

for Tom Smith and the choir of Christ Church, Georgetown

Psalm 84

Quam dilecta!

C. H. H. Parry (1848-1918)
arr. Chris Biemesderfer (b.1958)

a cappella

1. O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!

2. My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord;

my heart and my flesh re - joice in the liv - ing God.

Unison

3. Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,

soft flute 8'

and the swallow a nest, where she may lay her young;

even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Unison

4. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; they will be al - way prais - ing thee.

5. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are thy ways.

TTBB

8

6. Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well;

soft solo 8' + ped.

8

and the pools are filled with wa - ter.

8

7. They will go from strength to strength,

and unto the God of gods appeareth ev'ry one of them in Sion.

The first system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is D major (two sharps). The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment features a long, sweeping melodic line in the right hand and a more rhythmic bass line in the left hand.

a cappella

8. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; heark-en, O God of Ja - cob.

The second system is marked "a cappella". It continues the vocal line from the first system, with a triplet of eighth notes on "heark-en". The piano accompaniment is absent, leaving empty staves for the piano part.

9. Behold, O God our de - fender, and look upon the face of thine a - noointed.

The third system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. It features a triplet of eighth notes on "de - fender" and a long, sweeping melodic line in the right hand of the piano part. The key signature remains D major.

Unison

8 10. For one day in thy courts is bet - ter than a thou - sand.

Man.

8 11. I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God,

Ped.

8 than to dwell in the tents of un - godliness.

Unison

8 12. For the Lord God is a light and de - - fence;

8 the Lord will give grace and worship; ✓
and no good thing shall he withhold from them that live a god - ly life.

TTBB

8 13. O Lord God of hosts, blessed is the man that put - teth his trust in thee.

a cappella

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

The first system of musical notation is for a four-part a cappella setting. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost;"

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - - er shall be,

The second system of musical notation continues the hymn. The melody in the treble staff has a slight rise in pitch towards the end of the phrase. The lyrics are: "As it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - - er shall be,"

world without end. A - - - - - men.

The third system of musical notation concludes the hymn. It features a final cadence in the treble staff. The lyrics are: "world without end. A - - - - - men."