

Commissioned by the Bucknell University Rooke Chapel Choir for the 2013 Bucknell Candlelight Christmas

Advent Reflections

for SATB Chorus (divisi) and Harp or Piano*

from "O Antiphons"
Christine Schenk, CSJ

Joseph Gregorio

I.

Gently; with humility (♩ = 80)

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Piano

Gently; with humility (♩ = 80)

p

7

S
A

O Wis-dom, So-phi-a's child, and Ma - ry's

Pno.

con pedale

14

A

too, bring us back, bring us back to you.

B

mp

O A - do-nai,

Pno.

mp

* If performing *Advent Reflections* with harp, the harpist should not play from this piano/choral score, but rather from the harp part, 8490B. The full score, 8490A, contains chorus and harp parts.

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19

B *set us free of fear, de - spair, mi - sog - - - y -*

Pno.

25

S *O Jus-tice Flower of Jes-se tree, up - root our ha-treds. Wash us*

B *ny.*

Pno.

mp

mf

29

S *clean in just - reign wa - ters, plant us deep in Thee.*

T *O Key -*

Pno.

mf

33

T *of Da-vid, o - pen heav-en's gate, un - lock, un - block a cap - tive church too long en -*

Pno.

poco f

37 *mf* *poco f*

S O Ra - diant Dawn, light the

A O Ra - diant Dawn, light the

T thrall'd by hate.

Pno. *f*

40

S way of all who long to preach, to teach, to

A way of all who long to preach, to teach, to

Pno.

43

S con - se - crate heaven - ly hosts of God's in -

A con - se - crate heaven - ly hosts of God's in -

Pno.

46

S
dwell - ing.

A
dwell - ing.

T
poco f ————— *f*
O — Em - man - u - el, strength-en wea - ry

B
poco f ————— *f*
O — Em - man - u - el, strength-en wea - ry

Pno.
cresc. ————— *più f*

50

T
8 arms, stead - y trem - bling - knees, bring sur - cease of

B
8 arms, stead - y trem - bling - knees, bring sur - cease of

Pno.

6

54 *unis. f* *più f*

S
O Ad - - - vent

A
O Ad - - - vent

T
sor - row. O Ad - vent

B
unis. sor - row. *più f* O Ad - vent

Pno.
cresc. *ff with brilliance*

56 *unis.*

S
Light, dis - pel death's dark

A
unis. Light, dis - pel death's dark

T
Light, dis - pel death's dark

B
Light, dis - pel death's dark

Pno.

58

S shad - - ow. A - wak - - en, a -

A shad - - ow. A - wak - - en, a -

T shad - - ow. A - wak - - en, a -

B shad - - ow. A - wak - - en, a -

Pno.

60

S wak - - en, a - wak - en a wait - ing

A wak - en, a - wak - en a wait - ing

T wak - - en, a - wak - en a wait - ing

B wak - - en, a - wak - en a wait - ing

Pno.

8

62 *ff* *unis. p* **Broadening**

S world to life's fresh - blessed to -

A world to life's fresh - blessed to -

T world to life's fresh - blessed to -

B world to life's fresh - blessed to -

Pno.

66 **Slowing until the end** *pp*

S mor - row.

A mor - row.

T mor - row.

B mor - row.

Pno. *mp* *p*

“Isaiah 61”

II.

Christine Schenk, CSJ

Slowly; with determination (♩ = 63)

Soprano
I wait with quick-ened hope for crook-ed paths to straight-en, with tough - soul'd

Alto
I wait with quick-ened hope for crook-ed paths to straight-en, with tough - soul'd

Tenor
I wait with quick-ened hope for crook-ed paths to straight-en, with tough - soul'd

Bass
I wait with quick-ened hope for crook-ed paths to straight-en, with tough - soul'd

Slowly; with determination (♩ = 63)

Piano
(for rehearsal only)

6
S an-guish, while blind - ed keep-ers of the keys shut out God's own. (If

A an-guish, while blind - ed keep-ers of the keys shut out God's own. (If

T an-guish, while blind - ed keep-ers of the keys shut out God's own. (If

B an-guish, while blind - ed keep-ers of the keys shut out God's own. (If

Pno.

11 *poco* *p* *mf* **Pressing forward**

S such a thing were pos-si-ble.) I wait, I wait, I wait, and will

A such a thing were pos-si-ble.) I wait, I wait, and will

T such a thing were pos-si-ble.) I wait, I wait, and will

B such a thing were pos-si-ble.) I wait, I wait, and will

Pno.

16 *f* *mp* *poco cresc.* *3* **As at first** ($\dot{=} \dot{=}$)

S not be dis - mayed. For ti - ny shoot of Jes - se tree took

A not be dis - mayed. For ti - ny shoot of Jes - se tree took

T not be dis - mayed. For ti - ny shoot of Jes - se tree took

B not be dis - mayed. For ti - ny shoot of Jes - se tree took

Pno.

21 **Slowing until the end**

poco cresc. 3 *p* *pp*

S
root in me to love, trans-form, give sight, set free.

A
root in me to love, trans-form, give sight, set free.

T
root in me to love, trans-form, give sight, set free.

B
root in me to love, trans-form, give sight, set free.

poco cresc. 3 *p* *pp*

poco cresc. 3 *p* *pp*

Pno.
Slowing until the end

III.

“Emmanuel”
Christine Schenk, CSJ

Flowing; flexible throughout (♩ = 80)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

mp gently; flexibly

with pedal

5

mp

S You who make waste - lands bloom and wa - ter

A You who make waste - lands bloom and wa - ter

T You who make waste - lands bloom and wa - ter

B You who make waste - lands bloom and wa - ter

Pno.

9

mp

S flow from ston - y par - a - pets, —

A flow from ston - y par - a - pets, —

T flow from ston - y par - a - pets, —

B flow from ston - y par - a - pets, —

Pno.

12

S

A

T

B

Pno.

mp sub.

16

S

A

T

B

Pno.

poco f

show - er now this hard land scape with

show-er now this hard land - scape with

poco f

show-er now this land - scape_ with

poco f

show-er this land - scape_ with

poco f

show-er this land-scape with_

poco f

19

unis. *mf*

S free - ly giv - en grace, — so poor de -

A free - ly giv - en grace, — so poor de -

T free - ly giv - en grace, — so — poor de -

B free - ly giv - en grace, — so poor de -

Pno.

22

mp *p*

S sert - ed cho - sen ones — can fi - nal - ly rest in — am - ber wav - ing fields.

A sert - ed cho - sen ones — can fi - nal - ly rest in am - ber wav - ing fields.

T sert - ed cho - sen ones — can fi - nal - ly rest in am - ber wav - ing fields.

B sert - ed cho - sen ones — can fi - nal - ly rest in am - ber wav - ing fields.

Pno.

27

S of ten - der jus - tice.

A of ten - der jus - tice.

T of ten - der jus - tice.

B of ten - der jus - tice.

Pno. *mp*

32

Pno. *p sub.*

36

Holding back **Slower (♩ = 66)**

S *p unis.* You, do

A *p unis.* You, do

T *p unis.* You, do

B *p unis.* You, do

Holding back **Slower (♩ = 66)**

Pno. *still p* *poco cresc.*

40 **Broadening** **In tempo** (♩ = 66) *pp*

S
A
T
B

now some - thing new.

now some - thing new.

Broadening **In tempo** (♩ = 66) *p*

Pno.

45 **Slowing until the end**

mp *p* *pp*

2013
ca. 9:00

I.

O Wisdom,
Sophia's child,
and Mary's too,
bring us back to you.

O Adonai,
set us free
of fear, despair,
misogyny.

O Justice Flower
of Jesse tree,
uproot our hatreds.
Wash us clean
in just-reign waters,
plant us deep in Thee.

O Key of David,
open heaven's gate,
unlock, unblock
a captive church
too long enthralled
by hate.

O Radiant Dawn,
light the way
of all who long to preach,
to teach.

to consecrate
heavenly hosts
of God's indwelling.

O Emmanuel,
strengthen weary arms,
steady trembling knees,
bring surcease of sorrow.

O Advent Light,
dispel death's dark
shadow.

Awaken a waiting world
to life's fresh-blessed
tomorrow.

—from "O Antiphons"

TEXT

II.

I wait
with quickened hope
for crooked paths
to straighten,

with tough, soul'd
anguish,
while blinded
keepers of the keys
shut out
God's own.

(If such a thing
were possible.)

I wait,
and will not be
dismayed.

For tiny shoot
of Jesse tree
took root in me
to love,
transform,
give sight,
set free.

—"Isaiah 61"

III.

You
who make
wastelands bloom
and water flow
from stony parapets,
shower now
this hard landscape
with freely
given grace,
so poor
deserted
chosen ones
can finally rest
in amber waving fields
of tender justice.
You,
do now
something
new.

—"Emmanuel"

Joseph Gregorio (b. 1979)
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www.josephgregoriomusic.com

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