

**Surely He Has Borne Our Grievs**—This poignant prophetic text from Isaiah 53 begins with the question, “Who has believed what we have heard, and to whom has the Lord been revealed?” The soloist then goes on to describe our Lord as a young plant, a root growing out of dry ground—Man of sorrows known to grief. It is important that the soloist allow the gravity of the words themselves to communicate, rather than add too much stylistic nuance, which might detract from Isaiah’s poetic message.

A steady tempo at m. 22 prepares the choir for their first entrance at m. 23 with the signature words of this passage, “Surely He has borne our griefs . . .” The same applies in not over dramatizing the musical phrase, but allowing it to poignantly express the message, and continuing to the ending phrase, “by His wounds we are now made whole.”

The contrasting middle section at m. 41 is set in a gentler tone and modality, confessing that we have all, like sheep, gone astray. Leading with a crescendo and modulation to the reprise at m. 51, the choir and accompanist may add more dynamic force to this now familiar phrase and melody, continuing to the final statement “by His wounds we are now made whole.”

**John Purifoy** is an ASCAP composer of choral, orchestral, piano, and solo works. His compositions have been performed and recorded by actress/singer Carol Lawrence, the Anita Kerr Singers, UCLA Concert Choir, the Northwest Choral Society of Chicago, Georgetown University Concert Choir, Emory University Choirs, and other artists and performing groups around the world. He received a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the University of Arkansas and completed graduate study in music theory at the University of Texas. “Chronicles of Blue and Gray,” composed for chorus and orchestra and commissioned by the Knoxville Choral Society, was premiered in 2012 to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War. It received a New York Premiere at Carnegie Hall on June 8, 2014 by Distinguished Concerts International New York. His patriotic oratorio, “We Hold These Truths,” narrated by author Alex Haley, won the 1989 Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge award for musical programs, and he is a multi-recipient of the ASCAP Standard Award. Mr. Purifoy lives in Knoxville, Tennessee, with his wife, Vicki.

# SURELY HE HAS BORNE OUR GRIEFS

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied\*

Words based on  
ISAIAH 53

Music by  
JOHN PURIFOY (ASCAP)

Freely (♩ = ca. 108)

ACCOMP.

*mp*

with pedal

5 BARITONE SOLO

*mf*

Who has be- lieved what we have heard, and to whom has the Lord been re -

8

vealed? He grew up be- fore him like a young plant, like a

\* To purchase a full-length performance recording (42959) of this piece, go to [alfred.com/downloads](http://alfred.com/downloads).

© 1993 NEW SPRING PUBLISHING, INC.  
All Rights Administered at [CapitolCMGPublishing.com](http://CapitolCMGPublishing.com)  
This Arrangement © 2015 NEW SPRING PUBLISHING, INC.  
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

SOLE SELLING AGENT FOR THIS ARRANGEMENT: ALFRED MUSIC.

THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

42959

11

13

*smoother*

root grow-ing out of dry ground. He had no form or

14

beau - ty that we should wish to look at Him. He was de -

17

spis - ed and re - ject - ed a Man of Sor - rows

20

**In tempo** (♩ = ca. 108)

known to grief.

**In tempo** (♩ = ca. 108)

23 SOPRANO / ALTO

*mf*

Musical staff for Soprano/Alto, measures 23-25. The staff contains a melodic line with lyrics: "Sure-ly He has borne our griefs and car - ried with Him our".

Sure-ly He has borne our griefs and car - ried with Him our

TENOR / BASS

*mf*

Musical staff for Tenor/Bass, measures 23-25. The staff contains a melodic line with lyrics: "Sure-ly He has borne our griefs and car - ried with Him our".

Piano accompaniment, measures 23-25. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

26

Musical staff for Soprano/Alto, measures 26-28. The staff contains a melodic line with lyrics: "sor - rows; Yet we did es - teem Him".

sor - rows; Yet we did es - teem Him

Musical staff for Tenor/Bass, measures 26-28. The staff contains a melodic line with lyrics: "sor - rows; Yet we did es - teem Him".

Piano accompaniment, measures 26-28. The piano part continues with a steady accompaniment and harmonic support.

28

Musical staff for Soprano/Alto, measures 28-30. The staff contains a melodic line with lyrics: "strick - en e - ven smit - ten by God and af -".

strick - en e - ven smit - ten by God and af -

Musical staff for Tenor/Bass, measures 28-30. The staff contains a melodic line with lyrics: "strick - en e - ven smit - ten by God and af -".

Piano accompaniment, measures 28-30. The piano part concludes the section with sustained chords and a final cadence.

30 31

flict - ed. Sure - ly He has borne our

32

griefs— He was wound - ed for our trans -

34

gres - sions; He was bruised for our in -

36

iq - ui - ties— With His stripes we are healed, by His

38

wounds we are now made whole.

41

*mp* All we like sheep have gone a - stray, we have

43

turned ev - 'ry one \_\_\_\_\_ to his own way. And the

45

*mf* Lord has laid on Him \_\_\_\_\_ the in -

47

iq - ui-ty. the in - iq - ui-ty of us all. \_\_\_\_\_

50 *poco rit.* 51 *f* broader

Sure-ly He has borne our griefs and \_

*f* broader

*poco rit.* *f* broader

53

car - ried with Him our sor - rows; Yet we did es-teem Him

56

strick - en, e - ven smit - ten by God and af - flict - ed.





65

stripes we are healed, by His wounds we are now made

67

whole. \_\_\_\_\_ With His stripes we are healed, by His

70

wounds we are now made whole. \_\_\_\_\_

*rall.* *rit.*

*rall.* *rit.* *loco*

