

# *Da Pacem*

*for Soprano solo & SSAA Choir (divisi)*

Music by  
**John Muehleisen**

Based on  
**Traditional Latin Liturgical Texts**

*Commissioned by Seattle Pro Musica  
Karen P. Thomas, Artistic Director and Conductor*

*To those who yearn for Peace  
and those who have died to preserve it*

## ***Da Pacem Text***

Da pacem, Domine, in diebus nostris  
Quia non est alius  
Nisi tu Deus noster.

Give peace, Lord, in our time  
Because there is no one else  
If not You, our God.

-----  
Da pacem cordium.  
Da pacem cordium.  
Da pacem.  
Da pacem.

Give peace to every heart.  
Give peace to every heart.  
Give peace.  
Give peace

## ***Da Pacem Program Notes***

When Karen Thomas, Artistic Director of Seattle Pro Musica, asked me to compose a work for their Women's Schola, she stipulated that the work should be based on musical ideas from one or more of the three Bach motets on the same concert and that the text focus on the theme of peace. From the Bach motets I used several fragments of the familiar *Jesu, meine Freude* chorale from the motet of the same name. In addition, while searching for texts for the work, I found the simple liturgical text of the *Da pacem*, and I was immediately struck by its quality of timelessness, as well as its particular relevance for our own time.

As it happens, I also decided to use the corresponding *Da Pacem* chant in addition to Bach's chorale tune. In the beginning of the work, the chant and chorale tune are divided between the women's chorus and soprano soloist, respectively. Following the chorale-like passage in the middle, the women's chorus takes up Bach's chorale tune while the soloist sings variations of the *Da Pacem* chant. The plea for peace becomes increasingly more insistent until it reaches a climax with a series of desperate cries for peace, which resolve into a poignant, fragmented echo of the climax, finally ending unresolved, yet with the hope of peace that lies deep within all human hearts. The work is dedicated "to those who yearn for peace and those who have died to preserve it."

## **Performances Notes**

1. Final consonants should be placed on the rest following the note(s) on which the syllable occurs.
2. Unless otherwise noted, when the sopranos or altos are divided in three parts, divide the voices evenly between the three-parts. Exceptions are noted as "div. as written."



*mf* 13 3 14 *non dim.* 15 16 17 18 19

S solo  
Ni-si tu De-us nos-ter.

*p* *non dim.* *p*  
Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da

S 1

*p* *non dim.* *p*  
Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da

S 2

*p* *non dim.* *p*  
Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da

A 1

*p* *non dim.* *p*  
Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da

A 2

*mf* 13 3 14 15 16 17 18 19 *p*

Pno

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

S solo

S 1  
pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em,

S 2  
pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em,

A 1  
Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em,

A 2  
pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em,

Pno

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

*mf* *molto espressivo*

S solo 27 28 29 30 31 32 33

Da pac - em, Do - mi-ne, in di - e - bus

S 1 *mf* *p*  
Do - mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da

S 2 *mf* *p*  
Do - mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da

A 1 *mf* *p*  
Do - mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da

A 2 *mf* *p*  
Do - mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor-di-um. Da

Pno *mf* *p*

S solo 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

nos - tris Da pac-em cor-di-um.

S 1 *f*  
pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em pac-em Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em

S 2 *f*  
pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em pac-em Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em

A 1 *f*  
pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em pac-em Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em

A 2 *f*  
pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em pac-em Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em

Pno *f*

41 42 43 44 45 46 47

S solo

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno

*mp* *p* *f* *p*

pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em cor - di - um. \_

pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em cor - di - um. \_

pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em cor - di - um. \_

pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em Da pac-em cor - di - um. \_

*mp* *p* *f* *p*

*mp* *p* *f* *p*

48 49 50 51 52 53

S solo

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno

*mf* *mf*

Da pac-em, Do - mi-ne, in di-e-bus nos-tris Qui-a non est al - i-us Ni-si tu

cor - di - um.

*mf* *mf*

CHORALE

S solo

54 *mf* 55 *f* 56 G. P. 57 *Largo* (MM = 40) 58 59

De-us nos - ter.

S 1 *p* *f* G. P. *p con molto tenero*

Da pac - em, Do - mi-ne, in di-e-bus nos -

S 2 *p* *f* G. P. *p con molto tenero*

Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, in di - e - bus

A 1 *p* *f* G. P. *p con molto tenero*

Da pac - em, Do - mi - ne, in di - e - bus

A 2 *p* *f* G. P. *p con molto tenero*

Da pac - em, Do - mi-ne, in di - e - bus

Pno

54 55 56 G.P. 57 *Largo* (MM = 40) 58 59

S solo

60 61 62 63 64 65

Ni-si tu De - us nos - ter.

S 1 *mf* *mp* *f*

tris Qui-a non est al - i-us Ni-si tu De - us nos-ter.

S 2 *mf* *mp* *f*

nos - tris Qui-a non est al - i-us Ni-si tu De - us nos - ter.

A 1 *mf* *mp* *f*

nos - tris Qui-a non est al - i-us Ni-si tu De - us nos - ter.

A 2 *mf* *mp* *f*

nos - tris Qui-a non est al - - - i - us Ni-si tu De - us nos - ter.

Pno

60 61 62 63 64 65

*mf* *mp* *f*

Adagio tranquillo (MM = 66)

Solo Soprano (S solo):  
66 G. P. 67 68 69 70 *mf* 71 72  
Da pac-em, Do - mi-ne, \_\_\_\_\_

Soprano 1 (S 1):  
66 G. P. *p* 67 68 69 70 *p* 71 72  
Da Pa - ce \_\_\_\_\_ um. \_\_\_\_\_ Da pac-em

Soprano 2 (S 2):  
66 G. P. *p* 67 68 69 70 *p* 71 72  
Da Pa - ce \_\_\_\_\_ um. \_\_\_\_\_ Da Pa - ce \_\_\_\_\_

Alto 1 (A 1):  
66 G. P. *p* 67 68 69 70 *p* 71 72  
Da pac-em cor - di - um. \_\_\_\_\_ Da Pa - ce \_\_\_\_\_

Alto 2 (A 2):  
66 G. P. *p* 67 68 69 70 *p* 71 72  
Da pac-em cor - di - um. \_\_\_\_\_ Da Pa - ce \_\_\_\_\_

Piano (Pno):  
66 G. P. *p* 67 68 69 70 *p* 71 72 *p*

Solo Soprano (S solo):  
73 74 *mf* 75 76 *mf* 77  
in di - e - bus nos - tris

Soprano 1 (S 1):  
73 74 *mf* 75 76 *mf* 77  
cor - di - um. \_\_\_\_\_ Da pac - em, da pac - em,

Soprano 2 (S 2):  
73 74 *mf* 75 76 *mf* 77  
um. \_\_\_\_\_ Da pac - em,

Alto 1 (A 1):  
73 74 *mf* 75 76 *mf* 77  
um. \_\_\_\_\_ Da pac - em, da pac - em,

Alto 2 (A 2):  
73 74 *mf* 75 76 *mf* 77  
um. \_\_\_\_\_ Da pac - em,

Piano (Pno):  
73 74 *mf* 75 76 *mf* 77



*mf* 78 *f* 79 *mp* 80 81 82 83 *mf*

S solo Qui-a non est al - i - us non est al - i - us Ni-si tu

S 1 *p* *f* *p* Pa - ce

S 2 *p* *f* *p* Pa - ce

A 1 *p* *f* *p* Pa - ce

A 2 *p* *f* *p* Pa - ce

Pno *p* *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

S solo 84 85 86 87  
De - us nos - ter.

S 1 *mp* marc. (thru m.91) *mf* *mp*  
Da pac-em, da pac-em, da pac-em, da pac-em! Da

S 2 *mp* marc. (thru m.91) *mf* *mp*  
Da pac-em, da pac-em, da pac - em! Da

A 1 *mp* marc. (thru m.91) *mf* *mp*  
Da pac-em, da pac - em! Da

A 2 *mp* marc. (thru m.91) *mf* *mp*  
Da pac - em! Da

Pno *mp* *mp* *mf* *mp*

accel. poco a poco

88 89 90

S solo

S 1  
*mp* *f* *f* Da pac-em, da pac-em, da pac-em, da pac-em!

S 2  
*mp* *f* *f* Da pac-em, da pac-em, da pac-em!

A 1  
*mp* *f* *f* Da pac-em, da pac-em, da pac-em, da pac-em!

A 2  
*mp* *f* *f* Da pac-em, da pac-em!

Pno  
*f* *f*

a Tempo (MM = 66)

91 92 93 94 95 96

S solo

S 1  
*ff* *f* *desperately* *f* *sim.*  
 Da pac-em, Do - mi-ne, Da pac-em cor - di-um.

S 2  
*ff* *f* *desperately* *f* *sim.*  
 Da pac-em, Do - mi-ne, Da pac-em cor - di-um.

A 1  
*ff* *f* *desperately* *f* *sim.*  
 Da pac-em, Do - mi-ne, Da pac-em cor - di-um.

A 2  
*ff* *f* *desperately* *f* *sim.*  
 Da pac-em, Do - mi-ne, Da pac-em cor - di-um.

Pno  
*f* *f*

allargando -----

97 98 99 100 101 102 103

S solo

S 1 *ff* *sim.* *mp* *with compassion* *f* *mp*  
 Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, in di-e-bus nos - tris

S 2 *ff* *sim.* *mp* *with compassion* *f* *mp*  
 Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, in di-e-bus nos - tris

A 1 *ff* *sim.* *mp* *with compassion* *f* *mp*  
 Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, in di-e-bus nos - tris

A 2 *ff* *sim.* *mp* *with compassion* *f* *mp*  
 Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, in di-e-bus nos - tris

Pno *ff* *mp* *f* *mp*

a Tempo (MM = 66)

104 105 106 107 108 109

S solo

S 1 *p* *with a cold insistence* *sim.*  
 Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor - di-um. Da pac-em, pac-em,

S 2 *p* *with a cold insistence* *sim.*  
 Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor - di-um. Da pac-em, pac-em,

A 1 *p* *with a cold insistence* *sim.*  
 Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor - di-um. Da pac-em, pac-em,

A 2 *p* *with a cold insistence* *sim.*  
 Da pac-em, Do-mi-ne, Da pac-em cor - di-um. Da pac-em, pac-em,

Pno *p*

110 111 112 113 114 115

S solo

S 1 *mp*  
Da pac - em cor - - - di - - - um.

S 2 *mp*  
Da pac - em cor - - - di - - - um.

A 1 *mp*  
Da pac - em cor - - - di - um.

A 2 *mp*  
Da pac - em cor - - - di - - - um.

Pno

110 111 112 113 114 115

*mp*