

Matt Geer

ANGEL OF GOD

SATB



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For SATB (unaccompanied)



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For SATB (unaccompanied)

Duration: c. 6 minutes

*Especially written for and dedicated to Fr Hugh Kennedy.*

Angel of God, My guardian Dear,  
To whom God's love commits me here,  
    Ever this day, be at my Side,  
    To light and guard,  
    To rule and guide,  
                Amen

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

KJV, Psalm 91:11

## Preface

This short choral piece is written inspired by Psalm 91, which speaks about how God watches over us, reminding us of His divine protection and abiding love for us. The text, *Angel of God*, is a Catholic prayer for the intercession of the guardian angel. Verse 11 of this Psalm, “For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways” can also be found in Matthew 4:6, where the devil tries to tempt Christ. The music is static and uncompromising, using a maximally diverse structure where every note permutation in the system is sounded. Although the music doesn’t change, the approach that the listener has to the sound might change. We have to remember that it is not the sound that is changing, but our perception of that sound. Much like God’s love for us; in times of hardship we may feel abandoned or neglected, but we have to relive the truth that God has sent his angels to watch over us for all the time we are on this earth.

## Performance Instructions

The piece should remain static in its tempo, dynamics and aesthetics. The dynamics should be delicate but full and not fragile. Phrases are long, so staggered breathing within the voice parts may be necessary. Where there is a rest in between a hyphenated melisma, consonants should not be rearticulated. Instead, singers should continue singing the vowel sound. The breath mark and double bar line between bars 99 and 100 indicate a definitive pause in the music, rather than a standard breath mark. The reduction is for rehearsal only, and the piece should be sung unaccompanied.

*Written in December 2019, dedicated to Fr. Hugh Kennedy.*

# Angel of God

Text taken from the traditional Catholic prayer *Ángele Dei*

Matthew Geer

**Steady**  $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 45-50$   
**p cyclic**

Soprano  
Alto  
Tenor  
Bass

An - - - - gel \_\_\_\_\_

**p cyclic**

**p cyclic**

**p cyclic**

An - - - - gel \_\_\_\_\_

**Steady**  $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 45-50$   
**p cyclic**

for rehearsal only

S.  
A.  
T.  
B.

of God, My \_\_\_\_\_

of God, My \_\_\_\_\_

of God, My \_\_\_\_\_

— of God, My \_\_\_\_\_

## Angel of God

14

Soprano (S.) part: The soprano sings a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "Guar - di -" are written below the notes.

Alto (A.) part: The alto sings eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "Guar - di -" are written below the notes.

Tenor (T.) part: The tenor sings eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "Guar - di -" are written below the notes.

Basso (B.) part: The basso sings eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "Guar - di -" are written below the notes.

Piano part: The piano provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

21

Soprano (S.) part: The soprano sings eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "an - dear," are written below the notes.

Alto (A.) part: The alto sings eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "an - dear," are written below the notes.

Tenor (T.) part: The tenor sings eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "an - dear," are written below the notes.

Basso (B.) part: The basso sings eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "an - dear," are written below the notes.

Piano part: The piano provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

Soprano (S.) part: The soprano sings eighth and sixteenth notes.

Alto (A.) part: The alto sings eighth and sixteenth notes.

Tenor (T.) part: The tenor sings eighth and sixteenth notes.

Basso (B.) part: The basso sings eighth and sixteenth notes.

Piano part: The piano provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

Angel of God

28

S. to whom God's

A. to whom God's

T. to whom God's

B. to whom God's

(Measures 29-34 continue below)

35

S. love com - -

A. love com - -

T. love com - -

B. love com - -

(Measures 36-42 continue below)

Angel of God

42

S. mits me

A. mits me

T. mits me

B. mits me

Piano accompaniment

49

S. here. E ver

A. here. E ver

T. here. E ver

B. here. E ver

Piano accompaniment

Angel of God

56

S.                      this                      day

A.                      this                      day

T.                      this                      day

B.                      this                      day

63

S.                      be                      at

A.                      be                      at

T.                      be                      at

B.                      be                      at

Angel of God

70

S. my side, to

A. my side, to

T. my side, to

B. my side, to

77

S. light, to

A. light, to

T. light, to

B. light, to

Angel of God

84

S. guard and  
A. guard and  
T. guard and  
B. guard and

Piano part:

91

S. rule and  
A. rule and  
T. rule and  
B. rule and

Piano part:

Angel of God

S. guide. A - men.

A. — guide. A - men.

T. — guide. A - men.

B. — guide. A - men.

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