

*Sing Gently is dedicated to every person
who played a part in the Virtual Choir community over the last 10 years,
and to the 17,572 singers from 129 countries in Virtual Choir 6*

SING GENTLY

For SATB Voices and Piano

Words and Music by
ERIC WHITACRE

Simply ♩ = 64

poco rit.

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

p

mp

loco

Red.

Red.

Red.

Red.

5 **a tempo**

p

May we sing to - geth - er, al - ways.

p

May we sing to - geth - er, al - ways.

a tempo

p

Red.

Red.

Red.

Red.

9

May our voice be soft.

May our voice be soft.

mp

Red.

13

mp

May our sing-ing be mu - sic for oth - ers and

mp

May our sing-ing be mu - sic and

mp

May our sing-ing be mu - sic and

mp

May our sing-ing be mu - sic and

mp

Red.

17 rit.

may it keep oth - ers a - loft.

may it keep oth - ers a - loft.

may it keep oth - ers a - loft.

may it keep oth - ers a - loft.

Red. *

21 a tempo

pp

Sing, sing gent - ly, al - ways.

Sing, sing gent - ly, al - ways.

Al - ways.

Al - ways.

pp

pp

pp

Red.

25 *pp* **poco rit.**

Sing, sing as one, one.

Sing, sing as one, one.

Sing as one.

Sing as one.

poco rit.

8va
Red.

8va
Red.

Red.

29 **a tempo** *mf*

Al -

May we stand al - ways

May we stand to - geth - er, al - ways,

May we stand to - geth - er, al - ways,

a tempo

mf

Red.

Red.

Red.

33

mf

-ways be strong,

mf

be strong,

8 may our voice be strong,

may our voice be strong,

Red.

37

f

may we hear the sing - ing and

f

may we hear the sing - ing and

f

8 may we hear the sing - ing and

f

may we hear the sing - ing and

Red.

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poco rit.

49

pp

Sing,

sing

as

one,

as

pp

Sing,

sing

as

one,

as

pp

Sing,

sing

as

one,

as

pp

Sing,

sing

as

one,

as

poco rit.

53

mf

one,

one,

mf

one,

one,

mf

one,

one,

one,

mf

one,

one,

a tempo

mf

Red.

Red.

Red.

Red.

Los Angeles, April 16th, 2020

NOTES FROM THE COMPOSER

In March of 2020, as the COVID-19 crisis began to unfold around the world, it became clear that this moment in history was going to be remembered as one of great suffering for many people, as well as a time of growing division and dissent. It seemed that as the global community began to isolate physically from one another, the same kind of isolation was happening on a social level, that the very fabric of society was tearing at the seams.

In that spirit I wrote the music and words to *Sing Gently* with the hope that it might give some small measure of comfort for those who need it, and that it might suggest a way of living with one another that is compassionate, gentle, and kind.

Sing Gently received its premiere online on July 19th, 2020, performed by the 17,572 singers of Virtual Choir 6.

~Eric Whitacre

*May we sing together,
Always,
May our voice be soft,
May our singing be music for others,
And may it keep others aloft.*

*Sing gently, always,
Sing gently as one.*

*May we stand together,
Always,
May our voice be strong,
May we hear the singing, always,
And may we always sing along.*

*Sing gently, always,
Sing gently as one.*

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Grammy Award-winning composer and conductor, **Eric Whitacre**, is among today's most popular musicians. His works are programmed worldwide and his Virtual Choirs have united singers from more than 145 countries over the last decade. Born in Nevada in 1970, Eric is a graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School of Music (New York) and served two terms as Artist in Residence with the Los Angeles Master Chorale following five years as Composer in Residence at Cambridge University (UK).

His compositions have been widely recorded and his debut album as a conductor on *Universal, Light and Gold*, went straight to the top of the charts. As a guest conductor he has drawn capacity audiences to concerts with many of the world's leading orchestras and choirs in venues from Carnegie Hall (New York) to the Royal Albert Hall (London). Insatiably curious, Eric has worked with legendary Hollywood composer Hans Zimmer, as well as British pop icons Laura Mvula, Imogen Heap and Annie Lennox.

In 2018 his composition, *Deep Field*, became the foundation for a pioneering collaboration with NASA, STScl, Music Productions and film-makers 59 Productions. His long-form work *The Sacred Veil*, a profound meditation on love, life and loss, was premiered by the Los Angeles Master Chorale and released on Signum Records in 2020. His collaboration with Spitfire Audio resulted in a trail-blazing vocal sample library, became an instant best-seller and is used by composers the world-over. A charismatic speaker, Eric Whitacre has given keynote addresses for TED, Apple, Google, the United Nations Speaker's Program, in education and for global institutions.