

IN THE BEGINNING

**For Mixed Chorus a cappella
with Mezzo-Soprano Solo**

**Text from Genesis
Chap. I: 1-II: 7**

Aaron Copland
(1947)

Freely (d circa 58)

MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO

mp (in a gentle, narrative manner, like reading a familiar and oft-told story)

In the be - gin - ning— God cre - at - ed the
 5
 heav - en and the earth And the earth was with - out
 form and void — and dark-ness was up - on the
 face of the deep —
 ALTO *ppp* And the Spir - it of God
 TENOR *ppp* And the Spir - it of
 *Piano (for rehearsal only) *ppp* *ppp*

Written for the Harvard Symposium on Music Criticism, May 1947

* At the conductor's discretion, the piano part may be used in performance as an aid to the singers.

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15

And

moved up - on the face of the wa - ters _____

God moved up - on the face of the wa - ters _____

20

God said — "Let there be light" — and there was light

SOPRANO

And

And

p

25

God saw the light ___ that it was good and God di - vid - ed the

God saw the light ___ that it was good and God di - vid - ed the

30

light from the dark-ness And God called the light Day

And God called the light Day

light from the dark-ness And God called the light Day

85

poco rit.

p

And the dark - ness he called Night _____

poco rit.

p

And the dark - ness he called Night _____

poco rit.

p

And the dark - ness he called Night _____

BASS

poco rit.

p

And the dark - ness he called Night _____

poco rit.

p

And the dark - ness he called Night _____

poco rit.

p

And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the first day

pp

And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the first day

pp

And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the first day

pp

And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the first day

pp

And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the first day

45
MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO

f/firmly

And God said "Let there be a fir-ma-ment in—the midst of the

50

wa-ters And let it di-vide—the wa-ters from—the wa-ters"

And God made the fir - ma - ment and di - vid - ed the wa - ters
And God made the fir - ma - ment and di - vid - ed the

55

And God made the fir - ma - ment and di - vid - ed the wa -ters
wa -ters And God made the fir - ma - ment and di - vid - ed the
And God made the fir - ma - ment and di - vid - ed the
And God made the fir - ma - ment and di -

which were un - der the fir - ma - ment from the
 wa - ters which were un - der the fir - ma - ment
 wa - ters which were un - der the fir - ma - ment
 vid - ed the wa - ters which were un - der the

60

wa - ters which were a - bove the fir - ma - ment
 from the wa - ters which were a - bove the
 from the wa - ters which were a - bove the
 fir - ma - ment from the wa - ters which were a -
 cresc.

65 , f

a - bove the fir - ma - ment
(cresc.)

fir - ma - ment fir - ma - ment
(cresc.)

fir - ma - ment fir - ma - ment
And it was so And God

bove the fir - ma - ment And it was so And God

70 pp

cresc. - ff

called the fir - ma - ment Heav - en _____ and the eve - ning

cresc. - ff

called the fir - ma - ment Heav - en _____ and the eve - ning

cresc. - ff

called the fir - ma - ment Heav - en _____ and the eve - ning

cresc. - ff

called the fir - ma - ment Heav - en _____ and the eve - ning

cresc. - ff

called the fir - ma - ment Heav - en _____ and the eve - ning

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

mf(firmly) 75

And God said —

and the morn-ing were the sec - ond day

and the morn-ing were the sec - ond day

and the morn-ing were the sec - ond day

and the morn-ing were the sec - ond day

"Let the wa - ters un - der the heav - en be gath-ered to -

80

geth - er un - to one place and let the dry land ap - pear.

85

And God called the dry land Earth

p

mp

And it was so And God called the dry land Earth

mp

And God called the dry land Earth

p

mp

And it was so _____

p

mp

p

bd

mp

bd

d

d

bd

90

And the gath - er - ing to - geth - er of the wa - ters called he

And the gath - er - ing to - geth - er of the wa -ters called he

And the gath - er - ing to - geth - er of the wa -ters called he

And the gath - er - ing to - geth - er of the wa -ters called he

And the gath - er - ing to - geth - er of the wa -ters called he

Seas ____ And God saw that it was good ____

Seas ____ And God saw that it was good ____

Seas And God saw that it was good ____

Seas ____

100

p

And God said _____ "Let the earth bring forth grass_

p

And God said _____

p

And God said _____

p

the herb yield-ing seed _ and the fruit tree yield-ing fruit af-ter its

,

"Let the earth _____ bring forth grass_

p

And God said _____

"Let

p

110

115

so

Somewhat faster (flowing)

Somewhat faster (flowing)

In The Beginning-55

120

seed af - ter its kind and the tree yield-ing fruit whose
 seed af - ter its kind and the tree yield-ing fruit whose
 seed af - ter its kind and the tree yield-ing fruit whose
 seed af - ter its kind and the tree yield-ing fruit whose

125 , Slower

seed was in it - self af - ter its kind And God ,
 seed was in it - self af - ter its kind
 seed was in it - self af - ter its kind
 seed was in it - self af - ter its kind

Slower

rit.

(short)

saw that it was good it was good

mf

(short)

And God saw that it was good it was good

mf

(short)

And God saw that it was good

mf

(short)

saw that it was good

mf

rit.

(short)

130

Tempo I^o

And God said...

p

And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the third day _____

p

(b) And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the third day _____

p

(b) And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the third day _____

p

And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the third day _____

p

And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the third day _____

Tempo I^o

p

Fast (Allegro)

mf (light and rhythmically, almost breathlessly)

"Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the

135

night and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years and let there be

lights in the fir-ma-ment of the heav-en to di-vide the day from the
poco sf-mf

lights!
poco sf-mf

lights!
poco sf-mf

poco sf-mf

poco sf-mf

poco sf-mf

night and let them be for signs and for sea-sons and for days and years and let there be
poco sf-mf

poco sf-mf

poco sf-mf

poco sf-mf

poco sf-mf

lights
(Mark the quarter notes)
 Let there be lights in the fir - ma - ment of the
 Let there be lights in the fir - ma - ment of the
 Let there be -
(Mark the quarter notes)
 heav-en to di-vide the day from the night and let them be for
 heav-en to di-vide the day from the night and let them be for
 lights
 Let there be lights
(Mark the quarter notes)

In The Beginning-

140

day from the night and let them be for signs and for
day from the night and let them be for signs and for
lights

sim.
lights

sea - sons and for days and years and let there be
sea - sons and for days and years and let there be
lights
lights
lights

In The Beginning-55

lights in the fir - ma - ment of the heav - ens to give
 lights in the fir - ma - ment of the heav - ens to give
 lights
 lights
 lights

145
marc.
 light up-on the earth And it was so
 light up-on the earth And it was so
 — *marc.* And it was so
 — *marc.* And it was so
 lights

marc.

firmly

and it was so And
and it was so And
and it was so firmly And God made two great lights
and it was so And God made two great lights

150

God made two great lights—the
God made two great lights—the
the greater light to rule the day—
the greater light to rule the day—

great - er light to rule the day _____

great - er light to rule the day _____

— And the less - er light to rule the

— And the less - er light to rule the

155

ff

he made the stars al . so _____ he made the

ff

he made the stars al . so _____ he made the

ff

night he made the stars al - so he

ff

night he made the stars al - so he

stars al - so _____ and God set them in the fir - ma - ment
 stars al - so _____ and God set them in the fir - ma - ment
 made the stars al - so in the fir - ma - ment
 made the stars al - so in the fir - ma - ment

160

— of the heav-en to give light up-on the earth and to
 — of the heav-en to give light up-on the earth and to
 — of the heav-en to give light up-on the earth and to
 — of the heav-en to give light up-on the earth and to

In The Beginning

Tempo I^o 170 (d = d.)

and the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the fourth day

and the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the fourth day

and the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the fourth day And

and the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the fourth day

Tempo I^o (d = d.)

(with breadth)

Let the wa-ters bring forth a -

Let the wa-ters bring forth a bунdant - ly -

God said _____

Let the wa - -ters

(with breadth)

In The Beginning-55

bun-dant - ly — the mov-ing crea - ture — that hath life —
 the mov-ing crea - ture — that hath life — and
 bring forth — a - bun - dant -
 {
 basso: p. p.
 piano: p. p.

180

— and fowl that may fly a - bove_ the earth in the o - pen
 fowl that may fly a - bove_ the earth in the o - pen fir - ma-ment.
 ly the mov - - ing crea -
 {
 basso: p.
 piano: p.

fir - ma-ment of heav - en _____
 — of heav - en _____
 And God cre - at - ed great
 ture that hath life _____

185

And God cre - at - ed great
 And God cre - at - ed great
 whales_ and ev' - ry liv - ing crea - ture that mov - eth
 And God cre - at - ed great

190

whales which the wa-ters brought forth a - bun-dant-ly
— which the wa-ters brought forth a - bun-dant- ly —
whales which the wa - ters
— which the wa-ters brought forth a - bun-dant- ly —
whales which the wa - ters
af - ter their kind and ev - 'ry wing - ed
brought forth a - bun - dant -
af - ter their kind _____ and ev - 'ry wing - ed fowl
brought forth _____ a - bun - dant -

195 *p dolce*

fowl af - ter his kind and God saw that it was good and
ly and God told,
af - ter his kind and God saw that it was good and
ly God saw it was good

dolce

200

God blessed them say - ing Be fruit - ful and mul-ti - ply and
them Be fruit - ful and mul-ti - ply and
God blessed them say - ing Be fruit - ful and mul-ti - ply and
God blessed them say - ing Be fruit - ful and mul-ti - ply and

fill the wa-ters in the seas_ and let fowl mul-ti - ply_ in the
 fill the wa-ters in the seas_ and let fowl mul-ti - ply_ in the
 fill the wa-ters in the seas_ and let fowl mul-ti - ply_ in the
 fill the wa-ters in the seas_ and let fowl mul-ti - ply_ in the

(d. =)
 earth_ And theeve-ning and themorn-ing were the
 (d. =)

210

p dolce

And God said — Let the
 fifth day — *pp* *mp*
 fifth day — *pp* And God said —
 fifth day — *pp* And
 fifth day — *pp*

215

earth bring forth the living creature after his kind — cattle

God said — *mp* Let
 And God said — *p* Let the earth — *p*
mp *p*

220

and creep-ing thing and beast of the earth af-ter his kind

the earth — bring forth grass —

bring forth grass —

pp

pp

pp

225

— and it was so —

mp (flowing-as above)

And God made the beast of the earth

mp

And God made the beast of the earth

mp

And God made the beast of the earth

mp

And God made the beast of the earth

(flowing-as above)

mp

mp

230

af - ter his kind — and cat - tle af - ter their kind
 af - ter his kind — and cat - tle af - ter their kind
 — af - ter his kind and cat - tle af - ter their
 — af - ter his kind and cat - tle af - ter their

235

and ev' - ry thing that creep - eth up - on the earth
 and ev' - ry thing that creep - eth up - on the earth
 kind and ev' - ry thing that creep - eth up - on the
 kind and ev' - ry thing that creep - eth up - on the

mf (freely)

And God saw that
af - ter his kind
af - ter his kind
earth af - ter his kind _____
earth af - ter his kind _____

240

it was good _____

mf (firmly, in tempo)

And God saw that it was
mf
And God saw that it was
mf
And God saw that it was
mf
And God saw that it was
mf

(firmly, in tempo)

mf

245

Faster (Allegro moderato)

(in 3) *f*

good And God said — Let us make man in our
 good And God said — Let us make man in our
 good And God said — Let us make man in our
 good And God said — Let us make man in our
 good — Let us make man in our

ff pesante vigoroso

ff pesante vigoroso

ff pesante vigoroso

ff pesante vigoroso

250
Animando

im - age af - ter our like - ness and let him have do -
 im - age af - ter our like - ness and let him have do -
 im - age af - ter our like - ness and let him have do -
 im - age af - ter our like - ness and let him have do -

Animando

im - age af - ter our like - ness and let him have do -

255

3

fowl of the air and o-ver the cat - tle and o - ver all the

3

fowl of the air and o-ver the cat - tle and o - ver all the

3

fowl of the air and o-ver the cat - tle and o - ver all the

3

fowl of the air and o-ver the cat - tle and o - ver all the

3

fowl of the air and o-ver the cat - tle and o - ver all the

3

3

3

3

260

earth and o - ver ev - 'ry creep - ing thing that creep - eth

earth and o - ver ev - 'ry creep - ing thing that creep - eth

earth and o - ver ev - 'ry creep - ing thing that creep - eth

earth and o - ver ev - 'ry creep - ing thing that creep - eth

earth and o - ver ev - 'ry creep - ing thing that creep - eth

ff marc.

So God cre - at - ed man

ff marc.

up - on the earth

So God

ff marc.

up - on the earth

So God

up - on the earth

ff marc.

up - on the earth

265

in his own im - age
cre - at - ed man in his own im - age in the
cre - at - ed man in his own im - age in the
ff marc.
So marc. God cre - at - ed man in his own im - age
So God cre - at - ed man in his own im - age
ff marc.

270

im - age of God cre - at - ed he him male and
im - age of God cre - at - ed he him male and
— in the im - age of God cre - at - ed he him
— in the im - age of God cre - at - ed he him
— in the im - age of God cre - at - ed he him

fe-male cre - at - ed he them And God blessed them and
 fe-male cre - at - ed he them And God blessed them and
 male and fe-male cre - at - ed he them And
 male and fe-male cre - at - ed he them And

275

God said un - to them be fruit - ful and mul - ti - ply
 God said un - to them be fruit - ful and mul - ti - ply
 God said un - to them be fruit - ful and mul - ti - ply
 God said un - to them be fruit - ful and mul - ti - ply

280

and re-plen-ish the earth and sub - due it and have do -
 and re-plen-ish the earth and sub - due it and have do -
 and re-plen-ish the earth and sub - due it and have do -
 and re-plen-ish the earth and sub - due it and have do -

285

min-ion o-ver the fish of the sea and o-ver the fowl of the
 min-ion o-ver the fish of the sea and o-ver the fowl of the
 min-ion o-ver the fish of the sea and o-ver the fowl of the
 min-ion o-ver the fish of the sea and o-ver the fowl of the

air and o - ver ev - 'ry liv - ing thing that mov - eth up - on the earth
 air and o - ver ev - 'ry liv - ing thing that mov - eth up - on the earth
 air and o - ver ev - 'ry liv - ing thing that mov - eth up - on the earth
 air and o - ver ev - 'ry liv - ing thing that mov - eth up - on the earth

290
MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO
ff marc.

Quasi cadenza (freely and with great emphasis)

Much slower

And God said Be-hold I have giv-en you ev'-ry herbbear-ing seed

sub. mp

sub. mp

sub. mp

sub. mp

Much slower

sub. mp

295

which is up - on the face of all the earth and ev' - ry tree

f

Be - hold

Be - hold

Be - hold

in the which is the fruit of a tree yield - ing seed To

f

Be - hold

f

300

you it shall be for food and to ev'ry beast of the earth and

ALTO

Much slower still
(freely) 305

to ev'ry fowl of the air and to ev'ry thing that creep-eth up-

ALTO

Be-hold

p ritardando

on the earth where - in there is life I have giv - en ev'ry green herb for

310

food

(As above)

p

And it was so And God saw ev - 'ry
pp dolce e semplice

p

And it was so And God saw ev - 'ry
pp dolce e semplice

p

And it was so And God saw ev - 'ry
pp dolce e semplice

p

And it was so And God saw ev - 'ry
pp dolce e semplice

p

And God saw ev - 'ry

(As above)

p

pp dolce e semplice

Tempo I°

*pp dolce e semplice**pp dolce e semplice**pp dolce e semplice**pp dolce e semplice**pp dolce e semplice**dolce e semplice*

315

thing that he had made — and be - hold , it was
p

thing that he had made — and be - hold , it was

thing that he had made — and be - hold , it was

thing that he had made — and be - hold , it was

thing that he had made — and be - hold , it was

p

p

p

p

p

p

320

ver - y good _____ And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the
 ver - y good _____ And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the
 ver - y good _____ And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the
 ver - y good _____ And the eve-ning and the morn-ing were the

325

Slower, with serenity

sixth day _____ Thus the heav - ens and the earth were
 sixth day _____ Thus the heav - ens and the earth were
 sixth day _____ Thus the heav - ens and the earth were
 sixth day _____ Thus the heav - ens and the earth were

Slower, with serenity

pp
poco sf
pp
poco sf
pp
poco sf
pp
poco sf

330

fin - ished and all the hosts of them And on the
fin - ished and all the hosts of them And on the
fin - ished and all the hosts of them And on the
fin - ished and all the hosts of them And on the

335

sev - enth day God end - ed his work which he had made
sev - enth day God end - ed his work which he had made
sev - enth day God end - ed his work which he had made
sev - enth day God end - ed his work which he had made

340

p

and he rest-ed on the sev-enth day from all his work which
 and he rest-ed on the sev-enth day from all his work which
 and he rest-ed on the sev-enth day from all his work which
 and he rest-ed on the sev-enth day from all his work which

he had made And God blessed the sev-enth day and
 he had made And God blessed the sev-enth day and
 he had made And God blessed the sev-enth day and
 he had made

345

sanc - ti - fied it _____ be-cause that in it he had
 sanc - ti - fied it _____ be-cause that in it he had
 sanc - ti - fied it be-cause that in it he had rest - ed
 be-cause that in it he had rest - ed

poco rit.

rest - ed from all his work which God cre - a - ted and
poco rit.
 rest - ed from all his work which God cre - a - ted and
poco rit.
 — from all his work which God cre - a - ted and
poco rit.
 — from all his work which God cre - a - ted and
poco rit.

350
MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO
(rather hurriedly)

mf

These are the gen - er - a - tions of the heav - ens and of the

$\text{\textcircled{p}}\text{pp}$

$\text{\textcircled{p}}\text{pp}$

$\text{\textcircled{p}}\text{pp}$

$\text{\textcircled{p}}\text{pp}$

$\text{\textcircled{p}}\text{pp}$

earth when they were cre - a - ted in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the

()

()

()

()

(slower)

heav - ens and ev' - ry plant of the field be fore it was in the

rit.

earth and ev' - ry herb of the field be fore it grew—

355

A tempo (*somewhat slower*)
mp

For the Lord God had not caused it to rain up -

A tempo (*somewhat slower*)

360

rain up - on the earth and there was not a man -

on the earth - and there was not a man to till the

Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground
 And the Lord God formed man of the dust
 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground
 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the

poco

pp espress. , —————— poco

375

of the ground And breathed in-to his nos-trils the
 And breathed in-to his nos-trils the

ground And breathed in-to his nos-trils the

380

Broadly (allarg.)

mf , *f* , *ff*.

breath of life and man be - came a liv - ing

mf , *f* , *ff*.

breath of life and man be - came a liv - ing

mf , *f* , *ff*.

breath of life and man be - came a liv - ing

mf , *f* , *ff*.

breath of life and man be - came a liv - ing

Broadly (allarg.)

Very broadly 385

(long)

fff

soul, and man be-came a liv-ing soul, a liv-ing soul.

fff

soul, and man be-came a liv-ing soul, a liv-ing soul.

fff

soul, and man be-came a liv-ing soul, a liv-ing soul.

fff

soul, and man be-came a liv-ing soul, a liv-ing soul.

Very broadly

fff

fff