

In Christ There Is No East Or West

(ST-AB voices, organ)

William Arthur Dunkerley (1852-1941)

(a.k.a. John Oxenham)*

Paul F. Page

ASCAP

Adagio (♩ = c. 76)

ST
AB

This piece can be performed in many ways:
solo vocal; two equal parts (SA or TB);
TB/SA (with SA taking lower voice); or
ST/AB (dividing the voices according to
vocal comfort

- | | | |
|---------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1. In | Christ _____ | there is no |
| 2. In | him _____ | shall true hearts |
| 3. Join | hands _____ | then all who |
| 4. In | Christ _____ | now meet both |

Adagio (♩ = c. 76)

organ

6

- | | | | | | |
|----------|--------|---------------|-------------|------|-------|
| 1. east | or | west. _____ | In _____ | him | no |
| 2. e | - v'ry | - where _____ | their _____ | high | com - |
| 3. share | this | faith, _____ | what - | e'er | your |
| 4. east | and | west. _____ | In _____ | him | meet |

6

This piece was written in the Fall of 1967 at St. Patrick's Seminary and University in Menlo Park, CA. It is one of my earliest compositions, revisited this morning some 45 years hence. It was performed several times and has lain fallow all of this time. The text is a surprisingly expansive one, laying out the whole world as the dominion of Christ while recognizing the diversity among humans who are spread out to every corner of that world. I must have felt then, as I do now, that the unencumbered text calls for absolute simplicity in its declaration. Ergo, a quiet and serene vocal rendition can bring this text to life in a surprisingly poignant manner. There is absolutely no need for further embellishment.

—19 November 2012

In Christ There Is No East Or West

10

1. south or north, but one great fel-low-ship of
 2. mun-ion find. His ser-vice is the gold-en
 3. race may be. Who serves my Fa-ther as a
 4. south and north. All Christ-ly souls are one in

10

10

15

1. love through-out the whole wide earth.
 2. cord close-bind-ing all man-kind.
 3. son is sure-ly kin to me.
 4. him through-out the whole wide earth.

15

15

October 1967

William Arthur Dunkerley

In 1908, the London Missionary Society commissioned John Oxenham to write the script for a giant missionary display. Oxenham (a pen name) is an interesting character. Born in Manchester, England, he took the name John Oxenham from a character in the novel *Westward Ho!* But many people in London knew him as Bill Dunkerley, owner of a successful grocery business.

William Arthur Dunkerley had a gift for writing, and he did a lot of it. Under the name Julian Ross, he created serialized stories for the newspaper. He wrote more than forty novels, many volumes of verse, and a number of hymns. He was also an active layman in his church. During the First World War, his *Hymns for the Men at the Front* sold eight million copies.

It is estimated that over a quarter of a million people viewed that Missionary Society exhibit over a number of years. As part of it, Oxenham had supplied a hymn poem emphasizing the oneness and cooperation of the church of Christ across the world. The title of Oxenham's hymn is *In Christ there is no East or West*. I. The biblical reference is to St. Paul's letter to the Romans 12:5: "We, being many, are one body in Christ" Though many things may divide us, His blood-bought children always have a spiritual kinship in Christ.