

# *Prepare The Way*

*Cantata commissioned by University Lutheran Church  
on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of  
Krister Stendahl*

1. *Comfort, Comfort My People*

Isaiah 40: 1-2  
Soprano Aria

Comfort my people, says your God.  
O speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry  
to the city that it has served its term,  
that its penalty is paid, that it has  
received from the Lord's hand double  
for all its sins.

2. *Prepare The Way*

Isaiah 40: 3-5  
Chorus

A voice cries out! Prepare the way of  
the Lord in the wilderness, make a  
straight road in the desert for our God.

Every valley will be raised, every  
mountain and hill made low. Uneven  
ground will be level, and rough places,  
a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord will be  
revealed, and all people will see it.

The Lord has spoken.

3. *People Are Like Grass*

Isaiah 40: 6-8  
Soprano / Alto Aria

People are like grass, perishable like  
the flower of the field. The grass  
witheres, the flower fades, when the  
Lord's breath blows upon it. Surely,  
the people are grass. But the word of  
our God will stand forever.

4. *Get You Up To A High Mountain*

Isaiah 40: 9-10  
Chorus

Get you up to a high mountain, Zion,  
herald of good tidings; lift up your  
voice with strength, O Jerusalem.

See, the Lord God comes with might,  
and rules with a mighty arm. God  
comes with the reward preceded by  
the reparation.

5. *God Feeds The Flock Like A  
Shepherd*

Isaiah 40: 11, 3  
Bass Aria, Chorus

God feeds the flock like a shepherd;  
God's arms gather the lambs.

God's bosom carries them; God  
gently leads the mother sheep.

Prepare the way of the Lord.

6. *Epilog*

Isaiah 40: 5, 3  
Chorus

The Lord has spoken.

Prepare the way of the Lord in the  
wilderness.