

SATB div.  
a cappella  
Duration: c. 3:30

Choral Music of Douglas Byler

# I Will Rejoice

Text from Habakkuk 3:17-18

Music by Douglas Byler

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## About “I Will Rejoice”

Nearly everyone who knows me well knows that I am prone to procrastination. Often, people I work with in my various occupations are frustrated by that trait, so it is a great (but secret) joy when I find other people who share my love of waiting to do things until it is necessary. Karl Zimmerman and I had begun correspondence in plenty of time to get a piece done for his summer youth choir project, but for some reason or other we didn't settle on a text until less than two weeks before the first rehearsal. The completed score was delivered three days before the first rehearsal and (as far as I know) everyone was happy.

Many texts and pieces of music speak of joy and rejoicing in God in times of plenty and blessing, but this text from Habakkuk specifically notes our ability to rejoice even when things are not going well. As the book of Job shows us, times of suffering and famine are not necessarily punishment for sins, but an opportunity to connect with God on a deeper level and learn to enjoy him more fully.

### Text:

*Though the fig tree may not blossom,  
Nor fruit be on the vine,  
Though the labor of the olive may fail,  
And the trees yield no food,  
Though the flock may be cut off from the fold,  
And there be no herd in the stalls,*

*Yet I will rejoice in the Lord,  
I will joy in the God of my salvation.*



**Douglas Byler** (b. 1988) is a composer and real estate entrepreneur from the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia. He received a Bachelor of Music degree in Composition from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA and is currently studying composition at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ. His music has won several awards and has been performed across the United States.

For Karl Zimmerman and Harmonia

# I Will Rejoice

Habakkuk 3:17-18

Douglas Byler (ASCAP)

andante  $\text{♩} = 92$

*p*

Soprano  
Though the fig tree may not blos-som, Nor fruit be on the vines;

Alto  
Though the fig tree may not blos-som, Nor fruit be on the vines;

Tenor  
Though the la - bor of the

Bass  
Though the la - bor of the

6

S  
And the fields yield no food; *p* Though the fig tree may not

A  
And the fields yield no food; *p* Though the fig tree may not

T  
o - live may fail, And the fields yield no food; *pp* Though the fig tree

B  
o - live may fail, And the fields yield no food; *pp* Though the fig tree

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## I Will Rejoice

12

S *mp*  
 blos-som, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the la - bor of the

A *mp*  
 blos-som, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the la - bor of the

T *mp*  
 8 — may not blos - som, — nor fruit by on the vines, Though the la - bor of the o - live may fail,

B *mp*  
 — may not blos - som, — nor fruit by on the vines, Though the la - bor of the o - live may fail, —

18

S *mf*  
 o - live may fail, And the fields yield no food. Though the flock may be cut

A *mf*  
 o - live may fail, And the fields yield no food. Though the flock may be cut

T *mf*  
 8 — And the fields — yield no — food; — Though the flock may be cut

B *mf*  
 — And the fields — yield no — food; — Though the flock may be cut

24

S *mp*  
 off from the fold — from the fold — and there be no herd in the stalls and there

A *mp*  
 off from the fold — from the fold — and there be no herd in the

T *mp*  
 8 off from the fold, from the fold —

B *p*  
 off from the fold from the fold, the fold. — and there

# I Will Rejoice

allegro

3

30

S *p* be no herd in the stalls and there be no herd in the stalls. Yet I will re -

A *p* stalls, and there be no herd in the stalls, *pp* no herd in the stalls,

T *p* and there be no herd in the stalls,

B *p* be no herd in the stalls and there be no herd in the stalls,

Tamb. *pp*

36

S joy in the Lord I will joy in the God of my sal - va - tion. Yet *mp*

A *pp* I will re-joyce yet I will re-joyce joy in the God of my sal-va-tion,

T *pp* I will re-joyce yet I will re-joyce joy in the God of my sal-va-tion,

B *pp* joy in the God of my sal-va-tion,

Tamb. *pp*

# I Will Rejoice

4

43

S I will re - joice in the Lord I will joy in the God of my sal -

A *subito p* I will re-joice in the Lord yet I will re-joice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my sal-va - tion,

T *subito p* I will re-joice in the Lord yet I will re-joice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my sal-va - tion,

B *subito p* I will re-joice in the Lord yet I will re-joice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my sal-va - tion,

Tamb. *mp* I will re-joice in the Lord yet I will re-joice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my sal-va - tion,

49

S *mf* va - tion. Yet I will re - joice in the Lord

A *mf* Joy in the God of my sal-va - tion, I will re-joice yet I will re-joice in the Lord Yet I will re joice in the

T *mf* Joy in the God of my sal-va - tion, I will re-joice yet I will re-joice in the Lord Yet I will re joice in the

B *mf* Joy in the God of my sal-va - tion, I will re-joice in the Lord, yet I will re-joice in the Lord, I will

Tamb. *mf* Joy in the God of my sal-va - tion, I will re-joice in the Lord, yet I will re-joice in the Lord, I will

55

S I will joy in the God of my sal - va - tion. Yet I will re - joice in the

A Lord, I will joy in the God of my sal - va - tion my sal-va - tion, I will re-joice yet I will re-joice in the

T Lord, I will joy in the God of my sal - va - tion my sal-va - tion, I will re-joice yet I will re-joice in the

B joy in the God of my sal - va - tion, joy in the God of my sal-va - tion I will re-joice in the Lord, Yet

Tamb. *f* joy in the God of my sal - va - tion, joy in the God of my sal-va - tion I will re-joice in the Lord, Yet

# I Will Rejoice

61 *rit.*

S Lord I will joy in the God of my sal - va - tion.

A Lord, yet I will re-joyce in the Lord I will joy in the God of my sal - va - tion

T Lord, yet I will re-joyce in the Lord I will joy the God of my sal - va - tion

B I will re-joyce in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my sal - va - tion, joy in the God of

Tamb.

66 *andante* ♩ = 92 *p*

S Though the fig tree may not blos - som, Nor fruit be on the vines; Yet

A Though the fig tree may not blos - som, Nor fruit be on the vines; Yet

T *pp* Though the fig tree may not blos - som, Nor fruit be on the vines; Yet

B *mm pp* Yet

Tamb. *mp* *n.*

72 *allegro* *molto* *ff*

S I will re - joice in the Lord re - joice in the Lord Re - joice in the

A *p* I will re - joice in the, I will re-joyce in the Lord, I will re-joyce in the Lord,

T *p* I will re - joice in the, I will re-joyce in the Lord, I will re-joyce in the Lord,

B *p* I will re - joice in the, I will re-joyce in the Lord, I will re-joyce in the Lord,

Tamb. *pp* *f*

# I Will Rejoice

78

S *mp*  
Lord \_\_\_\_\_ re - joice in the Lord, \_\_\_\_\_

A *pp*  
I will re-joyce in the Lord, I will re-joyce Yet I will re-joyce yet I will re-joyce yet

T *pp*  
I will re-joyce in the Lord, Yet I will re-joyce yet I will re-joyce yet

B *pp*  
I will re-joyce in the Lord, I will re-joyce Yet I will re-joyce yet I will re-joyce yet

Tamb. *pp*

83

S *f* *rit.* *mf* *a tempo*  
In the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord!

A *f* *ff* *mf*  
I will re-joyce I will re-joyce yet I will re-joyce in the I will re-joyce in the Lord! \_\_\_\_\_

T *f* *ff* *mf*  
I will re-joyce I will re-joyce yet I will re-joyce in the I will re-joyce in the Lord! \_\_\_\_\_

B *f* *ff* *mf*  
I will re-joyce I will re-joyce yet I will re-joyce in the Lord! \_\_\_\_\_

Tamb. *f*