

Mass Choir Notes

Debi Traeder

### **By Faith**

A repeat piece from a number of years ago, and our opening WOW piece!

I plan to take this pretty close to the 72 count as dictated on the piece. However, be ready for a slight ritard at mm. 3 before going into the 2/2 measures, where it will go back to the original count – but the half note getting the beat, of course.

The choir comes in at mm. 8, so with so many bells vs. singers, we may need to back off a bit on our volume – we will weigh that at rehearsal. Also, please be confident in your counting of measures, especially during the sets of rests, as I may have to assist the choir in their entrances and cut offs.

At mm. 44, in the thumb-damp sections going forward, if some need to table-damp those, that's fine, just do it softly. At mm. 73, bells and instrumentalists all need to be suddenly softer. When the chimes come in, because of the nature of the chimes, these can be more of an *mf*. Be ready at mm. 93 to jump to *ff* – again, making sure of the balance with the choir and all. At mm. 105, we will begin to get softer, down to *mf* by mm. 109.

Be ready for the transition to 3/4 at mm. 111. The pulse will stay the same, so to keep us together. At mm. 125, we will take the slight ritard to return to the 2/2 count back up to tempo. At mm. 139, a slight ritard is indicated, but let's see how well we can stay together, as we have the big ritard at mm. 141. At mm. 141, I will count that in 4 – and slow as we go, which means WATCH! We also keep growing in dynamics to *ff* for the last two measures, which will also be counted in 4.

Thanks to all!