I Sing Because I'm Happy

Words by CIVILLA D. MARTIN
Music by CHARLES H. GABRIEL
Arranged by KENNETH PADEN
Adapted by ROLLO DILWORTH

The Music of Rollo Dilworth

Y-371 I Sing Because I'm Happy
Property of the Indianapolis Children's Choir
PERFORMANCE NOTES

This gospel-style interpretation of the hymn, “His Eye Is on the Sparrow,” was originally performed and recorded by the Georgia Mass Choir. In an effort to make Kenneth Paden’s arrangement accessible for my own ensemble at the time, I lowered the original key by a whole step, eliminated the solo verses, and added a vocal part for bass voices.

All vocal lines and accompaniment should be performed with a rhythmic and percussive bounce. Each vocal part (beginning at the “A” section in meas. 4) should have its own unique quality and timbre. The call and response vocal sequence should culminate in a strong and powerful united statement in meas. 9-11.

The same kind of composition structure exists in the “B” section (meas. 21-38). Meas. 39 marks the beginning of the “Special Chorus.” Meas. 43-46 should be sung a total of six times with the following variations:

- First time – tutti
- Second time – soprano part only
- Third time – alto part only
- Fourth time – tenor part only
- Fifth time – bass part only
- Sixth time – tutti (accompaniment optional)

The conductor may certainly create his/her own vocal roadmap for meas. 43-46, if desired.

I hope you enjoy this adaptation of “I Sing Because I’m Happy.”

- Rollo Dilworth
I Sing Because I'm Happy

Words by CIVILLA D. MARTIN (1866-1948)
Music by CHARLES H. GABRIEL (1856-1932)
Arranged by KENNETH PADEN
Adapted by ROLLO DILWORTH

Duration: ca. 3:30

With a rhythmic bounce ($ = \text{ca. 112}$)

Piano

Drum ad lib. throughout

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

1 sing be-cause I'm free.

1 sing be-cause I'm hap - py.

His eye is on the spar - row, and I know

Marked and slightly detached throughout.

**Option: Bass guitar may double piano bass (bottom notes) throughout.
He watches me.

Alto only

I sing because I'm free.

Soprano only

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

I SING BECAUSE I'M HAPPY – SATB
I sing, because I'm happy.

Oh yes, I sing.
I SING BECAUSE I'M HAPPY – SATB
I'm so happy, yes, I am!

I'm so happy, yes!

I'm so happy, yes!

Repeat 5 times

I am!

I'm so happy, yes!

I SING BECAUSE I'M HAPPY – SATB
I'm so happy, yes I am! For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know...