

OCP Choral Series

God Is Love

for my parents, Frand and Josephine Schiavone, on their 50th wedding anniversary,
1943–October 10–1993

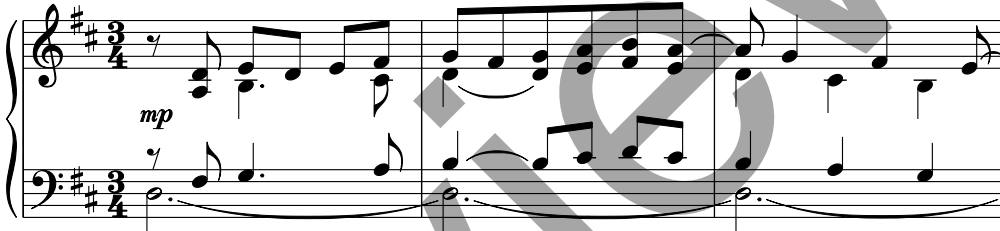
SATB Choir and Keyboard

Based on 1 John 4:16b

John Schiavone

INTRO: *Andante grazioso* (♩ = 63-66)

Keyboard




Soprano *mp*
God is

Alto *mp*
God is

Tenor *mp*
God is

Bass *mp*
God is



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love.
love.
love.
love.

mf God is love.
mf God is love.
mf God is love.
mf God is love.

God is love, God is
God, God is love,
God is love, God is
God is love, is

This system contains the first four staves of the musical score. The top four staves are vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and the bottom two are piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "God is love, God is / God, God is love, / God is love, God is / God is love, is".

love, God is love, God is
God is love, God is love, God is
love, God is love, God is
love, is love, God is

This system contains the next four staves of the musical score. The lyrics are: "love, God is love, God is / God is love, God is love, God is / love, God is love, God is / love, is love, God is".

mp love,
mp love,
mp love,
mp love,

cresc. poco a poco and those who a-
cresc. poco a poco and those who a-bide, who a-bide in love, in
cresc. poco a poco and those who a-bide in love, a -
cresc. poco a poco and those

bide, who a-bide in love, and those who a-bide, —
love, who a-bide in love, and those who a - bide, —
bide _____ in love, and those, and those who a -
— who a-bide in love, and those who a - bide in love, —

This system contains the first four staves of the musical score. The first three staves are vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) and the fourth is the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "bide, who a-bide in love, and those who a-bide, — love, who a-bide in love, and those who a - bide, — bide _____ in love, and those, and those who a - — who a-bide in love, and those who a - bide in love, —".

— who a-bide _____ in love a - bide in God, and God in
— a - bide in love a - bide in God, and God in
bide _____ in love a - bide in God, and God in
_____ in love a - bide in God, and God in

This system contains the next four staves of the musical score. The first three staves are vocal parts and the fourth is the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "— who a-bide _____ in love a - bide in God, and God in — a - bide in love a - bide in God, and God in bide _____ in love a - bide in God, and God in _____ in love a - bide in God, and God in". The piano part includes a dynamic marking of *f* (forte).

them, a - bide in God, and God in them, a - bide in
them, a - bide in God, and God in them, a - bide in _
them, a - bide in God, and God in them, a - bide in
them, a - bide in God, and God in them, a - bide in _

The first system of the musical score consists of four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "them, a - bide in God, and God in them, a - bide in". The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

God, a - bide in God, and God a -
God, a - bide in _ God, and God _ a -
God, a - bide in God, and God a -
God, a - bide in _ God, and God a -

The second system continues the vocal parts and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "God, a - bide in God, and God a -". The piano accompaniment includes a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic marking. The system concludes with a key signature change to one sharp (F#).

rall.
bides in them.

rall.
bides in them.

rall.
bides in them.

rall.
bides in them.

rall. *a tempo*

rall.

Performance Notes

This choral anthem *God Is Love*, which was written for and first performed at my parents' 50th wedding anniversary celebration, is suitable for many different occasions: weddings, anniversaries, ordinations, religious professions, Easter Season, Sacred Heart.

The text expresses and hopefully the music illuminates the centrality of sacrificial love in the inner life of the triune God and in the community of believers who live out the graced life of faith.

—J.S.