

*Prayer Is the Soul's
Sincere Desire*

Choir

Music and Lyrics by George Careless
Lyrics by James Montgomery

Hymns No. 145

This arrangement by
Michael Smurthwaite

Peacefully ♩ = 80

mp

Soprano

Bass

5

sop.

Unison 1. Prayer is the

tenors

Peacefully ♩ = 80

5

Piano

7

no breath

9

S

Alto

soul's sin - cere — de - sire, Ut - tered or un - ex -

B

bass

Pno.

7

9

12

13

S

pressed, ————— The mo - tion of — a hid - den

B

Pno.

12

13

17

S
fire that trem - bles in the breast.

B

Pno.

21

S
mf 2. Prayer is the bur - den

B
mp Ooo oo oo

Pno.

*Sopranos = melody
Other parts Ooo or Ah softly*

25

S
of a sigh, The fall - ing of a

B
Ooo Ooo Ooo ooo oo

Pno.

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4
29

S
B

33

tear, The up - ward glanc - ing of an

Ooo oo Ooo oo

Pno.

34

S
B

37

eye when none but God is near.

Ooo oo Ooo oo

Pno.

39

S
B

41

3. Prayer is the sim - plest form of speech

Pno.

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44 45

S That in - fant lips can try; Prayer, the sub -

B

Pno.

49 53

S lim - est strains that reach the Maj - es - ty on

B

Pno.

no breath

no breath

moving on

54 57

S high. *mf* Ooo oo

B *mf*

Pno.

4. Nor prayer is made on

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(Option for emphasis:
all sing words.)

6
59

S

B

Pno.

earth a - lone: The Ho - ly Spi - rit pleads, And

65

S

B

Pno.

Je - sus at the Fa - ther's throne for sin - ners

69

ten.

70

S

B

Pno.

in - ter - cedes.

73

Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire

Slowly, ponderously, pensively

76

S *mp* 5. Prayer is the con - trite sin - ner's voice,

B

Pno.

81

S Re - turn - ing from his ways, While

B

Pno.

85 *a tempo - with bright uplift*

86

S an - gels in their songs re - jice And cry, "Be -

B

Pno.

89 *mf*

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mf exultate! slower

8
91

S
hold, he prays!"

B

93

6.O thou by

Pno.

96

S
whom we come to God, The Life, the Truth, the

B
O thou by whom we come to God, The Life, the

97

Pno.

101

S
Way! The path of prayer thy -

B
Truth, and the Way!

101

Pno.

gradually slowing rit.

gradually slowing rit.

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105 *rit.* 109

S -self - has trod; Lord, teach us how to pray.

B

Pno. *rit.*

110 * 113 *mp* dramatic pause staggered breathing

S Lord, // Oh teach us how to

B

* Option: omit measures 107 to 112, and on the third beat of measure 106, sing the "Lord" in measure 113, then sing to the end.

110 113 dramatic pause

Pno.

117 *p* 121 *pp*

S pray.

B

117 121 *pp*

Pno. *rall.*