

# look at the world john rutter lyrics

**look at the world john rutter lyrics** is a phrase that brings attention to one of the most beloved choral works composed by John Rutter. This piece, often celebrated for its uplifting melody and profound message, captures the beauty and wonder of the natural world through its thoughtful lyrics and harmonious arrangement. Understanding the lyrics of "Look at the World" is essential for appreciating the depth and intention behind this composition. This article explores the full text of the lyrics, their meaning, and the context in which John Rutter created this inspiring piece. Additionally, the discussion will cover the musical style, common performances, and the impact of the lyrics in various choral settings. The following sections will provide a comprehensive insight into the "look at the world john rutter lyrics" and their significance in contemporary choral music.

- Overview of "Look at the World" by John Rutter
- Full Lyrics of "Look at the World"
- Meaning and Interpretation of the Lyrics
- Musical Style and Composition
- Performance and Reception

## Overview of "Look at the World" by John Rutter

"Look at the World" is a choral anthem composed by John Rutter, a renowned British composer known for his prolific contributions to choral music. Written in 1996, this work was commissioned to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the World Wildlife Fund. The piece is characterized by its bright, joyful tone and accessibility for amateur and professional choirs alike. Its thematic focus centers on the appreciation of the natural environment and humanity's role in cherishing creation. The lyrics complement the music perfectly, creating an atmosphere of gratitude and wonder.

## Background and Commission

The commission by the World Wildlife Fund positioned "Look at the World" as an anthem of environmental awareness and celebration. Rutter's composition reflects a harmonious blend of lyrical simplicity and musical sophistication. The piece is often performed during springtime or environmental-themed events due to its uplifting message and vivid imagery.

## John Rutter's Influence in Choral Music

John Rutter's influence extends widely in the choral community, with numerous compositions that emphasize lyrical beauty and melodic clarity. "Look at the World" fits within this tradition, showcasing Rutter's skill in setting text to music that is both meaningful and singable. His works often focus on

themes of nature, faith, and human experience.

## **Full Lyrics of "Look at the World"**

The lyrics of "Look at the World" are integral to its charm and message. They are concise yet evocative, inviting listeners to observe and appreciate the wonders of the world around them. The text is straightforward and repetitive, enhancing memorability and communal singing.

- Look at the world, everything all around us
- Look at the world and marvel every day
- Look at the world so many joys and wonders
- So many miracles along our way
- Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation
- Give us thankful hearts that we may see
- All the gifts we share and every blessing
- All things come of thee

## **Structure and Repetition**

The lyrics utilize repetition as a key element to reinforce the thematic content. The recurring invitation to "look at the world" serves as a meditative call to awareness. The simple phrasing allows the message to resonate across different audiences and age groups.

## **Meaning and Interpretation of the Lyrics**

The lyrics of "Look at the World" convey a message of gratitude and reverence for the natural environment. They encourage mindfulness and recognition of the beauty and complexity present in everyday life. The spiritual undertone acknowledges the divine source of all creation, blending environmental appreciation with a sense of worship.

## **Environmental Appreciation**

The text highlights the importance of noticing the small and large wonders surrounding humanity. It serves as a reminder to cherish and protect the environment, aligning with the World Wildlife Fund's mission. The lyrics inspire a sense of responsibility towards sustaining the natural world for future generations.

## Spiritual and Religious Themes

Embedded within the lyrics is a spiritual dimension that speaks to many faith traditions. The phrase "Praise to thee, O Lord" reflects a Christian context, where creation is seen as a gift from God. This aspect broadens the appeal of the piece to religious choirs and communities seeking to express thanksgiving through music.

## Musical Style and Composition

John Rutter's composition for "Look at the World" is notable for its melodic clarity and harmonic warmth. The piece is typically scored for SATB choir with optional piano or orchestral accompaniment. Its style is accessible, making it popular among church choirs, school ensembles, and community groups.

## Melody and Harmony

The melody of "Look at the World" is lyrical and flowing, designed to be easily sung by voices of varying skill levels. Harmonically, the piece employs gentle modulations and consonant chords that enhance the joyful and peaceful mood. The music supports the lyrics by evoking a sense of wonder and celebration.

## Rhythm and Tempo

The tempo of the piece is moderate, allowing for clear articulation of the text and a reflective atmosphere. Rhythmic patterns are straightforward, contributing to the piece's singability. These elements make the anthem suitable for both formal concerts and informal worship settings.

## Performance and Reception

"Look at the World" enjoys widespread popularity in choral repertoires around the world. Its uplifting message and approachable musical style have made it a favorite for various occasions, especially those related to nature and thanksgiving. Choirs appreciate the piece for its ability to engage audiences and convey a positive message.

## Common Performance Contexts

This choral anthem is frequently performed during:

- Environmental celebrations and Earth Day events
- Church services focused on creation and gratitude
- School concerts and community choral festivals
- Special occasions marking milestones or anniversaries

## **Impact on Audiences**

The lyrics and music of "Look at the World" combine to create an inspiring experience for listeners. Audiences often respond to the piece with a renewed sense of appreciation for the natural world and a contemplative mood. The work's message of hope and thankfulness resonates across diverse cultural and religious backgrounds.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the lyrics to 'Look at the World' by John Rutter?**

The lyrics to 'Look at the World' by John Rutter celebrate the beauty and wonder of nature, encouraging listeners to appreciate the world around them. The text includes lines about the earth, sky, seasons, and living creatures, highlighting themes of gratitude and praise.

### **Who wrote the lyrics for 'Look at the World' by John Rutter?**

John Rutter himself wrote the lyrics for 'Look at the World,' in addition to composing the music. The piece is both written and composed by him.

### **What is the theme of 'Look at the World' by John Rutter?**

The theme of 'Look at the World' centers on appreciating the beauty of creation, recognizing the glory of the natural world, and expressing gratitude for life and the environment.

### **Is 'Look at the World' by John Rutter suitable for choir performances?**

Yes, 'Look at the World' is a popular choral piece often performed by choirs. Its accessible melody and uplifting lyrics make it suitable for community, school, and church choirs.

### **Where can I find the official lyrics for 'Look at the World' by John Rutter?**

Official lyrics for 'Look at the World' can be found in the published sheet music by Oxford University Press or on John Rutter's official website and authorized music platforms.

### **What is the musical style of 'Look at the World' by**

## John Rutter?

The musical style of 'Look at the World' is contemporary classical choral music, characterized by its lyrical melody, simple harmonies, and a joyful, uplifting mood.

## Are there any recordings of 'Look at the World' by John Rutter available online?

Yes, there are multiple recordings of 'Look at the World' available on platforms like YouTube, Spotify, and Apple Music, performed by various choirs and ensembles.

## Can 'Look at the World' by John Rutter be used for educational purposes?

Absolutely. 'Look at the World' is often used in educational settings to teach students about choral singing, appreciation of nature, and musical expression.

## What is the significance of the lyrics in 'Look at the World' by John Rutter?

The lyrics in 'Look at the World' emphasize mindfulness and appreciation for the natural environment, encouraging listeners to recognize the interconnectedness of life and the importance of stewardship.

## Additional Resources

### 1. *Exploring the Lyrics of John Rutter: A Musical Journey*

This book delves into the poetic and musical brilliance of John Rutter's lyrics, with special emphasis on songs like "Look at the World." It explores the themes of nature, spirituality, and humanity that are central to his work. Readers gain insight into how Rutter's words and melodies intertwine to create uplifting choral pieces.

### 2. *Choral Music and Nature: The Inspirations Behind John Rutter's Compositions*

Focusing on the natural imagery found in John Rutter's lyrics, this book examines how the beauty of the world influences his choral music. It discusses the symbolic meanings in "Look at the World" and other works, celebrating the connection between music and the environment. The book also includes practical tips for choir directors.

### 3. *The Art of Sacred Music: Understanding John Rutter's "Look at the World"*

This volume offers an in-depth analysis of the sacred themes within Rutter's "Look at the World," exploring its role in contemporary worship. It discusses the theological and lyrical significance of the piece and its impact on congregations. The book is ideal for musicians and clergy seeking a deeper appreciation of sacred choral music.

### 4. *John Rutter: Composer, Conductor, and Lyricist*

A comprehensive biography of John Rutter that traces his career and creative process, including the making of "Look at the World." It highlights his contributions to choral music and his unique lyrical style. Readers will find

interviews, anecdotes, and reflections from Rutter himself.

5. *Choral Arrangements for Celebrating Earth: Music Inspired by "Look at the World"*

This book compiles choral arrangements and performance guides inspired by themes of nature and gratitude, central to Rutter's "Look at the World." It is a resource for choir directors organizing concerts around environmental awareness and appreciation. The book includes background on the lyrics and tips for expressive singing.

6. *Lyrics and Landscapes: The Poetic Imagery in John Rutter's Music*

An exploration of the vivid imagery in Rutter's lyrics, including detailed analysis of "Look at the World." The book discusses how Rutter uses language to paint pictures of the natural world and evoke emotional responses. It is useful for lyricists, poets, and music lovers interested in the fusion of words and music.

7. *Faith Through Song: The Spiritual Messages in John Rutter's Works*

This book examines the spiritual and inspirational messages embedded in John Rutter's choral pieces, focusing on "Look at the World" as a key example. It discusses how music can enhance faith experiences and foster community. The text is suited for religious educators, choir members, and worship leaders.

8. *The Choral Director's Guide to John Rutter's "Look at the World"*

A practical manual for choir conductors that provides insights on interpreting and performing "Look at the World." It covers vocal techniques, emotional expression, and rehearsal strategies to bring out the full meaning of the lyrics. The guide also includes historical context and Rutter's own commentary.

9. *Music and Environmental Awareness: Celebrating Nature through Song*

This book explores how composers like John Rutter use music to raise awareness about the environment. "Look at the World" serves as a primary example of music that celebrates the beauty and fragility of nature. The text encourages musicians and audiences to connect with ecological themes through choral music.

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