

Dedicated to Daryl Bichel, Artistic Director, and the Night Song Musicians,
Jennifer Lester, Director. Premiered on 4 June 2023 at Night Song, First Church Congregational, Cambridge, MA

PSALM 1

Happy Are They*

*Happy are they who delight in your loving-kindness
and meditate on your compassion.*

*They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season.*

All that they do shall be filled with the riches of peace and joy.

Adapted by Patricia Van Ness
from *The Psalter*,
The Book of Common Prayer

Music by Patricia Van Ness (1951)
Score rev. 25 November 2024
*from *MUSIC FOR THE PSALMS*,
dedicated in its entirety to Peter Sykes

♩ = 60 Stagger breathing as needed throughout,
even within words. Use natural dynamics *mp-mf*.
A parentheses before a syllable indicates a partial word.

The musical score is for a choir in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It features five vocal parts: Descant, Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The Descant part consists of four measures of whole rests. The vocal parts enter in the first measure. The lyrics are: "Hap - py are they hap - py are they (light in your lov - ing - kind-ness". The Soprano 1 and 2 parts have a "Senza vibrato" instruction. The Tenor part has a "Senza vibrato" instruction starting in the fourth measure. The Bass part has a "Senza vibrato" instruction starting in the third measure. The lyrics continue: "Lov - ing - kind-ness and Who de - light in your lov - ing kind-ness and".

Van Ness, Psalm 1, Happy Are They

2 5

S. 1
med - i - tate on your com - pas - sion, com - pas - - sion.

S. 2
med - i - tate on your com - pas - sion com - pas - - sion.

A.
med - i - tate on your com - pas - sion com - pas - - sion.

T.
(med on your (pa com - pas - sion, com - pas - sion.

B.
med - i - tate on your (pa com - pas - - sion com - pas - sion.

10 **A**

Des.
bear - ing

S. 1
They are like they are like trees plant - ed by streams - of wat - er, bear - ing

S. 2
They are like trees plant - ed by streams of wat - er, bear - ing

A.
They are like trees plant - ed streams (er bear - ing

T.
They trees like trees plant - ed by streams of (er bear - ing

B.
They trees trees (plant by streams of wat - er (bear

Van Ness, Psalm 1, Happy Are They

B

15

stagger breathing as needed within words

Des. fruit sea son,

S. 1 fruit in due sea-son sea - son sea - son. All that they do

S. 2 fruit due sea - son All that they do

A. fruit in due sea - son sea - son. All that they do

T. fruit in due sea - son sea - son.

B. fruit in due sea - son sea - son.

21

S. 1 all that they do filled filled with rich es rich -

S. 2 all that they do filled filled with the rich - es rich -

A. all that they do filled filled with the rich - es rich -

T. Filled with rich-es (rich

B. Shall be filled filled rich - es (rich

Van Ness, Psalm 1, Happy Are They

4

27

S. 1
es peace filled with rich - es of peace and

S. 2
- es of peace filled with rich - es of peace peace

A.
- es of peace filled with rich - es of peace

T.
peace filled with with rich - es of peace peace

B.
peace filled filled rich - es of peace

32

Des.
filled with the (rich of peace and joy

S. 1
peace filled with the rich - es of peace and and joy.

S. 2
peace filled rich es of peace and joy.

A.
peace filled rich-es of peace and joy.

T.
peace the rich - es of peace peace and peace and joy.

B.
peace filled with the rich - es of peace and joy