

Commissioned by Elizabeth Bradley and Coro Allegro, David Hodgkins, Artistic Director
 and Premiered on 20 May 2018 by Coro Allegro, Sonja Dutoit Tengblad, soprano, Church of the Covenant, Boston
 In Memory of Our Foremothers, Who Fought For Our Deliverance

PSALMS OF LUMINOUS RESCUE*

2. Psalm 12 (O, Help, For There are No Faithful Left)

*O, help, for there are no faithful left.
 All speak falsely with a smooth tongue; O, silence smooth tongues!
 You answer, "I will rise up and help you, for the needy are oppressed and the poor cry out in anguish."
 Your words are pure, silver refined from ore, purified in the fire.
 Save us from this generation; O watch over us.
 For the wicked prowl on every side, and that which is vile is highly prized by everyone.*

Adapted from *The Psalter,
 The Book of Common Prayer*

Music by Patricia Van Ness (1951)
 Score rev. 13 February 2019
 *from *MUSIC FOR THE PSALMS,*
 dedicated in its entirety to Peter Sykes

♩ = 60

Soprano Solo

Soprano 1
mf sempre molto legato; senza vibrato
 O, help for there are no faithful left.

Soprano 2
mf sempre molto legato; senza vibrato
 O, help there are no faithful left.

Alto 1&2
mf sempre molto legato; senza vibrato
 O, help! there no faithful left.

Tenor/Bass
mf sempre molto legato; senza vibrato
 O, for are no faithful left.

Van Ness, *Psalms of Luminous Rescue*, 2. Psalm 12 (O Help)

2

8

S. All speak false-ly with smooth tongues;— O sil - ence smooth tongues.

S. All false— smooth tongues,— O (si smooth tongues,

A. All— false smooth— sil - ence smooth tongues,

T./B. All speak false - ly smooth tongues— (si - smooth—



14

A

S. Solo You ans- wer, "I will rise up— and help you,— for_ the

S. will rise help— you—

S. will you

A. help

T./B. "I

19

S. Solo
need-y are op-pressed, Your words are pure, sil -

S.
need _____ pure _____

S.
(pressed and poor _____ (guish

A.
need poor out pure_

T./B.
and_ the poor cry_ out in an-guish. Your _____ pure



24

S. Solo
ver re- fined from ore, _____

S.
_____ fire. _____ *mf* Save us from this gen-er a -

S.
pure Save

A.
(ver fire.

T./B.
pu - ri fied _____ in_ the fire. _____

Van Ness, *Psalms of Luminous Rescue*, 2. Psalm 12 (O Help)

4

28 B

S. Solo
O watch ov - er us, _____

S.
tion, O watch ov - er us, for the wick - ed prowl on *mf*

S.
O O watch ov - er for the wick - ed _____ on *mp* *mf*

A.
O _____ us, for _____ (wick prowl on *mf*

T./B.
_____ for _____ *mf*

34 C

S. Solo
_____ and that which is vile is *mf*

S.
ev - 'ry side, on ev - 'ry side, _____ vile _____ *mp*

S.
(eh side, ev - 'ry side, _____

A.
(eh side, _____ that _____ vile *mp*

T./B.
eh _____ (eh side _____ is _____ is vile *mp*

40

S. Solo
high - ly prized, prized, by ev - 'ry one.

S.
high - ly prized ev - 'ry - one.

S.
high - ly prized ev - 'ry - one.

A.
high prized by (eh one.

T./B.
high prized (eh one.