## What We Need Is Here

Wendell Berry James Deignan





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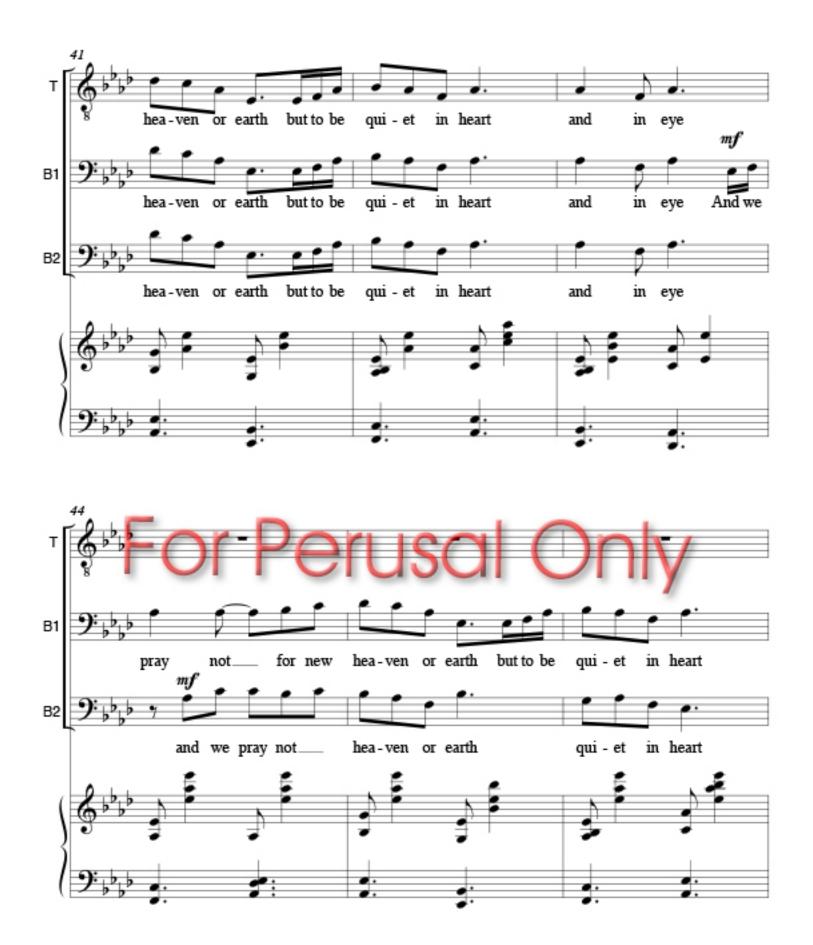
















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## About the poet

Wendell Berry was born on August 5, 1934, in Newcastle, Kantucky. He attended the University of Kentucky at Lexington where he received a B.A. in English in 1956 and an M.A. in 1957. Berry is the author of more than thirty books of poetry, essays, and novels. He has taught at New York University and at the University of Kentucky. Among his honors and awards are fellowships from the Guggenheim and Rockefeller Foundations, a Lannan Foundation Award, and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. He lives on a farm in Port Royal, Kentucky.

## About the composer

James Deignan is a proud 2015 graduate of Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Mr. Deignan began teaching at Lincoln High School in Des Moines. Iowa in the fall of 2016. Prior to Lincoln, James taught elementary music in Big Lake, Minnesota. Multiple leaders of the choral profession have mentored James, including Andrew Last, Allen Hightower, Steve Albaugh, and Ryan Deignan. James is also a composer of choral works (he studied composition with Brooke Joyce at Luther), and has premiered music with the Luther College Collegiate Choir, and Magpies and Ravens in Minneapolis, MN.

Geese appear high over us, pass, and the sky closes. Abandon, as in love or sleep, holds them to their way, clear in the ancient faith: what we need is here. And we pray, not for new earth or heaven, but to be quiet in heart, and in eye, clear. What we need is here.

Visit www.sbmp.com to hear a recording performed by University of Pittsburgh Men's Glee Club, Richard Teaster, conductor