

# Triptych on Lord, Keep Us Steadfast

Walter L. Pelz

Based on *ERHALT UNS, HERR*  
from J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

## I

Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;  
Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would wrest the kingdom from your Son  
And bring to nought all he has done.

Gt: Solo Stop

Sw: Soft 8', 4'

Ped: Soft 16', 8' (Sw. to Ped.)

With steady motion (♩ = 76-80)

NOTE: This piece may be performed as a suite; as prelude, offertory, and postlude for a worship service; or with each movement as a prelude or intonation for a stanza of the hymn.

## II

Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,  
 For you are Lord of lords alone;  
 Defend your holy Church that we  
 May sing your praise triumphantly.

Gt: Full, Sw. to Gt.

Sw: Full

Ped: Full

With pomp and majesty (♩ = 58-62)

*Gt. ff*

*rit.*

Stately (♩ = 72)

*piu f*

# III

O Comforter of priceless worth,  
Send peace and unity on earth;  
Support us in our final strife  
And lead us out of death to life.

Gt: Flute 8'  
Sw: Strings  
Ped: Flute 2', Tremolo

Expressively tranquil (♩ = 52)

Musical score for measures 1-4. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass staff. The grand staff contains the main melodic and harmonic material. The first staff of the grand staff is marked with 'Sw.' and 'p'. The second staff is marked with 'Gt.' and 'Sw. pp'. A crescendo hairpin is shown between the first and second staves. The music begins with a piano introduction in the grand staff, followed by a melodic line in the second staff.

Musical score for measures 5-8. This system continues the piece with more complex rhythmic patterns in the grand staff. The bass staff has a 'p' dynamic marking. The music is characterized by flowing eighth and sixteenth notes in the upper voices.

Musical score for measures 9-12. This system concludes the piece with sustained chords and melodic fragments in the grand staff. The bass staff continues with a simple harmonic accompaniment.