

OCP Choral Series

Like the Deer

Solo/Unison and Guitar

Text: Based on Psalm 42-43

Use: Response, Communion, Penance, Liturgy, Advent, Lent

Dan Schutte

Gently (♩ = 112)

Em *mp* (guitar tacet)

Solo Cantor: Like the deer that longs for cool - ing wa - ter

mf *mp*

so my soul is thirst - ing for You, my God.

REFRAIN

CONG. Em *a tempo* Am Am(sus2) Em

Like the deer that longs for cool - ing wa - ter,

mf *mp*

so my soul is thirst - ing for You, my God.

VERSES 1, 2

Faster (♩ = 126)

SOLO Am Dm7 Esus4 E

1. My soul is thirst - ing for You; It is

2. My tears, O Lord, are my song, for Your

x0230 *x12341*

Dm Dm(sus2) Bb A sus4 A

1. You, O Lord, that I seek. O

2. light is gone from my soul. And

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134111 Gm x12341 Bb 023400 Esus4 E

more energy (♩ = 138)

1. where have You gone with Your mer - cy; _____ tell me,
 2. yet I will hope in Your mer - cy, _____ in the

Am Dm7 Dm7/C *ritard.* B (to Refrain)

1. when can that I see Your once face?
 2. love that Your heart once spoke.

VERSE 3

SOLO Dm C add 9 F

faster, more energy (♩ = 126)

3. O Lord, re - mem - ber Your ser - vant; _____ let Your

x12341 Bb x01230 Asus4 A Dm Dsus2 Dm

kind - ness shine on my soul. _____ At

134111 Gm A Dm

night I will rest in Your mer - cy, _____ and by

Am Am(sus2) Dm Dm7/C *ritard.* B (to Refrain)

day I will sing Your praise. _____

Speed: The tendency will be to perform this piece too fast. The tempo marking of (♩ = 112) is a perfect speed. This is a moderately slow tempo that is in keeping with the quiet mood of the song.

Liturgical Use: Since it is based on Psalms 42-43, it is a perfect responsorial psalm to follow the first reading. It might also be used effectively as a communion meditation, especially during the season of Advent.

Feel and Mood: The power of this setting of the psalms lies in its simplicity. The mood here is one of ache and longing for God, but with a quiet reassurance that God will indeed respond to our calling. There is a certain starkness to the expression of our petition here that gives it an added poignancy.

High Points: The high points of the piece correspond to the highest pitches in the melody line. One of these points appears in the refrain on the word “thirsting”; the other comes at the end of each of the verses.

Performers: The congregation should join the choir in singing the refrain each time. The verses, however, are best performed by a soloist since they require special care to nuance the meaning of the text.

Degree of Difficulty: Easy-medium difficulty. Neither the accompaniment nor the vocal parts should present much difficulty. The keyboard player should take care not to rush the congregation into the refrain. Allow the song to “breathe.”

Preview

Assembly Edition

LIKE THE DEER

Based on Psalm 42-43

Dan Schutte

Gently (♩ = 112)

mp



Like the deer that longs for



cool - ing wa - ter, ————— so my



soul is thirst - ing for



You, my God.

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