

There Is a Way

for SATB chorus

Melissa Dunphy



5 minutes
2025

Commissioned by the National Lutheran Choir

There Is a Way

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There is a way to wisdom and understanding.

There is a way which seems right,
but in the end it leads to death.
The simple believe everything,
but the prudent carefully consider their ways.
The fool is hot headed and reckless,
but the wise fear and shun evil.

Don't they go astray who plot evil?
But those who plan good find love and faithfulness.
A heart at peace gives life of the body,
but envy rots the bones.

Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker,
but those who are kind to the needy honor Him.
The wicked are brought down in their calamity.
Wisdom rests in the minds of those who have
understanding.
Righteousness exalts a nation,
but sin is a disgrace to any people.

—adapted from Proverbs 14



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There Is a Way

Melissa Dunphy

Adagio ♩=c.52

Soprano

Alto

2 soloists

Tenor

2 soloists

Bass

Reduction (Rehearsal only)

p espress.

There is a way to wis - dom and

There is a way to wis - dom and

Adagio ♩=c.52

p espress.

5

2 soloists

T.

2 soloists

2 soloists

B.

2 soloists

Red.

p espress.

un - der - stand - ing.

un - der - stand - ing.

p espress.

There is a way to wis - dom and

p espress.

There is a way to wis - dom and

A Allegro Moderato (L'istesso Tempo ♩=104)

pp

S. There is a way, there is a way, there is a way,

A. *pp* There is a way, there is a way, there is a way, there is a

T. *pp*

B. un - der - stand - - - ing.

un - der - stand - - - ing.

Red. Allegro Moderato (L'istesso Tempo ♩=104)

pp



13

p with growing energy

S. there is a way, there is a way, there is a way, there is a way to

A. *p with growing energy* way, there is a way, there is a way, there is a way, a way to

T. *tutti p with growing energy* There is a way, there is a way, there is a way, a way to

B.

Red. *p with growing energy*

17 *mp*

S. wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing. There is a way, there is a way, — there is a

A. *mp* wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing. there is a way, there is a way, a

T. *mp* wis - dom, to wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing. There is a way,

B. *with growing energy*
tutti p *mp* there is a way to wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing. There is a way, — there is a

Red. *mp*



21 **B**

S. *mf* way. There is a way, there is a way,

A. *mf* way. There is a way, there is a way, there is a

T. *mf* there is a way, there is a way. There is a way, there is a way,

B. *mf* way, there is a way. There is a way, there is a way, there is a

Red. *mf*

25

S. there is a way, a way to wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing, to

A. way, a way to wis - dom. There is a way, there is a way to

T. there is a way to wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing. There is a way, there is a

B. way, a way to wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing. there is a way, a

Red.



29

S. wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing. *mp* There is a way C

A. wis-dom. *mp* There is a way, there is a way

T. way — to un - der - stand - ing. *mp* There is a way which seems —

B. way, — a way, there is a way. *mp* There is a way which seems —

Red. *mp*

33

S. *p* Right.____ *p* There is a way. *mp* The sim-ple be-lieve____ *mp* ev - ry-thing, the

A. *p* Right.____ *p* There is a way. *mp* The sim-ple be-lieve____ *mp* ev - ry-thing, the

T. right, but in the end, it leads to death. *mp* There is a way, but the

B. right, but in the end, it leads to death. *mp* There is a way, but the

Red. *p* *p* *mp*



38

S. *f* pru-dent care-ful-ly con-sid - er their ways. *f* The fool is hot-head-ed and reck-less, *p* but the

A. *f* pru-dent care-ful-ly con-sid - er their ways. *f* The fool is reck-less, *p* but the

T. pru-dent con - sid - er their ways. *f* The fool is hot-head-ed and reck-less, *p* but the

B. pru-dent con - sid - er care - ful-ly. *f* The fool is reck - less.

Red. *f* *p*

43

S. wise— fear and shun e - vil. There is a way, there is a

A. wise fear. There is a way, There is a way, There is a way,

T. wise— fear and shun e - vil. There is a way, there is a way,

B. *p* The wise shun e - vil. There is a way, there is a way, a

Red.

47

S. way, a way to wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing._____

A. *mf* There is a way to wis - dom. There is a way, there is a way.

T. *mf* there is a way to wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing. *p* There is a way. They go as-

B. *mf* way to wis - dom and un - der - stand - ing._____

Red.

51 **D**

S. *p* Don't they go as-tray who plot e - vil? *mp* Those who plan

A. *p* Don't they go as - tray who plot e - vil? *mp* But those who plan

T. *p* tray, don't they? There is a way, there is a way, there is a way,

B. *p* Don't they go as - tray who plot e - vil? Those who plan

Red. *p* *mp*



56

S. *p* good find love and faith-ful-ness. *f* A heart at peace finds life of the

A. *p* good find love and faith-ful-ness. *f* A heart at peace finds life of the

T. *mf* find love and faith-ful-ness. *p* A heart at peace finds life,

B. good find love.

Red. *p* *f*

62

S. *p* bod - y En - vy rots the bones, en - vy rots the

A. *p* bod - y, but en - vy rots the bones, *f* en - vy rots the bones. There is a

T. *p* life of the bod - y, en - vy rots the bones.

B. *p* but en - vy rots the bones, en - vy rots the bones,

Red. *p* *f*

67

E *f*

S. bones. there is a way to wis-dom and un - der-

A. way, there is a way, there is a way there is a

T. *f* There is a way, There is a way, There is a way to wis-dom and un - der -

B. *f* There is a way, there is a way, there is a

Red.

71 *mf*

S. stand-ing. there is a way there is a way

A. *mf* way, there is a way, there is a way.

T. *mf* stand - ing. There is a way, there is a way to wis-dom and und - er-

B. *mf* way, a way to wis - dom and un - der -

Red. *mf*



75 **F** *mp*

S. Those who op-press the poor in - sult their mak - er.

A. *mp* Those who op-press the poor in - sult their mak-er. There is a way.

T. *mp* stand - ing. *mp* Those who op-press the

B. *mp* stand - ing. Ah, *mp* those who op-press the

Red. *mp*

80

S. *p* Those who op-press the poor, ——— *p* but those who are kind to the nee - dy

A. *p* Those who op-press the poor in - sult their mak - er. *pp* Ah, ———

T. *p* poor ——— in - sult ——— their mak - er, *pp* Ah, ———

B. poor, in - sult their mak - er. *pp* Ah, ———

Red. *p* ——— *p* ———



85

S. ——— hon - or Him, ———

A. ——— *p* hon - or Him. Those who are kind to the need - y hon - or

T. *p* hon - or Him. *p* Those who are kind to the need - y hon - or.

B. ——— *p* they hon - or Him mm. ———

Red. ——— *p* ———

91

S. *mf* Oh, the

A. *pp* Him.

T. *p* solo There is a way, there is a way, there is a way. *f* tutti the

T. *p* solo There is a way, there is a way, there is a way, there is a way, the *f* tutti

B. *mp* solo There is a way, There is a way, there is a *f* tutti

B. *mp* solo There is a way, there is a *f* tutti

Red. *p* There is a way, there is a

95 **G** *f*

S. wick - ed are brought down in their cal - am - it - y,

A. *f* there is a way, there is a way, there is a way,

T. *f* wick - ed are brought down in their cal - am - it - y,

B. *f* way, there is a way, there is a way, there is a

Red. *f*

98

mf *f*

S. But _____ wis - dom rests in the minds of those who have un - der-stand-ing...

A. there is a way, there is a way, there is a way, there is a way,

mf *f*

T. But _____ wis - dom rests in the minds of those who have un - der-stand-ing...

B. way, there is a way, there is a way, there is a way to

Red.



102

mp *f*

S. _____ Right-eous-ness ex - alts, ex - alts _____ a _____

A. un - der-stand- ing. Right-eous-ness ex - alts _____ a _____

mf *f*

T. _____ Right-eous-ness ex - alts, Right-eous-ness ex -

B. un - der-stand- ing. Right-eous-ness ex - alts a

Red.

106

S. *p* na - tion, but sin is a dis - grace to an - y peo - ple. *mf*

A. *p* na - tion, but sin is a dis - grace to an - y peo - ple. *mf* There is a

T. *p* -alts, but sin is a dis - grace, sin is a dis - grace.

B. *p* na - tion. Sin is a dis - grace. *mf* There is a

Red. *p* *mf*

111 **H**

S. *mf* There is a way to wis - dom and un - der *f*

A. *mf* There is a way, there is a way, there is a way, wis - dom and un - der *f*

T. *mf* way, there is a way, there is a way, to wis - dom and un - der *f*

B. *mf* There is a way, there is a way, there is a way to wis - dom. *f*

Red. *f*

115

S. *mp* stand - ing a way to wis - dom and

A. *mp* stand - ing. a way to wis - dom and

T. *mp* There is a way, there is a way, there is a way, to

B. *mp* way, there is a way, a way to wis - dom and

Red. *mp*



118

S. *f* rit. un - - der - - stand - - ing.

A. *f* wis - dom and un - der - stand - - ing.

T. *f* wis - dom and un - der - stand - - ing.

B. *f* un - der - stand - ing. There is a way.

Red. *f* rit.