

Please note that not all pages are included. This is purposely done in order to protect our property and the work of our esteemed composers.

If you would like to see this work in its entirety, please order online or call us at 800-647-2117.

Program Notes

And the Night Will Shine as Day is based on *Psalm 139* as translated in *Psalms Anew* (St. Mary's Press) by Sisters Maureen Leach and Nancy Schreck. The portions of text I chose to set deal with the encompassing and comforting nature of God and the guiding aspects of faith. The music seeks to envelop the meaning of the text, with numerous instances of word painting. Listen, for example, to the musical settings of "flew to the point of sunrise," or "sink to Sheol." Subtler representation includes the registral hollowness of the sound prior to the words "God search me." The harmonic structure is also organized around the textual meaning, with the darker chordal motion of the opening transformed into a more radiant consonance at the close.

This piece was composed in memory of Mary Leigh Walker for soprano Priscilla Little and organist Linda Hanson. I am grateful to the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville, Virginia, which kindly allowed me use of their fine tracker-action organ during the compositional process. For more information, visit www.judithshatin.com.

—Judith Shatin

Psalm 139

(as adapted by the composer)

Yahweh, you search me and know me.
You know if I stand or sit.
You perceive my thoughts from far away.
Before a word is even on my tongue, Yahweh,
you know it completely.
Close behind, and close in front you hem me in,
shielding me with your hand.
Such knowledge is beyond my understanding,
too high beyond my reach.
Where could I go to escape your spirit?
If I climb to the heavens you are there;
there, too, if I sink to Sheol.
If I flew to the point of sunrise—
or far across the sea—
your hand will still be guiding me.
If I asked darkness to cover me,
and light to become night around me,
that darkness would not be dark to you.
God search me and know my heart;
and guide me in the way of life eternal,
that the darkness may not be so dark,
and the night will shine as day.

Translation: © Copyright by Maureen Leach, OSF,
and Nancy Schreck, OSF.
Used and adapted by permission.

Psalm 139

In Praise of God's Omniscience

Yahweh, you search me and know me.
You know if I am standing or sitting.
You perceive my thoughts from far away.
Whether I walk or lie down, you are watching;
you are familiar with all my ways.
Before a word is even on my tongue, Yahweh,
you know it completely.
Close behind and close in front you hem me in,
shielding me with your hand.
Such knowledge is beyond my understanding,
too high beyond my reach.
Where could I go to escape your spirit?
Where could I flee from your presence?
If I climb to the heavens, you are there;
there, too, if I sink to Sheol.
If I flew to the point of sunrise—
or far across the sea—
your hand would still be guiding me,
your right hand holding me.
If I asked darkness to cover me
and light to become night around me,
that darkness would not be dark to you;
night would shine as the day.
You created my inmost being
and knit me together in my mother's womb.
For all these mysteries— for the wonder of myself,
for the wonder of your works—
I thank you.
You know me through and through
from having watched my bones take shape
when I was being formed in secret,
woven together in the womb.
You have seen my every action;
all were recorded in your book—
my days determined
even before the first one began.
God, your thoughts are mysterious!
How vast is their sum.
I could no more count them
than I could count the sand!
And even if I could,
you would still be with me.
God, if only you would destroy the wicked!
They speak evil about you,
regard your thoughts as nothing.
Yahweh, I hate those who hate you
and loathe those who rise against you.
I hate them with a total hatred;
they are my enemies, too.
God, search me and know my heart;
probe me and know my thoughts.
Make sure I do not follow evil ways,
and guide me in the way of life eternal.

Translation: © Copyright by Maureen Leach, OSF,
and Nancy Schreck, OSF.
Used by permission.

And the Night Will Shine as Day

for Soprano and Organ

Psalm 139

Judith Shatin

Maureen Leach, OSF,
Nancy Schreck, OSF, tr.
J. S., alt.

Solemn ♩ = 60

Organ
Coupled Great *f* Sw.

Pedal
Reeds *f* *mf*

6 *mf* *f* *f*

11 Gt. -Ped. Tr. *mp*

Translation: © Copyright by Maureen Leach, OSF, and Nancy Schreck, OSF. Used and adapted by permission.

Music: © Copyright 2016 by Ione Press, Inc., a division of ECS Publishing.
www.ecspublishing.com All rights reserved.

16 *mf*

Yah - weh, you search me and know me.

Gt. *f*

f

This system contains measures 16 through 20. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The vocal line begins with the lyrics 'Yah - weh, you search me and know me.' The piano accompaniment includes a guitar part labeled 'Gt. f' and a string part labeled 'f'.

21

You know if I stand or sit.

Sw.

mp

This system contains measures 21 through 25. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'You know if I stand or sit.' The piano accompaniment includes a string part labeled 'Sw.' and a dynamic marking of '*mp*'.

26

You per - ceive my thoughts from far _____ a - way.

Gt. *mf*

mp

(Man.)

This system contains measures 26 through 30. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'You per - ceive my thoughts from far _____ a - way.' The piano accompaniment includes a guitar part labeled 'Gt. mf' and a dynamic marking of '*mp*'. The system concludes with the instruction '(Man.)'.

56

mp

Where could I go to es-cape your spir - it?

Musical score for measures 56-59. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass staff. The piano part includes a guitar (Gt.) and a string (Sw.) section. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*.

60

mf

poco cresc.-----

If I climb to the heav-ens you are there; there, too, if I

Musical score for measures 60-64. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass staff. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*.

65

mp

mf

f

sink to She - ol. If I flew to the point of sun - rise—

Musical score for measures 65-68. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass staff. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, and *f*.

70 *mf*

or far _____ a-cross the sea— your hand will still be

(Man.)

74 *mf*

guid - ing me. _____ If I asked dark - ness to cov - er me, _

mp

78 *mf*

and light to be-come night a - round me, that dark - ness would not be dark to

100 *(cresc.)*----- *f*

shine as day, as day, as day.

mf *f* *cresc. molto*----- *ffff*

1988
rev. 2008
6'00"

Copying is illegal
Review copy only