# Wend Your Way

Fantasia on the hymn "Come, Come Ye Saints

For Solo Organ

Dylan Findley



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#### Program Notes

This work explores themes from the hymn "Come, Come Ye Saints" in both its motivic material and in its depiction of text. The original text of "Come, Come Ye Saints" referred to the faith of early members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who left their homes in Nauvoo, Illinois behind to flee persecution from mobs. The Latter-day Saints had already been driven from Kirtland, Ohio from mobs and from Missouri by a heartless extermination order from the governor of Missouri. Also, prior to leaving Nauvoo, Illinois, their leader and prophet, Joseph Smith, was murdered by a mob while being held in custody under false pretenses. Nevertheless, the Latter-day Saints maintained faith that God would protect them and allow them to have a place where they could worship without fear. This hymn's text reflects their renewal of hope to follow the newly called prophet Brigham Young's revelation to leave towards the West. The Latter-day Saints were largely successful and built many communities scattered across Utah, Nevada, Arizona, Wyoming, California, and Idaho that still stand today.

I took four segments of the text to depict the different feelings that the Latter-day Saints may have felt in those trying circumstances. The piece begins in lament for the loss of their city Nauvoo, along with leaving their holy temple behind to be destroyed by the mobs. The music for "This journey may appear" painfully marches onward, with only the faintest glimmer of hope. "Come, come" then provides motivation to have faith in the Lord and overcome the current trials with charisma. "Far away" paints the hopes and dreams of not only a resting place in the West but also the eternal hope to rest with God one day. "All is well" places confidence eternally in God and attributes glory and success to Him.

#### Performer Notes

Registration assignments may be adapted as needed. "Come, come" has a spiral color and talea in the right hand meant to create a rising feeling. Because of its overall function, this color and talea is rhythmically flexible as long as all of the notes are played within each measure and are played in triple or duple divisions. "Far away" features spatial distinctions and should maintain the distinctive registration throughout the movement. Tempi are approximate.

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Wend Your Way is commissioned by the American Guild of Organists for the 2016 Student Commissioning Project.

Special thanks to Seth Carlson, who helped me with the organ writing and registrations and who took the effort to premiere this important piece that reflects the things I hold dearest in life.



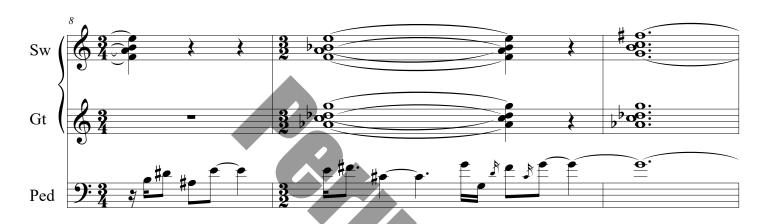
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#### I. This journey may appear





















































#### III. Far away













IV. All is well!

























18
151 With sparks and fire =132











































