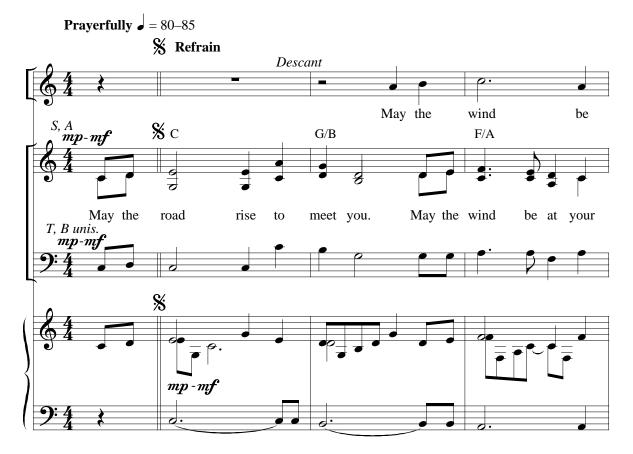
MAY THE ROAD RISE TO MEET YOU

Refrain: Trad. Irish blessing Verses: based on Ecclesiastes 3:2–8; adapt. L.T. Music: Lori True



Background and Liturgical Use: This is a communal setting of the popular Irish Blessing, intertwined with verses inspired from Ecclesiastes. This piece has several possibilities for use in liturgical and non-liturgical gatherings. The refrain could be used alone without verses as a final blessing at a variety of liturgies; and the refrain combined with verses could be used at weddings, funerals, graduations, celebrations of ministry, or any celebration where a blessing or "sending forth" is called for.

Performance: This piece deserves a careful and intentional tenderness without becoming overly sentimental. Best done with the simplest of instrumentation, the piece needs to achieve a good sense of movement without feeling rushed. When a choir is singing the refrain, it is important that a good blend is achieved so that the melody is not buried in the SAB texture. The descant would be best done by a single voice or a small group of sopranos singing lightly with little vibrato.

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