

Vesperae pro Serveto

Nicholas R. Fairbank

for SATB Chorus, Piano
and optional instrumental ensemble

Flute
Clarinet in B^b
Horn in F
Violin
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

Commissioned by First Unitarian Church of Victoria (BC, Canada)
with additional support from the Canadian Unitarian Council
and the Unitarian Universalist Association (U.S.A.)

Original Latin text by Frances Dearman

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Choral Score

Vesperae pro Serveto

1. Phos hilaron	1
2. Preces pro vigilantibus	5
3. Ambulatio	10
4. Miserere	16
5. Magnificat	19
6. Nunc dimittis	23
7. Lullaby	27

Translation

1. **O Gladsome Light**

Night is stretching her sapphire cloak in the starry heavens.
The night-star shows his fires.
In the storehouses are fish and berries and the gifts of the earth.
The north wind has blown and the leaf is no more.
The land sleeps beneath a snowy blanket.
Let us give thanks.

2. **Prayers for the Wakeful**

The sailor steers his ship through a starry sea, the shepherd guards his flock,
the night watch guard well the peace of the city.
Infants are suckled. The sick are tended. The dead are mourned.
Those who tender care, those who suffer, those who sorrow –
May they be comforted and supported.

3. **Walking at Twilight**

Twilight is at hand. There are children to be fed and washed, stories to be told before bedtime,
and a dog to be walked. Let us walk through the fields to the top of the hill.
Orion the hunter of stars has risen. It is snowing. The night grows quiet. As we cross the frozen stream
we hear water flowing beneath the ice. The snow squeaks under our feet. The grove of evergreen
trees breathes the fragrance of incense.
The moon shines out from the eyes of the wild beasts.
The hare is dancing, his coat grown snowy-white.
The deer with his branching antlers dreams in the thickets. The owl shrieks.
Once long ago the wolf howled in our forest
And the scream of the mountain cat was heard through the woods.

4. **Have Mercy**

Sometimes I cannot think what to do. Then I walk in the woods.
Let us sit for a while and watch the journey of the stars.
So many live in extreme poverty, so many have nothing to eat and only just get by.
I know that life is not fair. I feel it to be so and it makes me angry.
However small a thing, I must try to do something.

5. **The Holy Calls Me**

The Holy calls me to justice and my spirit rejoices in my God that we might heal the world.
Holy is the name of the holy one, and holy the earth, and the sky and the sea, and all living things.

6. **Send Me Now**

You send me now into the quiet of the night to live like a star, like a word in the mouth of God.

7. **Lullaby**

Night has stretched her cloak across the starry heavens.
May you all be cherished warmly, abundantly.
May we have pleasant rest. Amen.

VESPERAE PRO SERVETO

Commissioned by First Unitarian Church of Victoria, BC, Canada,
with support from the Canadian Unitarian Council and the Unitarian Universalist Association (USA).

Frances Dearman

1. Phos hilaron

Nicholas Fairbank

Broadly ♩ = 60

Piano

Small notes to be played only when piano accompaniment is used without full ensemble.

6 *mp*

S
A

T
B

Nox in cae - lis stel - la - tis pal - li - a sa-phi-

11

S
A

T
B

ri - na, sa-phi - ri - na, sa - phi-ri - na ten - dit.

SAMPLE ONLY

DO NOT COPY

1. Phos hilaron

15 *mp*

S A T B

Os-ten - dit noc-ti-fer ig - nes.

A Somewhat faster ♩ = 76

19 *mf*

T

In cel-lis pi - sces ba - nae et ter - re - nae do - mi - ni. An - ti - fla - vit bo - re - as, fo - li - um — pe —

B

mp

(Hum)

Small notes in brackets for rehearsal only

SAMPLE ONLY

DO NOT COPY

* Melody of *Phos hilaron* from the Greek Orthodox liturgy.

26 *mf*

S A T B

In cel - lis pi - sces,

In cel - lis pi - sces,

ri - it. In cel - lis pi - sces,

In cel - lis pi - sces,

26 *mf*

31

S
ba - cae et ter - re - na do - na. Af - fla - vit bo - re - as, fo - li -

A
ba - cae et ter - re - na do - na. Af - fla - vit bo - re - as, fo - li -

T
8
ba - cae et ter - re - na do - na. Af - fla - vit bo - re - as, fo - li -

B
ba - cae et ter - re - na do - na. Af - fla - vit bo - re - as, fo - li -

35 *rallentando*

S
um — pe — ri - it.

A
um — pe — ri - it.

T
8
um pe — ri - it.

B
um — pe — ri - it.

35 *rallentando*
mf

1. Phos hilaron

B

Broadly ♩ = 60

40

mp

S
A

Dor - mit tel - lus sub cen-to - ne ni - ve -

mp

T
B

46

rallentando

pp

S
A

o. Gra - ti - as a - gamus. Gra - ti - as a - ga - mus.

pp

T
B

46

rallentando

ca. 3'15"

Frances Dearman

Nicholas Fairbank

Moderato ♩ = 66

Piano

Small notes to be played only when piano accompaniment is used without full ensemble.

S
A

Do - mi-nus me - us me vo-cat ad jus-ti - ti - am

T
B

Do - mi-nus me - us me vo-cat ad jus-ti - ti - am

S

et mag-ni-fi-cat a-ni-ma me - a Do - mi-num ut

A

et mag-ni-fi-ca a-ni-ma me - a Do - mi-num ut

T

et mag-ni-fi-cat a-ni-ma me - a Do - mi-num ut

B

et mag-ni-fi-cat a-ni-ma me - a Do - mi-num ut

SAMPLE ONLY
DO NOT COPY

5. Magnificat

13 *f* *poco rit.*

S or - bem ter - ra - rum me - de - a - mur.

A or - bem ter - ra - rum me - de - a - mur.

T or - bem ter - ra - rum me - de - a - mur.

B

13 *f* *poco rit.*

mf

M *mp* *a tempo* sopranos

S **SAMPLE ONLY** Sanc - tum no - men ei - us et sanc - ta su - a ter - ra, et cae - lum et ma - re et om - ni - a a - ni - ma - li - a. —

17 *a tempo*

DO NOT COPY

mp

22 *mf*

S **CONTACT THE COMPOSER** Sanc - tum no - men ei - us et sanc - ta su - a ter - ra, et cae - lum et ma - re et om - ni - a

A **FOR FULL SCORES** Sanc - tum no - men ei - us et sanc - ta su - a ter - ra, et cae - lum et ma - re et om - ni - a

T Sanc - tum no - men ei - us et sanc - ta su - a ter - ra, et cae - lum et ma - re et om - ni - a

B Sanc - tum no - men ei - us et sanc - ta su - a ter - ra, et cae - lum et ma - re et om - ni - a

22

5. Magnificat

26

S a - ni - ma - li - a.

A a - ni - ma - li - a.

T a - ni - ma - li - a.

B a - ni - ma - li - a.

N

S Do - mi - nus me - us me vo - cat ad jus - ti - ti - am

T

B

mf

31

mp

35

S sopranos only et mag - ni - fi - cat a - ni - ma

T Do - mi - nus me - us me vo - cat ad jus - ti - ti - am

B

mf

35

5. Magnificat

38

S me - a Do - mi-num *f* ut

A *mf* et mag - ni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi-num ut

T 8 et mag - ni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi-num ut

B

41

S *mf* or - bem ter - ra - rum me - de - a - mur, *rallentando...* me - de - a - mur.

A *mf* or - bem ter - ra - rum me - de - a - mur, me - de - a - mur.

T 8 *mf* or - bem ter - ra - rum me - de - a - mur, me - de - a - mur.

B or - bem ter - ra - rum me - de - a - mur, me - de - a - mur.

41 *f* *mf* *rallentando...*