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# To You, O Lord

Michael Joncas

Cantor, SAB  
Organ, Guitar

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# To You, O Lord

for Peggy Lovrien

Psalm 25:4–5, 8–9, 10–14

Michael Joncas

## INTRO:

Organ *mp*

Ped.

## REFRAIN: 1st time: Cantor; All repeat

*p*

To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I

lift up, I lift up my soul.

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VERSE 1: Cantor/Unison Men

*p* 1. Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; \_\_\_\_\_ teach \_\_\_\_\_ *mp*

Man. *pp* *p*

Detailed description: This system contains the first two lines of music. The vocal line begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a melodic phrase with a fermata. The piano accompaniment starts with a mezzo-piano (*pp*) dynamic and features a series of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand. The system concludes with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

1. me your paths. *mf* Guide me in your truth and

*mp*

Detailed description: This system contains the next two lines of music. The vocal line continues with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a melodic phrase with a fermata. The piano accompaniment continues with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, featuring chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

1. teach me, \_\_\_\_\_ for you \_\_\_\_\_ are God my Sav-ior. \_\_\_\_\_

Detailed description: This system contains the final two lines of music. The vocal line concludes with a melodic phrase and a fermata. The piano accompaniment continues with chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, ending with a fermata.

REFRAIN:

Cantor/All

*mp*

To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I

Musical staff for Cantor/All in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody consists of quarter notes: G2, A2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6, D6, E6, F6, G6, A6, Bb6, C7, D7, E7, F7, G7, A7, Bb7, C8, D8, E8, F8, G8, A8, Bb8, C9, D9, E9, F9, G9, A9, Bb9, C10, D10, E10, F10, G10, A10, Bb10, C11, D11, E11, F11, G11, A11, Bb11, C12, D12, E12, F12, G12, A12, Bb12, C13, D13, E13, F13, G13, A13, Bb13, C14, D14, E14, F14, G14, A14, Bb14, C15, D15, E15, F15, G15, A15, Bb15, C16, D16, E16, F16, G16, A16, Bb16, C17, D17, E17, F17, G17, A17, Bb17, C18, D18, E18, F18, G18, A18, Bb18, C19, D19, E19, F19, G19, A19, Bb19, C20, D20, E20, F20, G20, A20, Bb20, C21, D21, E21, F21, G21, A21, Bb21, C22, D22, E22, F22, G22, A22, Bb22, C23, D23, E23, F23, G23, A23, Bb23, C24, D24, E24, F24, G24, A24, Bb24, C25, D25, E25, F25, G25, A25, Bb25, C26, D26, E26, F26, G26, A26, Bb26, C27, D27, E27, F27, G27, A27, Bb27, C28, D28, E28, F28, G28, A28, Bb28, C29, D29, E29, F29, G29, A29, Bb29, C30, D30, E30, F30, G30, A30, Bb30, C31, D31, E31, F31, G31, A31, Bb31, C32, D32, E32, F32, G32, A32, Bb32, C33, D33, E33, F33, G33, A33, Bb33, C34, D34, E34, F34, G34, A34, Bb34, C35, D35, E35, F35, G35, A35, Bb35, C36, D36, E36, F36, G36, A36, Bb36, C37, D37, E37, F37, G37, A37, Bb37, C38, D38, E38, F38, G38, A38, Bb38, C39, D39, E39, F39, G39, A39, Bb39, C40, D40, E40, F40, G40, A40, Bb40, C41, D41, E41, F41, G41, A41, Bb41, C42, D42, E42, F42, G42, A42, Bb42, C43, D43, E43, F43, G43, A43, Bb43, C44, D44, E44, F44, G44, A44, Bb44, C45, D45, E45, F45, G45, A45, Bb45, C46, D46, E46, F46, G46, A46, Bb46, C47, D47, E47, F47, G47, A47, Bb47, C48, D48, E48, F48, G48, A48, Bb48, C49, D49, E49, F49, G49, A49, Bb49, C50, D50, E50, F50, G50, A50, Bb50, C51, D51, E51, F51, G51, A51, Bb51, C52, D52, E52, F52, G52, A52, Bb52, C53, D53, E53, F53, G53, A53, Bb53, C54, D54, E54, F54, G54, A54, Bb54, C55, D55, E55, F55, G55, A55, Bb55, C56, D56, E56, F56, G56, A56, Bb56, C57, D57, E57, F57, G57, A57, Bb57, C58, D58, E58, 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G297, A297, Bb297, C298, D298, E298, F298, G298, A298, Bb298, C299, D299, E299, F299, G299, A299, Bb299, C300, D300, E300, F300, G300, A300, Bb300, C301, D301, E301, F301, G301, A301, Bb301, C302, D302, E302, F302, G302, A302, Bb302, C303, D303, E303, F303, G303, A303, Bb303, C304, D304, E304, F304, G304, A304, Bb304, C305, D305, E305, F305, G305, A305, Bb305, C306, D306, E306, F306, G306, A306, Bb306, C307, D307, E307, F307, G307, A307, Bb307, C308, D308, E308, F308, G308, A308, Bb308, C309, D309, E309, F309, G309, A309, Bb309, C310, D310, E310, F310, G310, A310, Bb310, C311, D311, E311, F311, G311, A311, Bb311, C312, D312, E312, F312, G312, A312, Bb312, C313, D313, E313, F313, G313, A313, Bb313, C314, D314, E314, F314, G314, A314, Bb314, C315, D315, E315, F315, G315, A315, Bb315, C316, D316, E316, F316, G316, A316, Bb316, C317, D317, E317, F317, G317, A317, Bb317, C318, D318, E318, F318, G318, A318, Bb318, C319, D319, E319, F319, G319, A319, Bb319, C320, D320, E320, F320, G320, A320, Bb320, C321, D321, E321, F321, G321, A321, Bb321, C322, D322, E322, F322, G322, A322, Bb322, C323, D323, E323, F323, G323, A323, Bb323, C324, D324, E324, F324, G324, A324, Bb324, C325, D325, E325, F325, G325, A325, Bb325, C326, D326, E326, F326, G326, A326, Bb326, C327, D327, E327, F327, G327, A327, Bb327, C328, D328, E328, F328, G328, A328, Bb328, C329, D329, E329, F329, G329, A329, Bb329, C330, D330, E330, F330, G330, A330, Bb330, C331, D331, E331, F331, G331, A331, Bb331, C332, D332, E332, F332, G332, A332, Bb332, C333, D333, E333, F333, G333, A333, Bb333, C334, D334, E334, F334, G334, A334, Bb334, C335, D335, E335, F335, G335, A335, Bb335, C336, D336, E336, F336, G336, A336, Bb336, C337, D337, E337, F337, G337, A337, Bb337, C338, D338, E338, F338, G338, A338, Bb338, C339, D339, E339, F339, G339, A339, Bb339, C340, D340, E340, F340, G340, A340, Bb340, C341, D341, E341, F341, G341, A341, Bb341, C342, D342, E342, F342, G342, A342, Bb342, C343, D343, E343, F343, G343, A343, Bb343, C344, D344, E344, F344, G344, A344, Bb344, C345, D345, E345, F345, G345, A345, Bb345, C346, D346, E346, F346, G346, A346, Bb346, C347, D347, E347, F347, G347, A347, Bb347, C348, D348, E348, F348, G348, A348, Bb348, C349, D349, E349, F349, G349, A349, Bb349, C350, D350, E350, F350, G350, A350, Bb350, C351, D351, E351, F351, G351, A351, Bb351, C352, D352, E352, F352, G352, A352, Bb352, C353, D353, E353, F353, G353, A353, Bb353, C354, D354, E354, F354, G354, A354, Bb354, C355, D355, E355, F355, G355, A355, Bb355, C356, D356, E356, F356, G356, A356, Bb356, C357, D357, E357, F357, G357, A357, Bb357, C358, D358, E358, F358, G358, A358, Bb358, C359, D359, E359, F359, G359, A359, Bb359, C360, D360, E360,

## VERSE 2: Unison Women

*p* *mp*

2. Good and up - right is the Lord; \_\_\_\_\_ thus he shows

Man. *pp* *p*

(div.) *mf*

2. sin - ners the way. The hum - ble he — guides — to

*mp*

2. jus - tice; \_\_\_\_\_ he teach - es the hum - ble his way. \_\_\_\_\_

REFRAIN:

Cantor/All

*mp*

To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I

Soprano

*mp*

Alto

To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I

Baritone

*mp*

To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I

*mp*  
Ped.

lift up, I lift up my soul.

lift up, I lift up my soul.

lift up, I lift up my soul.

## VERSE 3:

S/A (unis.) *mp*

3. Kind-ness and con-stant-cy— the paths of the Lord for those who keep

*mp*

Man. *p*

3. cov-er-ant with him. The friend-ship of the Lord — with

(div.) *f*

*f*

*mf*

3. those who re-vere him, his cov-er-ant for their in-struction.

*mf*

*mf*

REFRAIN:

Cantor/All

*mf*  
To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I lift up, I

*mf*  
To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I lift up, I

*mf*  
B (Melody)

*mf*

This system contains the first two staves of the refrain. The top staff is for the Cantor/All with lyrics. The second staff is for the Soprano (S) and Alto (A) voices, also with lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves: a right-hand melody and a left-hand accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamic marking is *mf* (mezzo-forte).

lift up my soul.

lift up my soul.

*mp*

This system contains the third and fourth staves of the refrain. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics "lift up my soul." The piano accompaniment continues with the right-hand melody and left-hand accompaniment. The dynamic marking changes to *mp* (mezzo-piano). The time signature changes to 3/4.

*rit. e dim.*

This system contains the fifth and sixth staves of the refrain. The piano accompaniment concludes the piece. The dynamic marking is *rit. e dim.* (ritardando e diminuendo). The time signature changes back to 4/4.



## Performance Notes

Scholars classify this acrostic psalm as an individual lament with three major divisions: 1) verses 1–7, repeated requests for God to intervene; 2) verses 8–15, teaching about the “way” and the “fear” of the Lord; and 3) verses 16–21, another series of requests for help. Verse 22 seems to be a later addition, both because it falls outside the alphabetical structure of the poem and because it introduces a prayer for Israel into an individual lament. In this setting stanza one is taken from the first section, while stanzas two and three are taken from the second section of the psalm. Psalm 25 shows strong influence from the wisdom movement, especially in the desire to know and observe the Lord’s “ways.” *Hesed we’emet* (“kindness and constancy”) in verse ten is a catchphrase indicating the essential divine characteristics of the covenant relationship; it might also be translated “absolutely faithful loving kindness.”

### **To You, O Lord (To You, O God)**

*(Optional Inclusive-Language Text)*

#### **REFRAIN:**

To you, O God, to you, O God, I lift up, I lift up my soul.

1. Your ways, O God, make known to me;...

2. Good and upright is my God;

showing to sinners the way.

The humble you guide to justice;

you teach [2 notes] the humble your way.

3. Kindness and constancy your path, holy God,

for those who keep cov’nant with you.

Your friendship, holy God, with those who revere you,

your covenant for their instruction.

# To You, O Lord

for Peggy Lovrien  
(Guitar/Vocal)

Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10-14

Michael Joncas

**INTRO:**

Capo 1: (D) (Em7) (Bm7) (G) (Bm) (F#m) (Em7) (A) (D)  
 \*(flute) Eb Fm7 Cm7 Ab Cm Gm Fm7 Bb Eb

**REFRAIN:** 1st time: Cantor; All repeat; thereafter: All

(D) (Em7) (Bm7) (G) (Bm) (F#m)  
 mp Eb Fm7 Cm7 Ab Cm Gm

To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I lift up, I

(Em7) (A) 1-4 (D) (1st time: D.S.) Final (D)  
 Fm7 Bb Eb to Verses Eb (flute)

lift up my soul. soul.

(Em7) (Bm7) (G) (Bm) (F#m) (Em7) (A) (D)  
 Fm7 Cm7 Ab Cm Gm Fm7 Bb Eb *Fine*

**VERSES:**

(D2) (D) (Asus4) (A)  
 p Eb2 Eb Bb sus4 Bb

1. Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;

2. Good and up-right is the Lord;

3. Kind-ness and con-stan-cy—the paths of the Lord for

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\*Flute part found in *A Voice Cries Out*, edition # 10206.

(C2) Db2 (D) Eb (A) Bb

1. teach \_\_\_\_\_ me your paths.

*mp*

2. thus he shows sin - ners the way. The

3. those who keep cov - 'nant with him. The

(Bm) Cm (F#m/A) Gm/Bb (G) Ab

1. Guide me in your truth and teach me, \_\_\_\_\_ for

*mf*

2. hum - ble he \_\_\_ guides to jus - tice; \_\_\_\_\_ he

*f* *mf*

3. friend - ship of the Lord with those who re - vere him, his

(D/F#) Eb/G (G) Ab (Em7) Fm7 (A) Bb *D.S.*

1. you \_\_\_\_\_ are God my Sav - ior. \_\_\_\_\_ *D.S.*

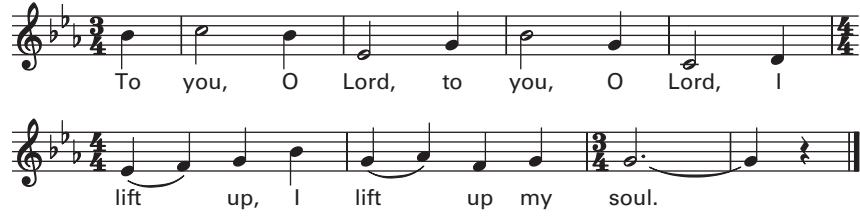
2. teach - es the hum - ble his way. \_\_\_\_\_ *D.S.*

3. cov - e - nant for their in - struc - tion. \_\_\_\_\_ *D.S.*

## Assembly Edition

### TO YOU, O LORD

Michael Joncas



To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I  
lift up, I lift up my soul.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Your ways, O Lord,<br/>make known to me;<br/>teach me your paths.<br/>Guide me in your truth and teach me,<br/>for you are God my savior.</p> | <p>3. Kindness and constancy<br/>the paths of the Lord<br/>for those who keep covenant with him.<br/>The friendship of the Lord<br/>with those who revere him,<br/>his covenant for their instruction.</p> |
| <p>2. Good and upright is the Lord;<br/>thus he shows sinners the way.<br/>The humble he guides to justice;<br/>he teaches the humble his way.</p>  |  |

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