## BENEATH THE DOME

O' Tannenbaum

Celebrating Iowa Wesleyan University

Jim DePriest



## BENEATH THE DOME

Wesleyan, thy honored name, Lift we on our voices;
Noble college in whose fame, Ev'ryone rejoices;
In thy halls assembled here, Sing we Alma Mater dear;
Loud a song of praise sincere, Wesleyan we love thee.
Let the purple and the white, Ever float above thee;
Signs of loyalty and right, Proved by all who love thee;
Thou has sons and daughters true, Taught by thee to dare and do;
Now they pledge themselves anew, Wesleyan to love thee.

Lowell J. Anderson 1908

After 181 years of operation in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, Iowa Weslyan University closed its doors in the Spring of 2023 due to financial challenges. The college has had a long history of music that dates back to the earliest days of the institution. Lowell J. Anderson, class of 1908, was the organizer and leader of the Wesleyan Band. During this time, he wrote the lyrics to the Iowa Wesleyan Alma Mater set to the tune of O' Tannenbaum. Since that time, the alma mater was sung at all significant university events.

Living next to the former campus, I can look out my studio window and see the dome of Old Main everyday. My thoughts go to all the people who have been influenced over the years by the education received in the shadow of its patient, lasting presence. Many of the teachers in Southeast Iowa are proud graduates. I dedicate this work to all of the alumni and faculty whose lives were forever changed by their time spent on its campus.

On a personal note, thank you, Burt, Ruth, Carl and Joel for the difference you made in the life of our family and all the lives you touched with your gift of music. We are forever grateful.

## Loud a song of praise sincere, Wesleyan, we love thee.

Jim DePriest retired in 2023 after 40 years as a high school instrumental music instructor the last 31 years at Mt Pleasant High School in Mt Pleasant, Iowa. He received his BME from Iowa Wesleyan College and his Masters of Fine Arts from Southern Oregon State University as part of the American Band College. During his tenure, his marching bands, jazz bands and concert bands made many appearances including multiple appearances at the Iowa Jazz Championships, marching band competitions throughout the midwest as well as performances at four Bands Of America Competitions. For the past 23 years, he has written both original and arranged pieces for marching band, concert band, jazz band and showchoir. Jim has had the pleasure of working with his wife, Marlene, the former high school choir director at Mt Pleasant and was honored to arrange for the Mt. Pleasant show choir, INMOTION. Jim is now a full-time composer/arranger and has written for many bands and choirs in the Midwest. He and his wife Marlene have four children Colin, Kyle, Caitlyn and Callie who are all actively involved in teaching and the arts.

## **Beneath the Dome**

(O'Tannenbaum)

Jim DePriest





































