev-ery high and storm-y gale, my an-chor holds with-in the veil.
all a-round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol-id
in his right-eous-ness a-lone, fault-less to stand be-fore the throne.

Rock I stand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

Verses 3-voice 3

A

When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un-chang-ing grace; in
His oath, his cov-e-nant, his blood, sup-port me in the whelm-ing flood; when
When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed

T


B

ev-ery high and storm-y gale, my an-chor holds with-in the veil.
all a-round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol-id
in his right-eous-ness a-lone, fault-less to stand be-fore the throne.

Rock I stand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.



Verses 2-voice 1 - Men

T

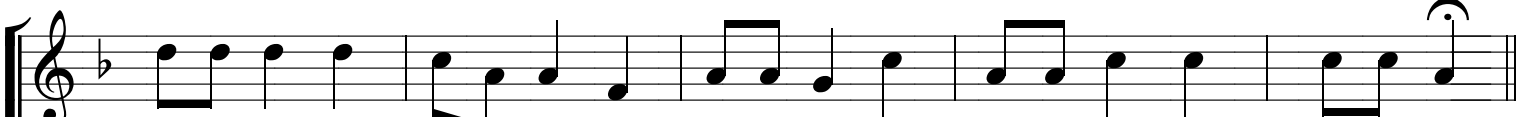



When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in
His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood, sup - port me in the whelm - ing flood; when
When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed


B



ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
all a - round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol - id
in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.




Rock I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.





Verses 2-voice 1 - Women

S




When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in
His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood, sup - port me in the whelm - ing flood; when
When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed

A



ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
all a - round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol - id
in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.



Rock I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.



Verses 2-voice 2 - Men

T

When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un-chang-ing grace; in
His oath, his cov-e-nant, his blood, sup-port me in the whelm-ing flood; when
When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed

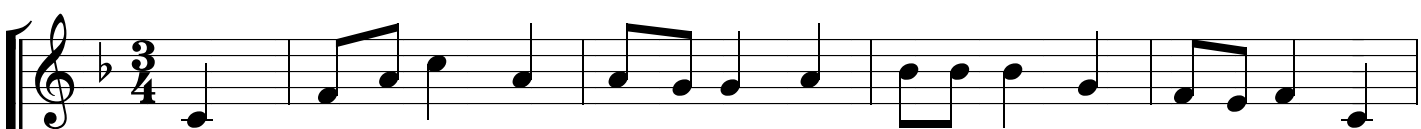
B

ev-ery high and storm-y gale, my an-chor holds with-in the veil.
all a-round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol-id
in his right-eous-ness a-lone, fault-less to stand be-fore the throne.

Rock I stand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

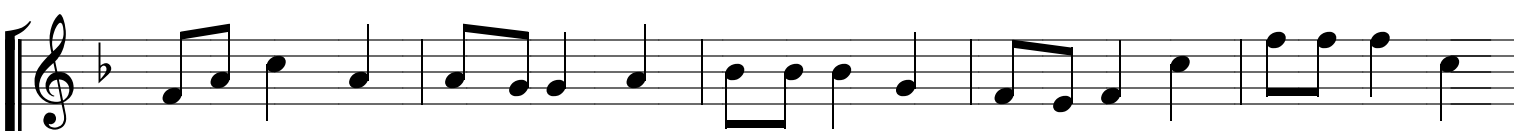

Verses 2-voice 2 - Women

S




When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in
His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood, sup - port me in the whelm - ing flood; when
When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in him be found; dressed

A



ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
all a - round my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the sol - id
in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.



Rock I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

