

EVENSONG

Text and Music by Patricia Van Ness

Text Translated into Latin by Richard Schenk, O.P. and Marianne Schlosser

I. Kyrios eleemon

II. Tu nos numquam reliquisti

III. Divisum cor meum quad multa turpia inhabitant

IV. Benedicas amicas nostris benevolentiam tuam relucetibus

V. In confinio maris clamavi ad te

VI. *Elaboration on* In confinio

VII. Conquiescamus post contentionem placato corde

VIII. Altissima

IX. Amen

scored for

Tenors/Baritones
Solo Soprano
Solo Oboe/Baroque Oboe
Solo Violin/Viella
Solo Violin/Baroque Violin
Two Violas/Tenor Viols
Three 'Cellos/Bass Viols

with thanks to

Lydia Heather Knutson and Scott Metcalfe

and special thanks to

Rob Dobson

for artistic and technical assistance

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I.

Kyrios eleemon
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The Lord is merciful
The Lord is merciful
The Lord is merciful

Christos eleemon
Christos eleemon
Christos eleemon

Christ is merciful
Christ is merciful
Christ is merciful

Kyrios eleemon
Kyrios eleemon
Kyrios eleemon

The Lord is merciful
The Lord is merciful
The Lord is merciful

II.

Tu nos numquam reliquisti,
Artifex nostrae naturae gemmae.
Fons omnis pulchritudinis,
fons nostri vitae desiderii.

We have never been abandoned by you,
the creator of our jewel-like humanity.
You are the source of all that is beautiful,
the source of our desire to live.

Tu nos numquam reliquisti.
Ad exuendos nos a nobis adiuvas.
Donum donas nostrae fortitudinis;
Dona patientiae et compassionis nobis.

We have never been abandoned by you.
You aid us in the uncloaking of ourselves.
You give us the gift of courage;
gifts of patience and compassion are ours.

Tu nos numquam reliquisti.
Clementem Deum corda nostra quaerunt et inveniunt,
Fons omnis pulchritudinis,
fons nostri vitae desiderii.

We have never been abandoned by you.
Our hearts seek and find a gentle God.
You are the source of all that is beautiful,
the source of our desire to live.

III.

Divisum cor meum quod multa turpia inhabitant.
Fur ac perturbatio opprimunt me.
Clamavi ad te.
Et gratia tua tangit meas lacrimas ut lenis
ventus vesperis,
qui obumbratione vultum meum osculat.

My heart is divided and houses unlovely things.
I am filled with anger and confusion.
I call to you.
Your grace touches my tears like the
evening stars;
The gathering dusk kisses my brow.

In amplexu tuo ego et omnia mea,
In amplexu tuo ego et omnia mea,
tam pulchra quam et turpia.
Benevolentia non caeca sed vidente omnia,
tu tamen diligis me et accipis.

All that I am is embraced by you,
All that I am is embraced by you,
both lovely and not.
Your loving-kindness is not blind,
yet you, seeing all, love and respect me.

Unum petivi hoc requiram,
ut accipiam magis magisque magnum
mysterium
quo saepe dubitato gaudium spiritus mei
minuitur.
Et gratia tua tangit meas lacrimas ut lenis
ventus vespertis,
qui obumbratione vultum meum osculat.

IV.

Benedicas amicis nostris benevolentiam tuam relucens,
stellis et lunae in caelo sappirino lucenti,
benedicas nostris doloribus et cordibus confractis
benedicas nobis in incerta luce vespertina.

Benedicas nocti nos consolanti,
odore florum atque arborum fragranti,
benedicas lunae lumini taciturnas vias collustranti,
benedicas nobis in incerta luce vespertina.

Benedicas aquis adamantes celsos relucens,
et praeclaris viriditate varia,
benedicas lupis intra nos conclusis,
benedicas nobis in incerta luce vespertina.

V.

In confinio maris clamavi ad te,
quando divitiae tuae dimittant me
inanem,
in desiderio meo, ut eripias nos de morte
et miseria,
in pallida tristitia atque doloris angustia.

Conditor maris fluctuum,
respiens dignitatem nostram quam fundasti,
creator siderum et caelorum volubilium antiquitus,
creator omnium vivorum,

in confinio mortis amplecteris nos infirmos
et afflictos,
velans nos et spe et fortitudine,
tu foves nos compassione
tua,
tu foves nos dolore divino.

Ad confinia noctis dubiae coram mare
vigilo,
fons fecunda vitae ac speciositatis,
tu qui desideras ut cognoscamus dilectionem tuam,
tu qui nos numquam reliquisti.

If I could be granted one wish, one desire,
it would be to accept more and more of this
mystery,
for often, thinking otherwise, I lessen the joy
of life.
Your grace touches my tears like the
evening stars;
The gathering dusk kisses my brow.

Bless the friends who teach us your kindness,
the stars and moon in the sapphire sky,
bless our sorrows and our broken hearts,
bless us in the twilight.

Bless the night that brings solace to us,
scented with the growth of flowers and trees,
bless the moon's rays falling on quiet paths,
bless us in the twilight.

Bless the ponds that reflect the great diamonds,
the hidden gardens of multiple greens,
bless the wolves who stand within us,
bless us in the twilight.

By the edge of the sea I lift up my voice to you,
for the times when all that you are seems not
enough to me,
when I want you to snatch us from death and
suffering,
when I feel the bleakness and terror of grief.

Maker of the waves of the sea,
you who honor and build our dignity,
creator of the stars and the eternal sky,
creator of all life,

you embrace us in our illness, our misery,
as we are dying,
you clothe us in strength and hope,
you surround us with your sorrow for our
suffering,
you surround us with your grief.

By the edge of the sea I stand and watch the
coming of the night,
abundant giver of life, of every lovely thing,
you who desire us to know your love,
you who have never turned away from us.

VI. Elaboration, In confinio (verses three and four)

VII.

Conquiescamus post contentionem placato corde.

May we rest, our striving quieted.

Accipiamus abundantiam vitae florecentis.

May we accept the intricate unfolding of life.

Videamus tuam pulchritudinem
et gaudium,

May we see your beauty and your joy,
circling our souls,

circa nostras animas in speciosis formis aureis.

exquisite patterns, fashioned in gold.

VIII.

Altissima,
in miseria mea clamavi ad te,
fons spei sempiterna,
quae amas me et diligis sicuti sum,
omnem dolorem sanans Salus originalis.

God,
to you I cry in my sorrow,
everlasting giver of hope,
you who love and value me as I am,
ultimate healer of all grief.

Altissima,
lux incerta vespertina pacem tuam relucet,
fons spei sempiterna.
sicut caelum pallidum super me concamerans,
omnem dolorem sanans Salus originalis.

God,
twilight echoes your infinite peace,
everlasting giver of hope.
it arches over me like the pale dome of the sky,
ultimate healer of all grief.

Altissima,
plena sunt omnia creata tui notitia,
fons spei sempiterna,
Singulis in universi partibus scintilla viget vitae tuae,
omnem dolorem sanans Salus originalis.

God,
all creation is filled with the knowledge of you,
everlasting giver of hope,
every particle imbued with your vital spark,
ultimate healer of all grief.

IX

Amen