

Christ Calls Man Home for unaccompanied voices

Processional, Anthem and Recessional

For two soprano soli and choir divided into three equal SATB groups. The solo sopranos are drawn from the choir.

This choral piece was commissioned by the Cheltenham Festival in 1981, for the opening Festival Service. The choirs processed up through the church to begin the service, during it sang the Anthem from the choir stalls, and sang the recessional as they went down the nave at the end. If the choir is large, the anthem should only be sung by a smaller group – ‘choir 1’.

The words are anonymous mediaeval texts. The opening and closing words ‘Come home again..’ are the same. The anthem sets a separate text:

O mankind
Have in thy heart
My passion smart
And thou shalt find
Me full kind
Lo, here my heart.

If all three parts are performed, the duration is around 14 minutes.

NL