

Commissioned by Liz 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\*

## 1. Psalm 59 (O, Rescue Me)

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

*O, rescue me, protect me, save me,  
My eyes are fixed on you, O my strength, my strength, fixed on you.  
To you, O my strength, will I sing.*

Music by Patricia Van Ness (1951)

Score rev. 13 February 2018

*\*from MUSIC FOR THE PSALMS,  
dedicated in its entirety to Peter Sykes*

$\text{♩} = 65$

Soprano Solo

Soprano 1 *mf* Stagger breathing within part; *senza vibrato*

Soprano 2 *mf* Stagger breathing within part; *senza vibrato*

Alto 1 *mf* Stagger breathing within part; *senza vibrato*

Alto 2 *mf* Stagger breathing within part; *senza vibrato*

Tenor *mf* Stagger breathing within part; *senza vibrato*

Bass

$\text{♩} = 65$

Oboe

Viola Note: bowings are optional.

Violoncello Note: bowings are optional.

The musical score is written for Soprano Solo, Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor, Bass, Oboe, Viola, and Violoncello. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 65. The vocal parts feature a staggered entry with the lyrics 'O, rescue me, protect me, save me, My eyes are fixed on you, O my strength, my strength, fixed on you. To you, O my strength, will I sing.' The instrumental parts for Oboe, Viola, and Violoncello are marked with 'Note: bowings are optional.'

Van Ness, *Psalms of Luminous Rescue, 1. Psalm 59 (O Rescue Me)*

2

7

S.1  
res - cue O O

S.2  
res - cue me, me O me

A.1  
me me res - - cue me

A.2  
me res - - cue

T.  
(reh me, res - cue me,

B.  
(reh me, me res - - cue me, me

13

S.1  
O O O save

S.2  
pro - - tect me (pro me, save

A.1  
pro - - tect me save

A.2  
pro - - tect me (ee save  
note tenutos: slight emphasis

T.  
O pro-tect O pro - tect me, save

B.  
O O pro - tect me, save

18

S.1  
me, save me! Save

S.2  
me, save me! Save

A.1  
save me! Save

A.2  
save me! Save

T.  
save me!

B.  
save me save O save me!

Vc.  
A

23

S.1  
me, *p*

S.2  
me, *p*

A.1

A.2  
me, *p*

Ob.  
*mf* senza vibrato

Vla.  
*mf* senza vibrato

Vc.  
*mf* senza vibrato

Van Ness, *Psalms of Luminous Rescue*, 1. Psalm 59 (O Rescue Me)

4

29

**B**

*mf*

S. Solo

My eyes are

Ob.

**B**

Vla.

Vc.



36

S. Solo

fixed on you, O my strength, my strength,

*mp*

B.

fixed you O my

Ob.

Vla.

Vc.



41

S. Solo

fixed on you on you

B.

fixed you

Ob.

Vla.

Vc.

46

C

Musical score for measures 46-53, featuring six vocal parts: S.1, S.2, A.1, A.2, T., and B. The lyrics are: "To you you you", "To to you you you you", "To you you you", "To to you you", "To you you you", and "you". A dynamic marking of *mp* is present in the Tenor part at measure 50. The score includes a repeat sign at the end of measure 53.



54

Musical score for measures 54-61, featuring six vocal parts: S.1, S.2, A.1, A.2, T., and B. The lyrics are: "you you you", "you you you you you", "you you you you", "you you", "you you you", and "you you you".

Van Ness, *Psalms of Luminous Rescue*, 1. Psalm 59 (O Rescue Me)

6

59

S.1  
you you you

S.2  
you you

A.1  
you you

A.2  
you you

T.  
you you you you

B.  
you you you

63

S.1  
sing. rit.

S.2  
you will I sing.

A.1  
you will I sing.

A.2  
you you will I sing, sing.

T.  
you will I sing.

B.  
will I will I sing.