

EASTER VIGIL

Psalms for the Liturgy of the Word

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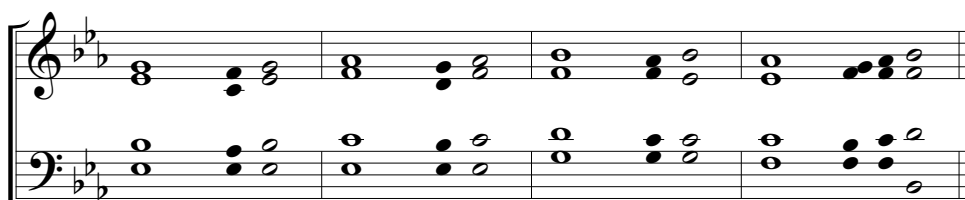
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Introductory Note

The genesis of these settings was the idea of congregation which had not sung the psalms at the Vigil before and might sing them antiphonally to simple psalm tones. To make this simpler the psalm tones are repeated — so the one psalm tone is used for the first two psalms etc. The exceptions are the canticle from Exodus, which demanded a distinct character as did the Alleluia Psalm after the New Testament reading. The tones may be sung unaccompanied, or SATB or accompanied.

The Responses are included, again potentially for singing SATB. The psalms could be sung in the usual way with response between verses or the response sung at beginning and end.

Finally for each psalm an optional short choral coda is provided. This is intended not only to provide a moment of interest for choirs but also as way of leading into silent reflection before the Collect.



1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!
2. You founded the earth on its base,
to stand firm from age to age.
You wrapped it with the ocean like a cloak:
the waters stood higher than the mountains.
3. You make springs gush forth in the valleys:
they flow in between the hills.
On their banks dwell the birds of heaven;
from the branches they sing their song.
4. From your dwelling you water the hills;
earth drinks its fill of your gift.
You make the grass grow for the cattle
and the plants to serve man's needs.
5. How many are your works, O Lord!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your riches.
Bless the Lord, my soul!

Optional Coda

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line begins with a rest, then has lyrics: "Send forth your Spi-rit, O Lord,". The piano accompaniment starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and has lyrics: "Send forth your Spi-rit, O Lord. Send forth your Spi-rit, O Lord. Send forth your Spi-rit, O". The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics: "Lord, and re - new _____ the face of the earth." and the piano accompaniment with lyrics: "Lord, and re - new _____ the face of the earth.".

The Lord fills the earth with his love.

1. The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.
2. By his word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.
He collects the waves of the ocean;
he stores up the depths of the sea.
3. They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen as his own.
From the heavens the Lord looks forth,
he sees all the children of men.
4. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

Optional Coda

The Lord fills the earth with his love,
The Lord fills, fills the earth with his love, with his love, with his love, with his love.
The Lord fills the earth with his love,

Pre - serve me, God, I take re - fuge in you.

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.
2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay.
3. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand
happiness for ever.

Optional Coda

Pre - serve me, God, pre - serve me, God, I take re - fuge, re - fuge in you.

I will sing to the Lord, glo - ri - ous his tri-umph!

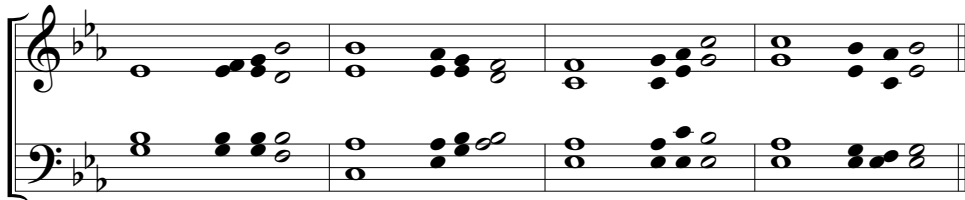
1. I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!
Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!
The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.
This is my God and I extol him,
my Father's God and I give him praise.
2. The Lord is a warrior! The Lord is his name!
The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea;
the flower of his army drowned in the sea.
The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone.
3. Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power,
your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy.
In the greatness of your glory
you crushed the foe.
4. You will lead them and plant them on your holy mountain,
the place, O Lord, where you have made your home,
the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made.
The Lord will reign for ever and ever.

Optional Coda

The musical score is written in 3/4 time. The first system consists of two staves. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a whole rest for two measures, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) starts with a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a half note B3. The lyrics for the first system are: "I will sing, I will sing, I will sing, I will". The second system also has two staves. The vocal line continues with a half note C5, a quarter note B4, and a half note A4. The piano accompaniment continues with a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a half note B3. The lyrics for the second system are: "sing to the Lord, glo - ri - ous his tri - umph!".



I will praise you, Lord, you have res-cued me.



1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.
3. The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing,
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

Optional Coda

I will praise you, Lord, _____

I will praise you, Lord, _____ I will praise you,

I will praise you, Lord, _____

I will praise you, Lord, _____

I will praise you, Lord, _____ you have res - cued

Lord, _____ you have res - cued me. _____

I will praise you, Lord, _____ you have res - cued

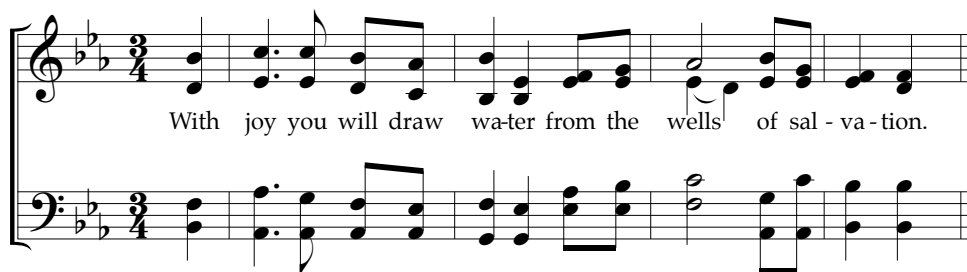
_____ I will praise you, Lord, _____

me. _____ I will praise you, Lord, you _____ have res-cued me.

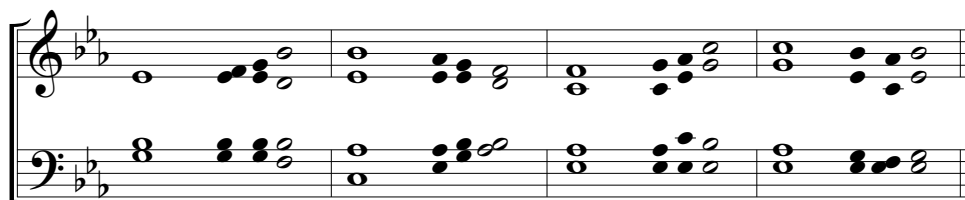
_____ I will praise you, you, you _____ have res-cued me.

me. I will praise you, Lord, _____ you _____ have res-cued me.

you have res-cued me. _____ Lord, you have res-cued me.



With joy you will draw wa-ter from the wells of sal - va - tion.



1. Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.
2. Give thanks to the Lord,
give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples,
declare the greatness of his name.
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds;
make them known to all the earth!
People of Sion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Optional Coda

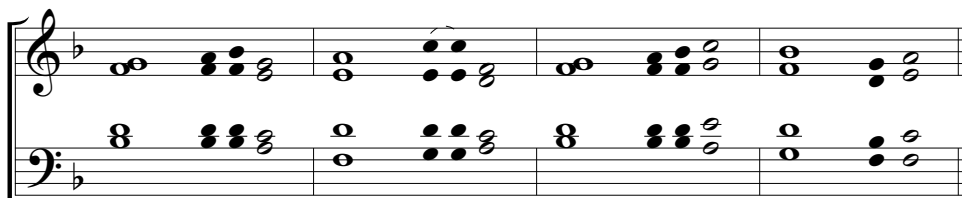


With joy, with joy, with joy, with joy, with joy, with joy.

mp With joy you will draw wa - ter from the wells of sal - va - tion.



You have the mes-sage of e - ter-nal life, O Lord.



1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just.
4. They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb.

Optional Coda



You have the mes-sage, the mes-sage of e - ter-nal life, O Lord.

the mes-sage of e - ter - nal life, O Lord.

Like the deer that yearns, yearns for run-ning streams,

so my soul is yearn - ing for you, my God.

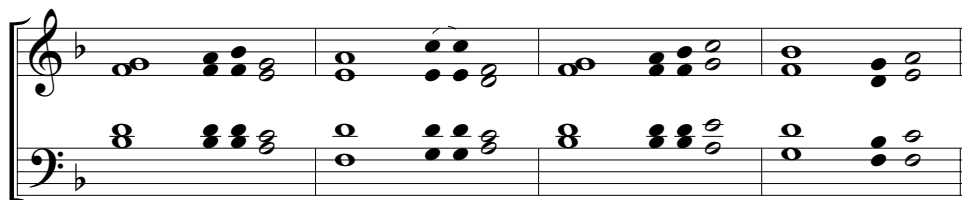
1. My soul is thirsting for God,
the God of my life;
when can I enter and see
the face of God?
2. These things will I remember
as I pour out my soul:
how I would lead the rejoicing crowd
into the house of God,
amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving,
the throng wild with joy.
3. O send forth your light and your truth;
let these be my guide.
Let them bring me to your holy mountain
to the place where you dwell.
4. And I will come to the altar of God,
the God of my joy.
My redeemer, I will thank you on the harp,
O God, my God.

Optional Coda

Like the deer that yearns, yearns for run - ning
Like the deer that yearns, yearns for run - ning streams,
streams, so my soul is yearn - ing for you, my — God.
so my souls is yearn - ing, — yearn - ing for you, my God.

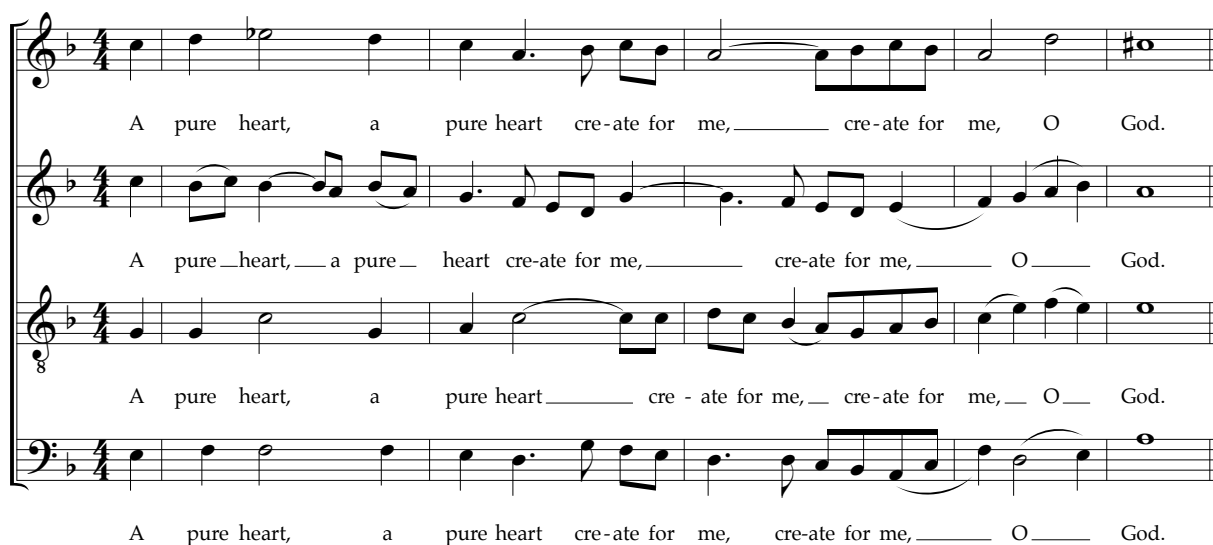


A pure heart create for me, O God.



1. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.
2. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you.
3. For in sacrifice you take no delight,
burnt offering from me you would refuse,
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit.
A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

Optional Coda

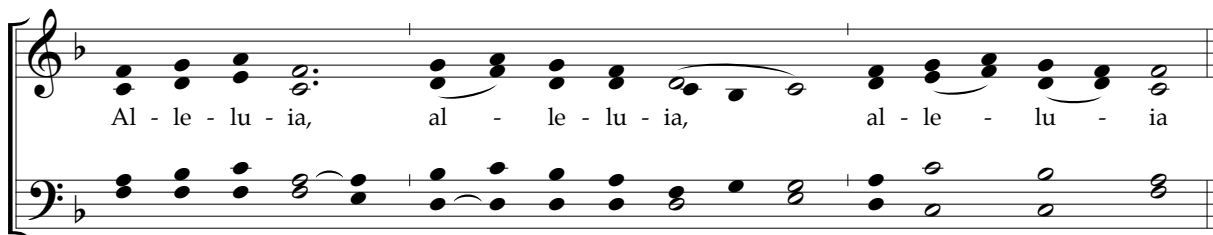


A pure heart, a pure heart create for me, create for me, O God.

A pure heart, a pure heart create for me, create for me, O God.

A pure heart, a pure heart create for me, create for me, O God.

A pure heart, a pure heart create for me, create for me, O God.



1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love endures for ever.
Let the sons of Israel say:
“His love endures for ever.”
2. The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.



‘His love has no end,’
and recount his deeds.
a mar-vel in our eyes.

Optional Coda

Al-le-lu-ia, _____ al - le-lu - ia, _____ al - le-lu -

Al - le - lu - ia, _____ al-le-lu-ia, _____ al - le - lu - ia, _____

The first system consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major, 6/8 time, with lyrics: "Al-le-lu-ia, _____ al - le-lu - ia, _____ al - le-lu -". The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment, with the middle staff in treble clef and the bottom staff in bass clef. The piano part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

ia, al - le - lu - ia.

al - le - lu - ia.

The second system consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major, 6/8 time, with lyrics: "ia, al - le - lu - ia.". The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment, with the middle staff in treble clef and the bottom staff in bass clef. The piano part continues the rhythmic pattern from the first system.