



CHORAL SERIES

I Call, O Lord, on You

Psalm 141;
para. by James Quinn, SJ, 1919–2010

Nichlas Schaal

INTRO (♩ = ca. 100)

Piano

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VERSES 1, 3

1. I call, O Lord, on you: come quick - ly to my aid. Hear
 3. Set, Lord, a guard to keep close watch up - on my mouth; let

Bm F#7 G A D

1. from your throne in heav'n a - bove my cry of deep dis - tress.
 3. no re - bel - lious word es - cape your seal up - on my lips.

Em Bm Em6/G F#7

VERSES 2, 4, 5

2. Lord, let my prayer as - cend like in - cense in your sight; see
 4. Have pit - y, Lord, on me; you are my strength, my shield: you
 5. (I) bless the Fa - ther's name; I bless the Sav - ior - Son; I

Bm F#7 G A7 D

2. in my hands to heav'n up-raised my eve-ning sac - ri - fice.
 4. are my ref - uge in all ills; I turn in trust to you.
 5. bless the Spir - it of their love, my sol - ace in dis - tress.

Em Bm F#7 Bm

REFRAIN

Soprano
 Lord Je - sus, come quick - ly, my sor - row I con -

Tenor
 fess.

Bass
 Your ten - der com - pas - sion, my sol - ace in dis -

F# Bm Em7

fess. Your ten - der com - pas - sion, my sol - ace in dis -

F# G D F#7

1 2 *D.S. to Verse 5*

tress. tress. 5. I

1 2 *D.S. to Verse 5*

Bm Bm

3 4 *to Refrain rit.*

tress. tress. rit.

3 4 *to Refrain rit.*

Bm Bm rit.

I Call, O Lord, on You

SOLO INSTRUMENT in C

Nichlas Schaal

INTRO ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$)

VERSES 1, 3



VERSES 2, 4, 5



REFRAIN



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I Call, O Lord, on You

(Guitar/Vocal)

Psalm 141;
para. by James Quinn, SJ, 1919–2010

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INTRO (♩ = ca. 100)

Capo 2: (E) F# (Am) Bm (Dm7) Em7 (E) (E7) F# F#7

(Pno)

(F) G (C) D (E7) F#7 (Am) Bm

VERSES 1, 3

(Am) Bm (E7) F#7 (F) G (G) A (C) D

1. I call, O Lord, on you: come quick - ly to my aid. Hear
3. Set, Lord, a guard to keep close watch up - on my mouth; let

(Dm) Em (Am) Bm (Dm6/F) Em6/G (E7) F#7

1. from your throne in heav'n a - bove my cry of deep dis - tress.
3. no re - bel - lious word es - cape your seal up - on my lips.

VERSES 2, 4, 5

(Am) Bm (E7) F#7 (F) G (G7) A7 (C) D

2. Lord, let my prayer as - cend like in - cense in your sight; see
4. Have pit - y, Lord, on me; you are my strength, my shield: you
5. (I) bless the Fa - ther's name; I bless the Sav - ior - Son; I

(Dm) Em (Am) Bm (E7) F#7 (Am) Bm

2. in my hands to heav'n up - raised my eve - ning sac - ri - fice.
4. are my ref - uge in all ills; I turn in trust to you.
5. bless the Spir - it of their love, my sol - ace in dis - tress.

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REFRAIN

(E) F# (Am) Bm (Dm7) Em7 (E) F#

Lord Je - sus, come quick - ly, my sor - row I con - fess. Your

(F) G (C) D (E7) F#7 1 (Am) Bm

ten - der com - pas - sion, my sol - ace in dis - tress.

2 (Am) Bm 3 (Am) Bm 4 (Am) Bm

D.S. to Verse 5 *to Refrain* *rit.*

tress. 5. I tress. tress.

Composer Notes

The inspiration for this piece originated in preparation for the Lenten season. I was looking for a song that focused on our sin and suffering and need for Christ's healing. I came across James Quinn's lovely text which fit what I was looking for. This piece is both hopeful and sorrowful. It is hopeful in that God hears our cries for help and comes to our aid. It is sorrowful in that we still live in a broken world. All of us have faced great suffering or sin that we can't defeat. All of us have cried out to God for help, asking him to take away our cross. But we know Christ does not always take away our suffering; at times he enters into it, walking with us, sanctifying the cross we bear.

This piece works best when approached with this understanding of suffering. The song is in B minor and remains somber throughout, but avoid letting that dictate the entire feel of the song. Consider having a soloist or small group sing the first two verses. Be patient with how quickly the piece builds. Let the drama unfold slowly, being intentional with the entrances of additional voices and instruments, culminating in the fifth verse and penultimate refrain. Let the final refrain return to the simplicity of the opening.

This piece would work well during the Lenten season or any time you wish to highlight the themes of comfort, mercy, forgiveness, and supplication.

—Nichlas Schaal

Assembly Edition

I CALL, O LORD, ON YOU

Nichlas Schaal

Verses 1, 3



1. I call, O Lord, on you: come quick-ly to my aid. Hear
3. Set, Lord, a guard to keep close watch up - on my mouth; let



1. from your throne in heav'n a - bove my cry of deep dis-tress.
3. no re - bel - lious word es - cape your seal up - on my lips.

Verses 2, 4, 5



2. Lord, let my prayer as - cend like in - cense in your sight; see
4. Have pit - y, Lord, on me; you are my strength, my shield: you
5. I bless the Fa - ther's name; I bless the Sav - ior - Son; I



2. in my hands to heav'n up - raised my eve-ning sac - ri - fice.
4. are my ref - uge in all ills; I turn in trust to you.
5. bless the Spir - it of their love, my sol - ace in dis - tress.

Refrain



Lord Je - sus, come quick-ly, my sor-row I con - fess. Your

1: to Verse 3
2: to Verse 5
3: to Refrain



ten - der com - pas-sion, my sol - ace in dis - tress.

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