

# A Lamp for My Steps (Psalm 119)

Psalm 119:1-8

Stephen Dean

REFRAIN: (♩ = ca. 54) 1st time: Cantor, All repeat; thereafter: All

Soprano Alto

Baritone

Keyboard

A lamp for my steps, a light for my path, your

Chords:  $G\flat/D\flat$ ,  $G\flat/A\flat$ ,  $A\flat$ ,  $D\flat$ ,  $B\flat m7$ ,  $Fm$ ,  $D\flat maj7$

word, O Lord, gives joy to my heart. A lamp for my steps, a

Chords:  $G\flat maj7$ ,  $Fm7$ ,  $E\flat m/D\flat$ ,  $G\flat/A\flat$ ,  $A\flat$ ,  $D\flat$ ,  $B\flat m7$

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Play Refrain as an Intro.

A LAMP FOR MY STEPS (PSALM 119) (Keyboard/Choral), cont. (2)

(1st time: *D.C.*)  
*Fine*

light for my path, your word, O Lord, gives joy to my heart.

(1st time: *D.C.*)  
*Fine*

Fm Db7 Gbmaj7 Fm7 Gb/Db Db

VERSES: *Freely*

Cantor

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!  
 2. who never do anything evil but walk in God's ways.  
 3. May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes.  
 4. I will thank you with an upright heart as I learn your de - crees.  
 5. Glory be to the Father and to the Son,

Db Bb Ebm/Gb C $\varnothing$ 7/Eb

*a tempo* S/All *D.S.*

1. They are happy who do God's will, seeking God with all their hearts, —  
 2. You have laid down your precepts to be o - beyed with care. —  
 3. Then I shall not be put to shame as I heed your com - mands. —  
 4. I will obey your statutes; do not for - sake me. —  
 5. and to the Ho - ly Spirit both now and for ev - er.

*a tempo* B

Bbm7 Fm7 Ebm7 Ebm/Gb Cb Gb/Ab *D.S.*

*a tempo*  
(Instruments enter)

# A Lamp for My Steps (Psalm 119)

(Guitar/Vocal)

Psalm 119:1-8

Stephen Dean

**REFRAIN:** (♩ = ca. 54) 1st time: Cantor, All repeat; thereafter: All

Capo 4: (D/A) (D/E) (E) (A) (F#m7) (C#m) (Amaj7)  
G♭/D♭ G♭/A♭ A♭ § D♭ B♭m7 Fm D♭maj7

A lamp for my steps, a light for my path, your

(Dmaj7) (C#m7) (Bm/A) (D/E) (E) (A) (F#m7)  
G♭maj7 Fm7 E♭m/D♭ G♭/A♭ A♭ D♭ B♭m7

word, O Lord, gives joy to my heart. A lamp for my steps, a

(C#m) (A7) (Dmaj7) (C#m7) (D/A) (A)  
Fm D♭7 G♭maj7 Fm7 G♭/D♭ D♭ (1st time: D.C.)  
*Fine*

light for my path, your word, O Lord, gives joy to my heart.

**VERSES:** *Freely*

(A) (F#) (Bm/D) (G#7/B)  
D♭ B♭ E♭m/G♭ C♯7/E♭

Cantor

- |                                     |            |                   |             |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1. They are happy whose life is     | blameless, | who follow God's  | law!        |
| 2. who never do anything            | evil       | but walk in God's | ways.       |
| 3. May my footsteps be              | firm       | to obey your      | statutes.   |
| 4. I will thank you with an upright | heart      | as I learn your   | de - crees. |
| 5. Glory be to the                  | Father     | and to the        | Son,        |

(F#m7) (C#m7) (Bm7) (Bm/D) (G) (D/E)  
B♭m7 Fm7 E♭m7 E♭m/G♭ C♭ G♭/A♭

*a tempo* **D.S. All**

- |                            |                |                      |                  |     |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------|------------------|-----|
| 1. They are happy who do   | God's will,    | seeking God with all | their hearts, —  | } A |
| 2. You have laid down      | your precepts  | to be o - beyed      | with care. —     |     |
| 3. Then I shall not be put | to shame       | as I heed your com - | mands. —         |     |
| 4. I will obey             | your statutes; | do not for -         | sake me.         |     |
| 5. and to the              | Ho - ly Spirit | both now             | and for ev - er. |     |

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Play Refrain as an Intro.

# A Lamp for My Steps (Psalm 119)

SOLO INSTRUMENT

Stephen Dean

REFRAIN: (♩ = ca. 54) Cantor

REFRAIN: All

VERSES 1-5: *Freely*

1. seeking God with all their
2. to be o-beyed with
3. as I heed your com -
4. do not for -
5. both now and for

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Play first Refrain as an Intro.

CLARINET in B $\flat$

Stephen Dean

REFRAIN: (♩ = ca. 54) Cantor

REFRAIN: All

VERSES 1-5: *Freely*

1. seeking God with all their
2. to be o-beyed with
3. as I heed your com -
4. do not for -
5. both now and for

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Play first Refrain as an Intro.

## Assembly Edition

### A LAMP FOR MY STEPS (PSALM 119)

Stephen Dean

Refrain: 1st time: Cantor, All repeat; thereafter: All

A lamp for my steps, a light for my path, your  
word, O Lord, gives joy to my heart. A lamp for my steps, a  
light for my path, your word, O Lord, gives joy to my heart.

#### Verses

- |                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. They are happy whose life is blameless,<br>who follow God's law!<br>They are happy who do God's will,<br>seeking God with all their hearts, | Then I shall not be put to shame<br>as I heed your commands.                                                              |
| 2. who never do anything evil<br>but walk in God's ways.<br>You have laid down your precepts<br>to be obeyed with care.                        | 4. I will thank you with an upright heart<br>as I learn your decrees.<br>I will obey your statutes;<br>do not forsake me. |
| 3. May my footsteps be firm<br>to obey your statutes.                                                                                          | 5. Glory be to the Father<br>and to the Son,<br>and to the Holy Spirit<br>both now and for ever.                          |

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## Composer Notes

### **A Lamp for My Steps (Psalm 119)**

This piece, along with “You Have Laid Down Your Precepts (Psalm 119),” was written to be sung at simple celebrations of Midday Prayer (Prayer during the Day), which I use at parish music workshops to finish the morning session. The verses provided are only a sample of the 176 verses of Psalm 119, which features prominently in Midday Prayer. Other verses can be used, either from Psalm 119 or another psalm, and could be either sung or spoken. The refrain can be sung on its own at meditative prayer services. On the recording, the two Psalm 119 titles have been combined with linking instrumental passages added to provide a festive setting.

—Stephen Dean