

My Friends, Life Is Short

An optional text is provided, replacing the Trinitarian Benediction to allow performance in a secular setting.

**My friends, life is short and there is little time to gladden the hearts
of those who go this journey with us.
So be quick to love and make haste to be kind.**

(Henri F. Amiel)

**And may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
be with you and those whom you love, this day and forever. Amen.**

or

**And may the sun and the moon above you gently lay their light upon you,
And may whisp'ring starlight comfort you and guide you and those whom you love,
this day and forever.**

Translation and additional texts by Kinley Lange

Commissioned by the Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Kentucky
in love and appreciation of pastor Lee W. Bowman, honoring her 20th ordination anniversary,
November 13, 2008.

My Friends, Life Is Short

Henri F. Amiel

SATB a capella

Kinley Lange

with additional texts by KL

First system of the musical score. It consists of four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 68, and the dynamic is *mf*. The music is in 3/4 time. The lyrics for the vocal parts are: "My friends, my friends, life, life,". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a more rhythmic bass line in the left hand.

Second system of the musical score, starting at measure 6. It continues with the four vocal staves and piano accompaniment. The lyrics for the vocal parts are: "life is short. Life, life, life is short. My friends, my friends, life is short. My friends, my friends, life is short. My". The piano accompaniment continues with the same melodic and rhythmic patterns as the first system.

12 *accel. crescendo* *rit. f* *a tempo*
My friends, my friends, my friends, life, life,
12 *accel. crescendo* *rit. f* *a tempo*
My friends, my friends, my friends, life, life,
12 *crescendo f*
8 friends, my friends, my friends, my friends, life,
12 *crescendo f*
friends, my friends, my friends, my friends, life,
12 *accel. rit. f* *a tempo*
12 *crescendo f*
12 *accel. rit. f* *a tempo*
12 *crescendo f*

18 *mf*
life is short. Life, life, life is short, and there is
18 *mf*
life is short. Life, life, life is short, and there is
18 *mf*
8 life is short, my friends, life is short. and there is
18 *mf*
life is short, my friends, life is short. and there is
18 *mf*
18 *mf*

4
24

div. *unis.*

lit-tle time, so lit-tle time to glad-den the hearts, to glad - den the hearts of those who go, who

lit-tle time, _____ to glad - den the hearts, to glad-den the hearts of those who

lit - tle time, to _____ glad - den the hearts, glad - den the hearts of those who go, who

lit - tle time to glad - den the hearts, glad - den the hearts of those who

29

mp

go this jour-ney with us. _____ My friends, my friends, _____

jour - ney with us. _____ My friends, my friends, _____

go this jour-ney with us. _____ My friends, my friends, life, _____

jour - ney with us. _____ My friends, my friends, life,

mp

35 *Faster* *mf*

So be quick to love,— so be quick to love and make

35 *mf*

So— be quick to love,— so be quick to love and make

35 *mf*

life,— life is short. So be quick to love,

35 *mf*

life, life is short. So be quick to love,

35 *Faster*

40

haste to be kind, make haste to be kind. Quick to love, quick to love make

40

haste to be kind, make haste to be kind. Quick to love, quick to love quick to

40

and make haste to be kind, quick to love quick to love quick to love make

40

and make haste to be kind, Quick to love, so be quick to

40

45 *crescendo* *rit.*

haste, make haste to be kind, — make haste, — and be quick — to —

45 *crescendo*

love and make haste to be kind, — make haste, and be quick — to

45 *crescendo*

8 haste make haste make haste to be kind, — be quick to love. to

45 *crescendo*

love make haste make haste make haste, be quick to

45 *crescendo* *rit.*

50 *f* *a tempo*

love — And may the bles - ing of the God — al - might - y,

50 *f*

And may the sun and the moon — a - bove you

50 *f*

love. — And may the bles - ing of the God moon of God al-might - y,

50 *f*

And may the sun and the moon — a - bove you

50 *f*

love. — And may the bles - ing and of the God — al - might - y,

50 *f*

And may the sun and the moon a - bove you

50 *a tempo*

55 *mp*

Fath-er, Son and Ho-ly Spi-rit Fath-er, Son and Ho-ly Spi-rit be with you be
 gent-ly lay their light up-on you, gent-ly lay their light up-on you and guide you, and

55 *mp*

Fath-er, Son and Ho-ly Spi-rit be with you be
 gent-ly lay their light up-on you, and guide you, and

55 *mp*

Fath-er, Son and Ho-ly Spi-rit be with you
 gent-ly lay their light up-on you, guide you,

55 *mp*

Fath-er, Son and Ho-ly Spi-rit be with you
 gent-ly lay their light up-on you, guide you,

55 *mp*

Fath-er, Son and Ho-ly Spi-rit be with you
 gent-ly lay their light up-on you, guide you,

60 *rit.* *Tempo primo*

with you and those whom you love. with you with you and
 guide you, and those whom you love. guide you, guide you and

60 *rit.*

with you and those whom you love. with you with you
 guide you, and those whom you love. guide you, guide you

60

those guide you love. be with you and
 guide you *rit.* guide and guide you, and

60

those guide you love. be with you and
 guide you *rit.* guide and guide you, guide and

60 *rit.* *Tempo primo*

65 *f* *div.* *unis.* *div.* *ten.*

those whom you love. And may the Ho - ly Spi - rit be with you the Ho - ly Spi - rit
 those whom you love. And may a whis-p'ring star - light com - fort you, a whis-p'ring star - light *ten.*

65 those you love. And may the Ho - ly Spi - rit be with you Ho - ly Spi - rit
 those you love. And may a whis-p'ring star - light com - fort you, whis-p'ring star - light *ten.*

65 those you love. And may the Ho - - - ly Spi - rit be with
 those you love. And may a whis - - - p'ring star - rit light com - - - fort *ten.*

65 those you love. And may the Ho - - - ly Spi - rit be with
 those you love. And may a whis - - - p'ring star - rit light com - - - fort *ten.*

70 *unis.* *mp* *rit.*

be with you and those you love this day and for - e - ver. A -
 com - fort you and those you love this day and for - e - ver. My

70 be with you and those you love for - e - ver. A -
 com - fort you and those you love for - e - ver. My

70 you and those you love this day and for - e - ver.
 you, and those you love this day and for - e - ver.

70 you and those you love for - e - ver.
 you, and those you love for - e - ver.

75 men, a - men, a - - - - - men.
friends, my friends, my *div.* friends.

75 men, a - men, a - - - - - men.
friends, my friends, my friends.

75 A - men, a - men, a - - - - - men.
My friends, my friends, my friends.

75 A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men.
My friends, my friends, my friends, my friends.

The musical score is written in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It features four vocal parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, along with a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "men, friends, a - men, my friends, a - men, friends." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *div.* (diviso). The page number 9 is located in the top right corner.