

Music for the Psalms is dedicated in its entirety to Peter Sykes

MUSIC FOR THE PSALMS

Birds of the Psalms, Movement 6,

commissioned by and dedicated to Cappella Clausura, Amelia Leclair, Director,

Psalm 63 (I Seek You)

I seek you, my soul thirsts for you, as in a barren and dry land,
for your loving-kindness is better than life itself.

You have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

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

Music by Patricia Van Ness
Score rev. 15 August 2016

mp - mf using natural dynamics *With tenderness; sempre molto legato;*
Stagger breathing throughout

$\text{♩} = 76$

mp *mf*

Soprano my

mp *mf*

Soprano Stagger breathing throughout
With tenderness; sempre molto legato;

mp *mf*

Alto my

I seek you, seek you my my

mp *mf*

Tenor Stagger breathing throughout
With tenderness; sempre molto legato;

seek you my

mp *mf*

Bass I seek

Van Ness, Music for the Psalms, Psalm 63 (I Seek You)
Birds of the Psalms, Movement 6,

6

S. soul my soul my soul thirsts for

S. soul soul thirsts for

A. soul soul soul thirsts

T. thirsts for

Bar./B.

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the musical score, measures 6 through 9. It features five staves: Soprano 1 (S.), Soprano 2 (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), and Baritone/Bass (Bar./B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: 'soul my soul my soul thirsts for' for Soprano 1, 'soul soul thirsts for' for Soprano 2, 'soul soul soul thirsts' for Alto, and 'thirsts for' for Tenor. The Baritone/Bass staff contains a bass line with rests and notes. A double bar line is present after measure 7.

10

S. *mp* you as *mf* you dry bar -

S. *mp* you as *mf* dry and bar -

A. *mp* you as *mf* in a bar - ren

T. *mp* you as *mf* in a dry bar - -

Bar./B. *mf* as dry

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score, measures 10 through 13. It features five staves: Soprano 1 (S.), Soprano 2 (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), and Baritone/Bass (Bar./B.). The key signature changes to one flat (Bb) and the time signature remains common time (C). The lyrics are: 'you as you dry bar -' for Soprano 1, 'you as dry and bar -' for Soprano 2, 'you as in a bar - ren' for Alto, 'you as in a dry bar - -' for Tenor, and 'as dry' for Baritone/Bass. Dynamic markings *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte) are indicated. A double bar line is present after measure 11.

Van Ness, Music for the Psalms, Psalm 63 (I Seek You)
Birds of the Psalms, Movement 6,

21 *mf*

S. - ter than life

S. - - ter than life life it

A. (ter than than life

T. than life

Bar./B. than life.

24 *mp*

S. self. A - - -

S. self. A - - -

A. self. A - - -

T. (Ah a - - -

Bar./B. A - - -

Birds of the Psalms, Movement 6,

B

27

f *mp*

S. - men.____

S. - men.____ help____

A. men.____ You have been my help - er____ help__

T. - men.____ help____

Bar./B. - men.____ have been

32

mf

S. my help - per____ help - - -

S. help____ help____

A. help____ help____

T. help er____

Bar./B.

Van Ness, Music for the Psalms, Psalm 63 (I Seek You)
Birds of the Psalms, Movement 6,

37

S. *mp* *mf*
per, You my my

S. *mp* *mf*
You my my

A. *mp* *mf*
per, You have been my (help

T. *mp* *mf*
You been my (help

Bar./B. *mf*
You have been my (help

41

S. *mp*
help - - er. Un - der the shad - -

S. *mp*
help - - er. Un - der shad - ow

A. *mp*
my help - er. (Uh (shad

T. *mp*
help - er. (Uh (sha

Bar./B. *mp*
help - er. Un - der the shad - -

C

Van Ness, Music for the Psalms, Psalm 63 (I Seek You)
Birds of the Psalms, Movement 6,

45

S. - dow of your wings I

S. of your wings

A. shad - dow your wings

T. of your wings

Bar./B. - ow of your wings

48

S. shall re - - - -

S. shall re - - - -

A. shall re - - - -

T. shall re - - - - joyce.

Bar./B. I shall re - - - joyce.

Van Ness, *Music for the Psalms, Psalm 63 (I Seek You)*
Birds of the Psalms, Movement 6,

51 *mp* *rit.* *f*

S. joice. (Ah A - - - - men.

S. - joice. A - - - - men.

A. - joice. A - - - - men.

T. (Ah a - - - - men.

Bar./B. (Ah a - - - - men.