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# COR MEUM EST TEMPLUM SACRUM

(MY HEART IS A HOLY PLACE)

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text and music by

P A T R I C I A   V A N   N E S S

text translated into Latin by

E D W A R D   J .   V O D O K L Y S ,   S . J .

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Cor meum est templum sacrum  
Sanctius quam etiam mente concipiam  
Sapientius quam etiam mea labra loqui possint  
Fons mysterii et gratiae.

Cor meum primo tu creavisti vero  
Et multis cum mirandis complexisti  
Quod fingens cum manibus tuis formasti  
Et simul cum spiritu tuo tetigisti.  
Cor meum in tempestavitate sua mihi se detegit  
Et aurea venustate flumina

Fluentia monstrans  
Me ad itinera infiniti splendoris abscondita perducit.  
Tranquillitas tua expectantem tempus eius me tangit.  
Et cor meum tuum ut domum ubertim et perplexum fecisti,  
Ut aedem sapientiae ultro intelligentiam meam formasti  
Ut templum gratiarum et misteriorum cum tuis manibus finxisti.

My heart is a holy place  
Wiser and holier than I know it to be  
Wiser than my lips can speak  
A spring of mystery and grace.  
You have created my heart  
And have filled it with things of wonder.  
You have sculpted it, shaped it with your hands  
Touched it with your breath.  
In its own season it reveals itself to me  
It shows me rivers of gold  
Flowing in elegance  
And hidden paths of infinite beauty.  
You touch me with your stillness as I await its time.  
You have made it a dwelling place of richness and intricacies  
Of wisdom beyond my understanding  
Of grace and mysteries, from your hands.

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Scored for SSATB

and optional Soprano Solo

Dedicated with thanks to Peter Sykes, Music Director,  
and the Choir of First Church in Cambridge, Congregational (Massachusetts)

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# Cor meum est templum sacrum

Text © 1993 Patricia Van Ness

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*My heart is a holy place* *Wiser and holier than I know it to be*

1 2 3 4

Soprano  
Cor me-um est templum sa-crum sanc-ti-us quam e-ti-am men-te con-

Alto

Tenor  
Cor me - um est

Bass  
Cor me - um est

*Wiser than my lips can speak*

5 6 7 8

Sop.  
ci-pi-am, sa-pi - en-ti-us quam e-ti-am me-a la-bra lo - qui pos-sint,

Alto.

Ten.  
tem - plum sa - plum - crum,

Bs.  
tem - plum sa - plum - crum,

*A spring of mystery and grace.* *You have created my heart*

9 10 11

Sop.  
Fons my - ste - ri'i

Alto.  
Fons my-ste-ri'i gra-ti - ae cor me-um pri-mo tu cre-a-vi - sti ve-ro

Ten.  
Fons my - ste -

Bs.  
Fons my - ste -

# Cor meum est templum sacrum/Pg.3

12 *And have filled it with things of wonder.* 13 14 *You have sculpted it, shaped it with your hands* 15

Sop. Et mi - ran - dis com - ple - vi - sti ma - ni - bus

Alto. et mul - tis cum mi - ran - dis com - ple - vi - sti Quod fin - gens cum ma - ni - bus

Ten. ri'i et gra - ti

Bs. ri'i et gra - ti

16 *Touched it with your breath.* 17 **Solo Soprano** 18 19

Sop. tu - is for - ma - sti Cor me - um

Alto. for - ma - sti

Ten. a, Et si - mul cum spi - ri - tu tu - o te - ti

Bs. a, Et si - mul cum spi - ri - tu tu - o te - ti

20 *In its own season it reveals itself to me* 21 **Tutti Sop. m. 21 ff** 22 23

Sop. est tem - plum sac -

Alto.

Ten. gi - sti Cor me - um in tem - pe - sta - vi - sta - te su - a mi - hi

Bs. gi - sti Cor me - um in tem - pe - sta - vi - sta - te su - a mi - hi

# Cor meum est templum sacrum/Pg.4

*It shows me rivers of gold,* *Flowing in elegance*

24 25 26 27

Sop. rum, au - re - a ve - nu - sta - te flu - mi - na Flu - en - ti - a

Alto. au - re - a

Ten. se de - te - git et au - re - a ve - nu - sta - te flu - mi - na Flu - en - ti - a

Bs. se de - te - git et au - re - a ve - nu - sta - te flu - mi - na Flu - en - ti - a

*And hidden paths of infinite beauty.*

28 29 30 31

Sop. mon - strans me ad i - ter - na in - fi - ni - ti splen - do - ris ab - scon - di - ta per -

Alto. ve - nu - sta - te

Ten. mon - strans me ad i - ter - na in - fi - ni - ti splen - do - ris ab - scon - di - ta per -

Bs. mon - strans me ad i - ter - na in - fi - ni - ti splen - do - ris ab - scon - di - ta per -

*You touch me with your stillness as I await its time.*

32 **Solo Sop.** 33 34 35

Sop. du - cit, Tran - quil - li - ta - tas tu - a ex - pec - tan - tem tem - pus e - i - us

Alto.

Ten. du - cit, Tran - qui - lli -

Bs. du - cit, Tran - qui - lli -

# Cor meum est templum sacrum/Pg.5

## Tutti sop. beat 3 m. 37 ff.

*You have made it a dwelling place of richness and intricacies,*

36 37 38 39 40

Sop. me tan - git Et cor me - um tu - um ut do - mum u - ber - tim

Alto.

Ten. ta - tas tu - a e -

Bs. ta - tas tu - a e -

*Of wisdom beyond my understanding*

41 42 43 44

Sop. Et tan - tem

Alto. et - per - ple - xum fe - ci - sti ut ae - dem sa - pi - en - ti - ae

Ten. xpec - tan - tem

Bs. xpec - tan - tem

*Of grace and mysteries, from your hands.*

45 46 47 48 49

Sop. ul - tro in - tel - li gen - ti - am me - am for - ma - sti Ut tem - plum gra - ti -

Alto. ul - tro me - am for - ma - sti Ut tem - plum gra - ti -

Ten. ul - tro in - tel - li gen - ti - am for - ma - sti, Tu -

Bs. ul - tro in - tel - li gen - ti - am for - ma - sti, Tu -

# Cor meum est templum sacrum/Pg.6

50 51 52 53

Sop. a - rum et my - ste - ri - o - rum cum tu - is ma - ni - bus fin -

Alto. a - rum et my - ste - ri - o - rum cum tu - is ma - ni - bus fin -

Ten. is ma - ni - bus fin -

Bs. is ma - ni - bus fin -

54 55 56 57

Sop. xi - sti, A - men.

Alto. xi - sti, A - men.

Ten. xi - sit, A - men.

Bs. xi - sit, A - men.