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The Lord Is Near/May the Angels

Michael Joncas

Cantor, Three Part

Keyboard, Guitar

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The Lord Is Near/May the Angels

Based on Psalm 27:1,4-5

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Slow and lyric* (♩ = ca. 72) **REFRAIN:** All

Melody

Organ

O the Lord is near to all who call on him; —

— he is close to all who seek his face, slow to an-ger and full — of com-

pas - sion and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful love.

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VERSE 1: Cantor

1. The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, there is

1. noth - ing at all I fear; the Lord is the ref - uge of my

1. life; of whom should I be a - fraid?

REFRAIN: All

O the Lord is near to all who call on him; he is

close to all who seek his face, slow to an-ger and full of com-

pas-sion and a-bound-ing in mer-ci-ful love.

VERSE 2: Cantor

2. One thing I ask of the Lord; there is

2. on-ly one thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the

Lord all the days of my life.

The first system of the score consists of a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are "Lord all the days of my life." The piano accompaniment is in two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one flat. It features a steady bass line and a more active treble line with some melodic movement.

REFRAIN: All

Melody
O the Lord is near to all who call on him; he is

Harmony
O the Lord is near to all who

The second system is divided into three parts. The top part is labeled "Melody" and shows the vocal line with lyrics "O the Lord is near to all who call on him; he is". The middle part is labeled "Harmony" and shows a vocal line with lyrics "O the Lord is near to all who". The bottom part is a piano accompaniment in two staves, starting with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The piano part consists of block chords in the treble clef and a simple bass line in the bass clef.

close to all who seek his face, slow to

call on him; he is close to all who seek his

The third system continues the refrain. The top part is a vocal line with lyrics "close to all who seek his face, slow to". The middle part is a vocal line with lyrics "call on him; he is close to all who seek his". The bottom part is a piano accompaniment in two staves, continuing the block chord accompaniment from the previous system. The key signature changes to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) in the second measure of this system.

an - ger and full ____ of com - pas - sion and a -
 face, slow to an - ger and full ____ of com -

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "an - ger and full ____ of com - pas - sion and a -". The second staff is another vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "face, slow to an - ger and full ____ of com -". The piano accompaniment is shown in the bottom two staves (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part features chords and moving lines in both hands.

bound - ing in mer - ci - ful love.
 pas - sion and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful love.

The second system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "bound - ing in mer - ci - ful love.". The second staff is another vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "pas - sion and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful love.". The piano accompaniment is shown in the bottom two staves (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part features chords and moving lines in both hands.

VERSE 3: Cantor

3. For God will hide me in his house and con -

3. ceal me in the shel-ter of his tent. E - ven now my head is held —

3. high o - ver those who would see me fall.

REFRAIN

Melody

O the Lord is near to all who call on him; he is close to

Harmony I

O the Lord is near to all who call on him; _____

Harmony II

O the Lord is near to all who call on him; _____ he is

all who seek his face, slow to an - ger and full _____ of com -

_____ he is close to all who seek his face, slow to

close to all who seek his face, slow to an - ger and

pas - sion and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful love.
an - ger and full ___ of com - pas - sion and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful
full ___ of com - pas - sion ___ and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful

The first system consists of three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves are in treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The lyrics are: "pas - sion and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful love." for the first staff, "an - ger and full ___ of com - pas - sion and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful" for the second staff, and "full ___ of com - pas - sion ___ and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful" for the third staff. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and single notes in the left hand.

A - men.
love. A - men.
love. A - men.
rall. *Fine*
rall.
rall.
rall. *p* *Fine*

The second system consists of three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves are in treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The lyrics are: "A - men." for the first staff, "love. A - men." for the second staff, and "love. A - men." for the third staff. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and single notes in the left hand. The system concludes with a double bar line and the word "Fine".

take — you to the ho - ly cit - y, the

you and take — you to the ho - ly

and — take — you to the ho - ly cit - y, —

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal lines, and the bottom two are piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "take — you to the ho - ly cit - y, the" on the first staff; "you and take — you to the ho - ly" on the second staff; and "and — take — you to the ho - ly cit - y, —" on the third staff. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand.

new and e - ter - nal Je - ru - sa - lem.

cit - y, the new and e - ter - nal Je - ru - sa - lem.

— the new and e - ter - nal Je - ru - sa - lem. —

The second system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal lines, and the bottom two are piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "new and e - ter - nal Je - ru - sa - lem." on the first staff; "cit - y, the new and e - ter - nal Je - ru - sa - lem." on the second staff; and "— the new and e - ter - nal Je - ru - sa - lem. —" on the third staff. The piano accompaniment continues with chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand.

The Lord Is Near

(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on Psalm 27:1,4-5

Michael Joncas

INTRO: *Slow and lyric* (♩ = ca. 72)

REFRAIN: All

Capo 3: (Amaj7) (Bm7/E) (Amaj7) (Bm7/E) (Amaj7) (Bm7/E)
 Cmaj7 Dm7/G Cmaj7 Dm7/G Cmaj7 Dm7/G

O the Lord is near to all who

(Amaj7) (Bm7/E) (Amaj7) (Bm7/E) (G6) (C#7)
 Cmaj7 Dm7/G Cmaj7 Dm7/G Bb6 E7

call on him; he is close to all who seek his face, slow to

(F#m) (F#m7/E) (Dmaj7) (C#m7) (Bm) (Bm7/E)
 Am Am7/G Fmaj7 Em7 Dm Dm7/G

an-ger and full of com- pas - sion and a - bound - ing in mer - ci - ful

1-4 (Amaj7) (Bm7/E) Cmaj7 Dm7/G to Verses	Final (Amaj7) (Bm7/E) (A) (Bm) (Bm7/E) (A) Cmaj7 Dm7/G C Dm Dm7/G C rall. Fine
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love. A - men.

VERSE 1: Cantor

(A) (Dm) (C)
 C Fm Eb

1. The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion, there is

(Dm7) (G7) (C) (Am)
 Fm7 Bb7 Eb Cm

I. noth - ing at all I fear; the Lord is the ref - uge of my

(Dm) Fm, (F6) Ab6, (Dm/B) Fm/D, (Esus4) Gsus4, (E7) G7 *D.S.*

1. life; of whom should I be a - fraid? _____

VERSES 2, 3: Cantor

(A) C, (Dm) Fm, (C) Eb

2. One thing I ask ___ of the Lord; there is
3. For God will ___ hide me in his house and con -

(Dm7) Fm7, (G7) Bb7, (C) Eb, (Am) Cm

2. on - ly one thing ___ I seek: to dwell in the house ___ of the
3. ceal me in the shel - ter of his tent. E - ven now ___ my head is held ___

(Dm) Fm, (F6) Ab6, (Dm/B) Fm/D, (Esus4) Gsus4, (E7) G7 *D.S.*

2. Lord o - ver all the days of my life. _____
3. high o - ver those who would see me fall. _____

May The Angels

(Alternative Refrain)
(Guitar/Vocal)

REFRAIN:

Capo 3: (Amaj7) (Bm7/E) (Amaj7) (Bm7/E)
Cmaj7 Dm7/G Cmaj7 Dm7/G

May the an - gels lead you in - to par - a - dise, _____ may the

(Amaj7) (Bm7/E) (G6) (C#7) (F#m) (F#m7/E)
Cmaj7 Dm7/G Bb6 E7 Am Am7/G

mar - tyrs come to wel - come you _____ and ___ take ___ you to the ho - ly

(Dmaj7) (C#m7) (Bm) (Bm7/E) (Amaj7) (Bm7/E) (A)
Fmaj7 Em7 Dm Dm7/G Cmaj7 Dm7/G C

cit - y, _____ the new and e - ter - nal Je - ru - sa - lem. _____

Performance Notes

A psalm of complete trust and confidence in God, Psalm 27 uses the imagery of light and shelter to express the closeness of God to his chosen ones. The refrain of *The Lord Is Near* is based on Psalm 145:18, 8–9, and should be sung by the entire group with or without the optional canonic harmonies. An alternate refrain, whose text is taken from the commendation rite of the Roman Catholic funeral liturgy, is also provided. The accompaniment to the refrain should suggest chimes. The verses are intended to be sung by a soloist, but may be sung by a schola or the entire group at a lower volume than the refrain.

This psalm was a favorite choice of the compilers of the Lectionary, and is prescribed for the 2nd Sunday of Lent (Year C), 7th Sunday of Easter (Year A), celebrations of religious professions or consecrations, and celebrations of Christian death. It is one of the seasonal psalms offered as an alternative psalm to any of the Sundays in Ordinary Time. In the Liturgy of the Hours, it appears as the psalm for Vespers for Wednesday of Week I.

THE LORD IS NEAR (GOD IS NEAR)

(Optional Inclusive-Language Text)

REFRAIN:

You, O God, are near to all who call on you;
you are close to all who seek your face,
Slow to anger and full of compassion
and abounding in merciful love.

1. My God is my light and my salvation,
there is nothing at all I fear;
my God is the refuge of my life;
of whom should I be afraid?

2. One thing I ask of you, God;
there is only one thing I seek:
to dwell in your house, O my God:
all the days of my life.

3. For you will hide me in your house
and conceal me in the shelter of your tent.
Even now my head is held high
over those who would see me fall.

—M.J.

THE LORD IS NEAR

Michael Joncas

REFRAIN: All

O the Lord is near to all who call on him; he is close to all who seek his face, slow to an-ger and full of com-pas-sion and a-bound-ing in

mer-ci-ful love. Final

VERSE 1: Cantor

1. The Lord is my light and my sal-va-tion, there is noth-ing at all I fear; to Refrain

1. the Lord is the ref-uge of my life; of whom should I be a-fraid?

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THE LORD IS NEAR (Continued)

VERSES 2,3: Cantor

2. One thing I ask of the Lord; there is on-ly one
3. For God will hide me in his house and con-ceal me in the

2. thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the
3. shel-ter of his tent. E-ven now my head is held

2. Lord all those days of my life.
3. high o-ver those who would see me fall.

to Refrain

MAY THE ANGELS

Michael Joncas

May the an-gels lead you in-to par-a-dise; may the mar-tyrs
come to wel-come you, and take you to the ho-ly
cit-y, the new and e-ter-nal Je-ru-sa-lem.

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