

The Iron Rod

Joseph L. Townsend

for SATB Choir and Piano
dedicated to the BYU Concert Choir
Rosalind Hall, conductor

William Clayson
arr. Christopher J. Madsen

Constant ♩ = 80

p

To Ne-phi, seer of ol-den time, A vi-sion came from

God, Where in the ho-ly word sub-lime Was shown an i-ron rod. *mp* Hold to the rod, the

i-ron rod; 'Tis strong, and bright, and true. The i-ron rod is the word of God; 'Twill

safe-ly guide us through.

While

30

on our jour-ney here be - low, Be - neath temp-ta - tion's pow'r, Through mists of dark-ness we must

35

go, In per-il ev - 'ry hour.

And when temp-ta - tion's pow'r is nigh, Our

41

path-way clou-ded o'er, U - pon the rod we can re - ly And hea-ven's aid im - plore.

47

Hold to the rod, the i - ron rod; 'Tis strong and bright and true. The i - ron rod is the

52

word of — God; 'Twill safe - ly — guide us through. And, hand o'er hand, the rod a - long, Through

57

each suc-ceed - ing day, With ear - nest prayer and hope - ful song, We'll still pur - sue our way.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 57 through 62. The music is in a major key with three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The vocal line begins with the lyrics 'each suc-ceed - ing day, With ear - nest prayer and hope - ful song, We'll still pur - sue our way.' The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

63

p A - far we see the gol - den rest To

Rest

Detailed description: This system contains measures 63 through 68. The key signature changes to a major key with two sharps (D#, A#). The vocal line starts with 'A - far we see the gol - den rest To'. A piano dynamic marking '*p*' is present. The piano accompaniment includes a section of sixteenth-note arpeggios in the right hand. A 'Rest' marking is placed below the piano part at the end of the system.

69

which the rod will guide, *mp* here with the an - gels bright and blest *mf* For -

Guide Blest

Detailed description: This system contains measures 69 through 74. The key signature changes to a major key with one sharp (F#). The vocal line continues with 'which the rod will guide, *mp* here with the an - gels bright and blest *mf* For -'. Dynamic markings '*mp*' and '*mf*' are used. The piano accompaniment features a consistent eighth-note bass line. The words 'Guide' and 'Blest' are written below the piano part.

75

ev - er we'll a - bide. *f* Hold to the rod, the i - ron rod; 'Tis

Hold to the rod; Hold to the rod;

Detailed description: This system contains measures 75 through 80. The key signature changes to a major key with no sharps or flats. The vocal line begins with 'ev - er we'll a - bide.' followed by 'Hold to the rod, the i - ron rod; 'Tis'. A forte dynamic marking '*f*' is present. The piano accompaniment includes a section of sixteenth-note arpeggios. The words 'Hold to the rod;' are written below the piano part at the end of the system.

The Iron Rod

80

strong, and bright, and true. The i - ron rod is the word of - God; 'Twill safe - ly - guide us

85

through. *f* The i - ron rod will guide us - through: Our

91

Christ: the Word of *ff* God!

rit. *a tempo* *rit.*