

Program Notes for Children of Light

(taken from the program notes for Songs of Hope and Promise)

Songs of Hope and Promise for chorus and organ was commissioned by St. Mark's Lutheran Church (San Francisco, CA) in celebration of their Director of Music's 25 years of service. The piece is constructed in three sections and is designed to be performed as one composite, or as individual movements that can be interspersed throughout a worship service. The text of each section, arranged by the composer, is intended to encourage the Director of Music in his ministry, as well as each singer or listener in their individual walk with God.

Section Three, *Children of Light*, encourage us to live as "children of light," and to be "led by the light," with texts from Ephesians, the gospel of John, and a verse from the poem by John H. Newman, *Pillar of Light*.

For you were once darkness,
but now are light in the Lord.
Live as children of light,
Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,
always giving thanks to God the Father for everything,
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 6: 8-10; 19-20

Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom;
Lead thou me on!
The night is dark, and I am far from home;
Lead thou me on!
Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene; one step enough for me. Cardinal Newman

While you have light,
Believe in the light,
That you may be the children of light. John 12:36