

---

# *A Pure Heart*

*An Anthem for SAB Choir*

**Charles O. Beck**



**Swan-Cross, Ltd.**  
Music Publishing Division

*Dedicated to William Vollinger,  
a true servant of Jesus Christ,  
and a brother of encouragement.*

### About the piece...

This anthem was composed using a compositional technique known as equitonalism, in which the central idea is that no one key center should be any more important than another. Thus, in the course of this short piece, the tonal center shifts twelve times, taking it through all twelve major keys.

Although the composer has used this technique on other pieces, this is the first time it has been applied to a choral work.

The text is taken entirely from the New American Standard version of the Bible.

### About the composer...

Charles O. Beck is a composer of many colors. He has written in many styles, from pop-rock to very classically oriented works. He holds a master's degree in composition from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, OH.

He lives in Alexandria, OH, with his wife, two daughters, and a cat.

# A Pure Heart

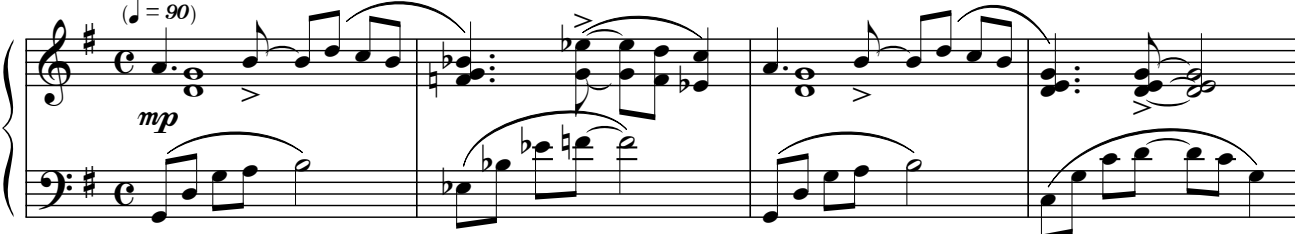
An Anthem for SAB Choir

Charles O. Beck

Moderato – with an easy rhythm

(♩ = 90)

Piano



*mp*

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand features a melody of eighth and quarter notes with slurs and accents, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. The music is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a common time signature.

S

A

5

*mp*

Who may as -

*mp*

Who may as -



This section contains the first vocal line for Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts, along with piano accompaniment. The vocal parts begin with a five-measure rest, followed by the lyrics "Who may as -". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the introduction, with some harmonic changes in the right hand.

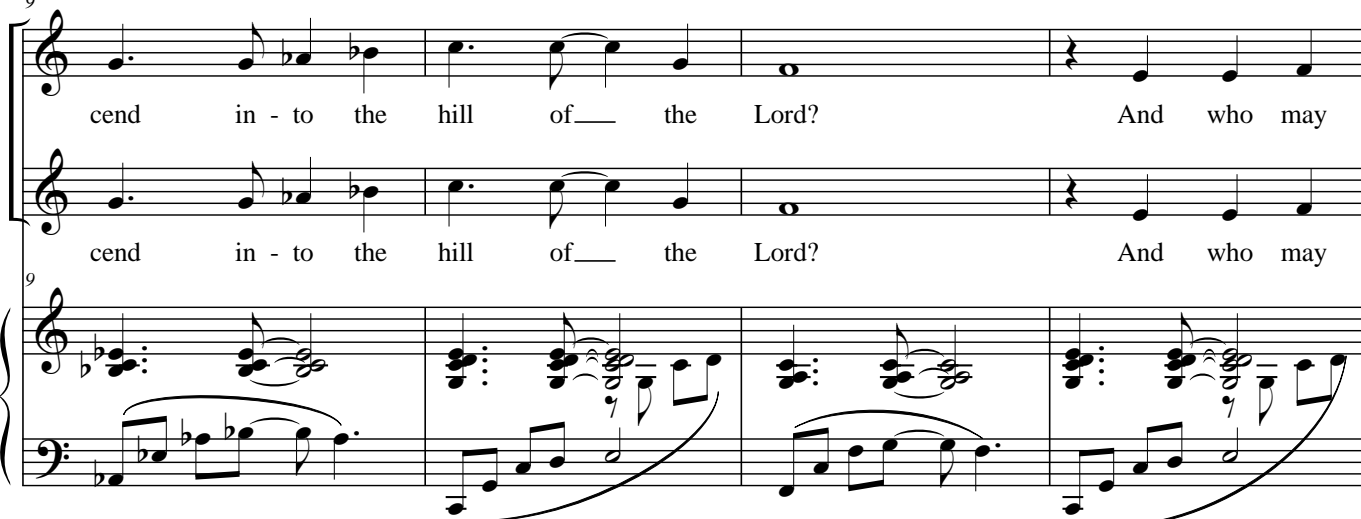
S

A

9

cend in - to the hill of the Lord? And who may

cend in - to the hill of the Lord? And who may



This section contains the second vocal line for Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts, along with piano accompaniment. The vocal parts begin with a nine-measure rest, followed by the lyrics "cend in - to the hill of the Lord? And who may". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern, with some harmonic changes in the right hand.

Performance time:  
approximately 3:40

2  
13

S stand in His ho - ly place?

A stand in His ho - ly place?

B *mp* He who has clean\_ hands

17

B and a pure heart, \_ And who speaks truth in \_ his

17

21 *more intensely*

S Search me, \_ O God, and know my \_

A Search me, O God, and know my \_

B heart. Search me, \_ O God, and know my

21

25

S heart; \_\_\_\_\_ Try me and know my an-xious thoughts; \_\_\_\_\_ (*melody*)

A heart; \_\_\_\_\_ Try me\_\_ and know my an-xious thoughts; \_\_\_\_\_ And

B heart; Try\_\_\_\_ me and know my an-xious thoughts;

29

S See if there be an - y hurt - ful way\_\_ in me, and

A see if\_\_ there be an - y hurt - ful way\_\_ in me, and

B See if there be an - y hurt - ful way\_\_ in me, and

33 *ritard* *a tempo*

S lead me in the ev - er - last - ing way.

A lead me in the ev - er - last - ing way.

B lead me in the ev - er - last - ing way.

37

41 *rallentando* *mf*

S Cre - - ate in

A *mf* Cre - - ate in

B *mf* Cre - - ate in

41 *rallentando* *mf*