

Lux Ezra Onigman

# A Welcome Thought

*for SATB a cappella or with piano*

Commissioned by the UUCWC Crossing Chorale

December 2021

# Program Notes

A Welcome Thought was commissioned by the UUCWC Crossing Chorale in honor of Caryl Tipton, their inspirational musical director of 30 years.

As a piece of music for a wonderfully inclusive spiritual community, I wanted to create an easily singable theme that everyone in the community could connect with. The Unitarian Universalist principles are wonderful ideals — however, the wording was a bit difficult to work with, so I adapted the concepts to language that's easier to understand and give a musical flow.

The main theme I kept coming back to, "You deserve to be loved," was partially inspired by the First Principle's affirmation of everyone's worth and dignity, and partially as the affirmation that I, and so many of my friends, knew we needed for ourselves and each other throughout the struggles of social isolation brought on by the pandemic. That was my Welcome Thought and my reminder to keep on pushing through.

## Text

You deserve to be loved.  
You deserve to be loved.  
You deserve acceptance and equity,  
And we will accept you and carry on our legacy  
Of finding our own truth and meaning,  
Of singing out and also hearing  
The voices fighting for justice in our interconnected world.  
You are the voices fighting for justice  
And we thank you for all you've done.  
We are the voices fighting for justice,  
And a new song has just begun  
To remind you that you deserve to be loved.  
You deserve to be loved.

## Performance Notes

This piece is intended to be performed a cappella, but the piano part is there as a rehearsal guide and can work in the performance as well.

The audience is encouraged to join the repeating alto theme at measure 75 for an extra bit of connection with the community; the theme continues until measure 99.

Feel free to really get in the groove and repeat measures 95-98 for as long as feels right to you!

- Lux

# A Welcome Thought

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## Allegretto

♩ = 120 warmly

*mp*

Soprano  
You\_ de - serve to be loved.

Alto  
*mp*  
You\_ de - serve to be loved.

Tenor

Bass

Piano  
*mp*

9

S.  
You\_ de - serve to be loved. *mf* You\_ de - serve to be

A.  
You\_ de - serve to be loved. *mf* You\_ de - serve to be

T.  
*mf* You de - serve to be, You\_ de - serve to be

B.  
*mf* You de - serve to be loved, to be

Pno.  
*mf*

15

S. loved. Oh, You de - serve to be loved. \_\_\_\_\_

A. loved. You\_ de - serve to be loved. You\_ de -

T. loved. Oh, You de - serve to be loved. You de -

B. loved. You\_ de - serve to be loved. You\_ de -

Pno.

22

S. You de - serve to be loved. You de - serve to be

A. serve to be loved. You\_ de - serve to be loved.

T. serve to be loved. You de - serve to be

B. serve to be loved. You de - serve to be loved.

Pno.

28

S. *f* loved. You de - serve to be loved.

A. *f* You de - serve to be loved.

T. *f* loved. You de - serve to be loved. *mf* You de - serve ac -

B. *f* You de - serve to be loved. *mf* You de - serve ac -

Pno. *f* *mf*

35

S. *mp* And we will ac - cept you

A. *mp* And we will ac - cept you and

T. *mp* cept - ance and e - quit - y, And we will ac - cept you

B. *mp* cept - ance and e - quit - y, ac - cept you and

Pno. *mp*

39

S. Of find - ing our own truth and

A. carr - y on our leg - a - cy

T. Of find - ing our own truth and

B. carr - y on our leg - a - cy

Pno. *cresc.*

43

S. *f* mean - ing, and mean - ing, Of sing - ing out and al - so hear - ing

A. *f* mean - ing, Of sing - ing out and al - so hear - ing

T. *f* mean - ing, Of sing - ing out hear - ing The

B. *f* mean - ing, Of sing - ing out hear - ing The

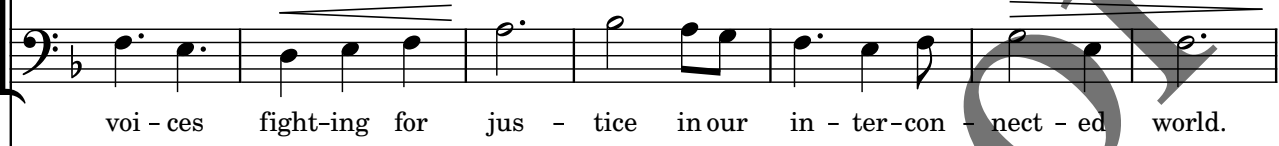
Pno. *f*

49

S. 

A. 

T.   
8 voi - ces fight-ing for jus - tice in our in - ter-con - nect - ed world.

B.   
8 voi - ces fight-ing for jus - tice in our in - ter-con - nect - ed world.

Pno. 

56

S.   
8 You are the voi - ces fight - ing for jus - tice And we

A.   
8 You are the voi - ces fight - ing for jus - tice And we

T. 

B. 

Pno. 

*rubato*

61

S. thank you for all you've done. We are the voi - ces

A. thank you for all you've done. We are the voi - ces

T. thank you for all you've done. We are the voi - ces

B. thank you for all you've done. We are the voi - ces

Pno.

66

S. fight-ing for jus - tice, And a new song has just be - gun

A. fight-ing for jus - tice, And a new song has just be - gun

T. fight-ing for jus - tice, And a new song has just be - gun

B. fight-ing for jus - tice, And a new song has just be - gun

Pno.



72 *p* *a tempo* *mp*

S. Oo\_\_\_\_\_ You\_ de - serve to be loved.

A. *p* *mp* audience may join alto part

T. *p* Oo\_\_\_\_\_ You\_ de - serve to be loved.

8 To\_ re - mind you that\_ you

B. *p* To\_ re - mind you\_\_\_\_\_

Pno. *p* *a tempo* *mp*

79 *mf*

S. You\_ de - serve to be loved. You\_ de - serve to be

A. You\_ de - serve to be loved. You\_ de - serve to be

T. *mf* You de - serve to be, You\_ de - serve to be

B. *mf* You de - serve to be loved, to be

Pno. *mf*

85

S. loved. Oh, You de - serve to be

A. loved. You de - serve to be loved.

T. loved. Oh, You de - serve to be

B. loved. You de - serve to be loved.

Pno.

90

S. loved. You de - serve to be loved.

A. You de - serve to be loved.

T. loved. You de - serve to be loved.

B. You de - serve to be loved. You de -

Pno.

95 repeat ad lib.

S. You de - serve to be loved.

A. You\_ de - serve to be loved. You de -

T. You de - serve to be loved. You de - serve,

B. serve to be loved. You de - serve,

Pno.

101

S. You de - serve, ah, *rubato* *f* You\_ de - serve to be loved.

A. serve, You, You, ah, *f* You\_ de - serve to be loved.

T. You, You, ah, *f* You\_ de - serve to be loved.

B. You, ah *f* You\_ de - serve to be loved.

Pno. *rubato* *f*