



80878

# Canticle of Zachary

Michael Joncas; James Quinn, SJ

SATB

Keyboard, Guitar, 2-tpt, Trombone, Tuba

The attached sheet music is copyrighted material and is protected under United States and international copyright laws. A written license is required before reproducing any copyrighted material in any format. A separate purchase is required for each copy of this sheet music. An OCP receipt serves as verification of purchase and limited permission to photocopy/print the stated number of copies.

# Canticle Of Zachary

Based on Luke 1:68-79  
Adapted by James Quinn, SJ

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Strong and march-like* (♩ = ca. 112)

Keyboard

♩ VERSES 1, 3, 5:

Soprano/Melody

Alto

1. Blest be the God\_ of Is - ra - el, The\_ ev - er - liv - ing\_ Lord, \_\_\_\_ Who  
 3. Of old he gave\_ his sol - emn oath To\_ Fa - ther A - bra - ham; \_\_\_\_ His  
 5. The ris - ing sun\_ shall shine\_ on us To\_ bring\_ the light\_ of\_ day \_\_\_\_ To

Tenor

Bass

Text © 1969, 1985, James Quinn, SJ. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.  
 Music © 1981, 1982, Jan Michael Joncas Trust. Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

1. comes in pow'r\_ to save\_ his own, His\_ peo - ple Is - ra - el. \_\_\_\_\_ For\_

3. seed a might - y race\_ should be And\_ blest\_ for ev - er - more. \_\_\_\_\_ He\_

5. all who dwell\_ in dark - est night And\_ shad - ow of\_ the grave. \_\_\_\_\_ Our\_

1. Is - ra - el he\_ rais - es up Sal - va - tion's\_ tow'r\_ on high \_\_\_\_\_ In

3. vowed to set his\_ peo - ple free From\_ fear\_ of\_ ev - 'ry foe, \_\_\_\_\_ That

5. foot-steps God shall\_ safe - ly guide To\_ walk\_ the\_ ways\_ of peace; \_\_\_\_\_ His

(Fine)

1. Da - vid's house \_ who reigned \_ as king And \_ ser - vant of \_ the Lord. (to Verse 2)  
 3. we might serve \_ him all \_ our days In \_ good - ness, love, \_ and peace. (to Interlude)  
 5. name for - ev - er - more \_ be blest, Who \_ lives \_ and loves \_ and saves.

(Fine)

INTERLUDE: (after Verse 3)

VERSES 2, 4:

2. Through \_ ho - ly proph - ets did \_ he \_ speak His \_ Word \_ in days of \_  
 4. O \_ tin - y child, your name \_ shall \_ be The \_ proph - et of the \_

2. old, \_\_\_\_\_ That — he would save us from — our — foes And —  
 4. Lord; \_\_\_\_\_ The — way of God you shall — pre - pare To —

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains two lines of lyrics. The second staff is a vocal line in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, also containing two lines of lyrics. The third and fourth staves form a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs, respectively, with the same key signature and time signature. The piano part features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

2. all who bear us \_\_\_\_\_ ill. To our an - ces - tors  
 4. make his com - ing \_\_\_\_\_ known. You shall pro - claim \_\_\_\_\_ to

The second system of the musical score continues the composition with four staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature, containing two lines of lyrics. The second staff is a vocal line in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, also containing two lines of lyrics. The third and fourth staves form a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs, respectively, with the same key signature and time signature. The piano part continues with a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

2. did he give His cov - e - nant of love, So  
4. Is - ra - el Sal - va - tion's dawn - ing day, When

2. with us all he keeps his Word In love that knows no end.  
4. God shall wipe a - way all sins In his re - deem - ing love.

**INTERLUDE: (after Verses 2 and 4)**

*D.S.*

# Performance Notes

This is a metrical translation of the Gospel Canticle commonly called the Benedictus. At least the first part of this canticle is distinctly Jewish and modeled after the prayers said at the circumcision ceremony; indeed, the entire canticle is shot through with allusions to the Old Testament.

Presently the canticle falls into two major sections: (1) the praise of God for faithfulness to the Covenant (Luke 1:68–75); (2) the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecy in the birth of Zechariah's son, John the Baptizer (Luke 1:76–79).

The Benedictus is appointed for use as a responsorial psalm at Eucharist on Saturday of the 3rd Week of Ordinary Time, Thursday of the 27th Week of Ordinary Time, and Monday of the 29th Week of Ordinary Time. In addition it makes a fine anthem for the feasts of John the Baptizer and his parents, or during Advent season. I have also used it as an entrance or closing hymn in ordinary time. The Benedictus holds pride of place in the Liturgy of the Hours as the Gospel Canticle for Morning Prayer.

The “Canticle Of Zachary” should be sung with vigor, as it is a straight-forward hymn-tune. I recommend that the minor key sections be sung more softly than the major key sections.

—*M.J.*

# Canticle Of Zachary

B $\flat$  TRUMPET I

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Strong and march-like* ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 112$ )

VERSES 1-2: INTERLUDE: (after Vs. 2)

VERSES 3-4: INTERLUDE: (after Vs. 4)

VERSE 5: *Broadly*

© 1981, 1982, Jan Michael Joncas Trust. Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

TROMBONE

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Strong and march-like* ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 112$ )

VERSES 1-2: INTERLUDE: (after Vs. 2)

VERSES 3-4: INTERLUDE: (after Vs. 4)

VERSE 5: *Broadly*

© 1981, 1982, Jan Michael Joncas Trust. Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.



# Canticle Of Zachary

B $\flat$  TRUMPET II

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Strong and march-like* ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 112$ )

VERSES 1-2: INTERLUDE: (after Vs. 2)

VERSES 3-4: INTERLUDE: (after Vs. 4)

VERSE 5: *Broadly*

© 1981, 1982, Jan Michael Joncas Trust. Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

TUBA

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Strong and march-like* ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 112$ )

VERSES 1-2: INTERLUDE: (after Vs. 2) VERSES 3-4: INTERLUDE: (after Vs. 4)

VERSE 5: *Broadly*

© 1981, 1982, Jan Michael Joncas Trust. Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

# Canticle Of Zachary

(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on Luke 1:68-79

Adapted by James Quinn, SJ

Michael Joncas

**INTRO: Strong and march-like** (♩ = ca. 112)

Guitar tacet - - - - - D

C Am7 D G D Bm Em Am7 D7 G

**VERSES 1, 3, 5:**

C Am7 D G D Bm Em Am7 C

1. Blest be the God of Is - ra - el, The ev - er - liv - ing  
 3. Of old he gave his sol - emn oath To Fa - ther A - bra -  
 5. The ris - ing sun shall shine on us To bring the light of

D C Am7 D G D

1. Lord, Who comes in pow'r to save his own, His  
 3. ham; His seed a might - y race should be And  
 5. day To all who dwell in dark - est night And

Bm Em Am7 D G D G

1. peo - ple Is - ra - el. For Is - ra - el he rais - es up, Sal -  
 3. blest for - ev - er - more. He vowed to set his peo - ple free From  
 5. shad - ow of the grave. Our foot - steps God shall safe - ly guide To

Am Bm Em D C Am7 D

1. va - tion's tow'r on high In Da - vid's house who  
 3. fear of ev - 'ry foe, That we might serve him  
 5. walk the ways of peace, His name for - ev - er -

G D Bm Em Am7 D G (Fine)

1. reigned as king And ser - vant of the Lord. (to Verse 2)  
 3. all our days In good - ness, love and peace. (to Interlude)  
 5. more be blest, Who lives and loves and saves.

INTERLUDE: (after Verse 3)

Guitar tacet - - - - - Am B Em

VERSES 2, 4:

Em Am D Em C

2. Through ho - ly proph - ets did he speak His Word in days of  
 4. O tin - y child, your name shall be The proph - et of the

B7 Em Am7 B7

2. old, That he would save us from our foes And  
 4. Lord; The way of God you shall pre - pare To

Em B7 Em Am D

2. all who bear us ill. To our an - ces - tors  
 4. make his com - ing known. You shall pro - claim to

G E7 Am B7

2. did he give His cov - e - nant of love, So  
 4. Is - ra - el Sal - va - tion's dawn - ing day, When

Em Am B7 Em B7 Em

2. with us all he keeps his Word In love that knows no end.  
 4. God shall wipe a - way all sins In his re - deem - ing love.

INTERLUDE: (after Verses 2 and 4)

Guitar tacet - - - - - D G Am7 D7 G D.S.

CANTICLE OF ZACHARY

Michael Joncas

VERSE 1,3,5:

1. Blest be the God of Is - ra - el, The ev - er - liv - ing  
 3. Of old he gave his sol - emn oath To Fa - ther A - bra -  
 5. The ris - ing sun shall shine on us To bring the light of

1. Lord, Who comes in pow'r to save his own, His peo - ple  
 3. ham; His seed a might - y race should be And blest for -  
 5. day To all who dwell in dark - est night And shad - ow

1. Is - ra - el. For Is - ra - el he rai - ses up Sal -  
 3. ev - er - more. He vowed to set his peo - ple free From -  
 5. of the grave. Our foot - steps God shall safe - ly guide To

1. va - tion's tow'r on high In Da - vid's house who  
 3. fear of ev - 'ry foe, That we might serve him  
 5. walk the ways of peace, His name for - ev - er -

1. reigned as king And ser - vant of the Lord.  
 3. all our days In good - ness, love and peace.  
 5. more be blest, Who lives and loves and saves.

*Fine*

Text: Based on Luke 1:68-79; adapt. by James Quinn, S.J., © 1969, 1985, James Quinn, S.J.  
 Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Music © 1981, 1982, Jan Michael Joncas Trust.  
 Published by OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

CANTICLE OF ZACHARY (Continued)

VERSE 2,4:

2. Through ho - ly proph - ets did he speak His Word in days of  
 4. O tin - y child, your name shall be The proph - et of the

2. old, That he would save us from our foes And  
 4. Lord; The way of God you shall pre - pare To

2. all who bear us ill. To our an - ces - tors  
 4. make his com - ing known. You shall pro - claim to

2. did he give His cov - e - nant of love, So  
 4. Is - ra - el Sal - va - tion's dawn - ing day, When

2. with us all he keeps his Word In love that knows no end.  
 4. God shall wipe a - way all sins In his re - deem - ing love.

to Verses 3,5