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# Just Like a Deer

Michael Joncas

SATB

Keyboard, Guitar

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# Just Like A Deer

Psalm 42:2-6; Psalm 43

Michael Joncas

♩ REFRAIN: *Flowing All*  
(Harmony after Verse 1)

Melody  
Harmony

When will I come to the end of my pil - grim-age and en - ter the

Keyboard

pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_ When will I come to the end of my

pil - grim-age and en - ter the pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_

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## VERSE 1:

1. Just like a deer \_\_\_\_\_ longs for the stream, so do I  
 \*1. *Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waves. All of your*  
 \*1. *Plead for me, Lord, stand wit - ness for me; de - liv - er my*

1. long for you, \_\_\_\_\_ my God. My heart and soul are  
 1. *bil - lows surge o - ver me. Your love by day and your*  
 1. *life from cun - ning de - ceit. You are my God, my*

1. thirst-ing for you, \_\_\_\_\_ long - ing for you, my God. \_\_\_\_\_ *D.S.*  
 1. *song in the night: a prayer to the God of my life. \_\_\_\_\_*  
 1. *ref - uge, my hope. \_\_\_\_\_ Why have you cast me off? \_\_\_\_\_*

\*Alternate texts for Verse 1.

## VERSE 2:

## Melody

2. Tears are my food \_\_\_\_\_ night - fall and dawn: "Where is your  
 \*2. Have you for - got - ten me, God \_\_\_\_\_ my Rock? Why do I  
 \*2. Send out your light; \_\_\_\_\_ send out your truth. On - ward they

*cresc.*

2. God?" I \_\_\_\_\_ hear all day long. All I re - call as I  
 2. mourn, op - pressed by my foes? Day af - ter day, like a  
 2. guide to the place where you dwell. Then I will go to the

*dim.*

2. pour out my soul are the songs of the house \_ of the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. wound in my heart, they ques - tion me: "Where \_ is your God?" \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. al - tar of God, to the God of my glad - ness and joy. \_\_\_\_\_

*dim.* *p*

\*Alternate texts for Verse 2.

**REFRAIN:**

**Soprano**  
When will I come, \_\_\_\_\_ come to the

**Alto**  
When will I come to the end of my pil - grim - age and en - ter the

**Unison Men/All**  
pres - ence, the pres - ence of God? When will I come, \_\_\_\_\_  
pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_ When will I come to the end of my  
\_\_\_\_\_ come to the pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_  
pil - grim - age and en - ter the pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_

## VERSE 3:

Tenor/Bass

3. Why so cast down, why bit - ter, my soul? Why do you

S.  
A.

3. Hope in the Lord;

T.  
B.

3. mourn? Why do you groan?

3. count on his Word; trust in the Lord, — your God. ————

**REFRAIN:**

**Soprano/All**

*(Broadly)*

Alto  
When will I come to the end of my pil - grim - age and en - ter the

Tenor

Bass

The first system of the refrain includes vocal staves for Alto, Tenor, and Bass, and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics for the Alto part are "When will I come to the end of my pil - grim - age and en - ter the". The music is in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature, marked "Broadly".

pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_

pres - ence, the pres - ence of God? When will I come to the end of my

pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_

The second system continues the vocal parts and piano accompaniment. It includes lyrics for the Alto part: "pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_", "pres - ence, the pres - ence of God? When will I come to the end of my", and "pres - ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

The musical score is written in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems. The first system features a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "pil - grim-age and en - ter the pres-ence of God." and ends with a fermata. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics "en-ter, en - ter the pres-ence of God?" and the piano accompaniment. The third system concludes the piece with a final vocal phrase and piano accompaniment, both marked with a *rit.* (ritardando) and ending with a *Fine* double bar line.

pil - grim-age and en - ter the pres-ence of God. \_\_\_\_\_

en-ter, en - ter the pres-ence of God?

*rit.* *Fine*

*rit.* *Fine*



# Just Like A Deer

(Guitar/Vocal)

Psalm 42:2-6; Psalm 43

Michael Joncas

**REFRAIN: Flowing (1st time: Melody)**

Capo 3: (G) Bb (C) Eb (Gmaj7) Bb maj7 (C) Eb (G) Bb

Melody  
Harmony

When will I come to the end of my pil - grim-age and en - ter the pres-ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_

When will I come to the end of my pil - grim-age and en - ter the pres-ence of God? \_\_\_\_\_

(A7) C7 (G) Bb (D) F (C) Eb (G) Bb (C) Eb (G) Bb (to Vss.) *Fine*

**VERSES: Ps 42:2-6**

(G) Bb (Am7) Cm7 (D) F (G) Bb (Em) Gm

(Am7) Cm7 (F) Ab (D) F (G) Bb (Am7) Cm7

(D) F (Em) Gm (C) Eb (Am7) Cm7 (D) F (C) Eb (G) Bb *D.C.*

1. Just like a deer \_\_\_\_\_ longs for the stream, so do I  
 2. Tears are my food \_\_\_\_\_ night - fall and dawn: "Where is your  
 3. Why so cast down, why bit - ter, my soul? Why do you

1. long for you, \_\_\_\_\_ my God. My heart and soul are  
 2. God?" I hear all day long. All I re - call as I  
 3. mourn? \_\_\_\_\_ Why do you groan? Hope in the Lord; \_\_\_\_\_

1. thirst - ing for you, \_\_\_\_\_ long - ing for you, my God. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. pour out my soul are the songs of the house of the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. count on his Word; \_\_\_\_\_ trust in the Lord, your God. \_\_\_\_\_

## ALTERNATE VERSES I: Ps 42:8-12

(G) (Am7) (D) (G) (Em)  
Bb Cm7 F Bb Gm

1. Deep calls to deep \_\_\_\_\_ in the roar of your waves. All of your
2. Have you for - got - ten me, God \_\_\_\_\_ my Rock? Why do I
3. Why so cast down, \_\_\_\_\_ why bit - ter, my soul? Why do you

(Am7) (F) (D) (G) (Am7)  
Cm7 Ab F Bb Cm7

1. bil - lows surge o - ver me. Your love by day and your
2. mourn op - pressed by my foes? Day af - ter day, like a
3. mourn? \_\_\_\_\_ Why do you groan? Hope in the Lord;

(D) (Em) (C) (Am7) (D) (C) (G)  
F Gm Eb Cm7 F Eb Bb *D.C.*

1. song in the night: a prayer to the God of my life. \_\_\_\_\_
2. wound in my heart, they ques - tion me: "Where is your God?" \_\_\_\_\_
3. count on his Word; \_\_\_\_\_ trust in the Lord, your God. \_\_\_\_\_

## ALTERNATE VERSES II: Ps 43

(G) (Am7) (D) (G) (Em)  
Bb Cm7 F Bb Gm

1. Plead for me, Lord, stand wit - ness for me; de - liv - er my
2. Send out your light; \_\_\_\_\_ send out your truth. On - ward they
3. Why so cast down, why bit - ter, my soul? Why do you

(Am7) (F) (D) (G) (Am7)  
Cm7 Ab F Bb Cm7

1. life from \_\_\_\_\_ cun - ning de - ceit. You are my God, my
2. guide to the place where you dwell. Then I will go to the
3. mourn? \_\_\_\_\_ Why do you groan? Hope in the Lord; \_\_\_\_\_

(D) (Em) (C) (Am7) (D) (C) (G)  
F Gm Eb Cm7 F Eb Bb *D.C.*

1. ref - uge, my hope. \_\_\_\_\_ Why have you cast me off? \_\_\_\_\_
2. al - tar of God, to the God of my glad - ness and joy. \_\_\_\_\_
3. count on his Word; \_\_\_\_\_ trust in the Lord, your God. \_\_\_\_\_

ALTERNATE FINAL REFRAIN: Tempo *ad lib.*-Broadly

*mp* (G) Bb (C) Eb (Gmaj7) Bb maj7 (C) Eb

When will I come to the end of my pil - grim-age and

(G) Bb (Em7) Gm7 (Am7) Cm7 (D) F

en - ter the pres - ence, the pres - ence of God?

pres - ence of God?

*p* (G) Bb (C) Eb (Em) Gm *dim.* (A7) C7

When will I come to the end of my pil - grim-age and

*pp* (G) Bb (D) F (C) Eb (G) Bb *Fine*

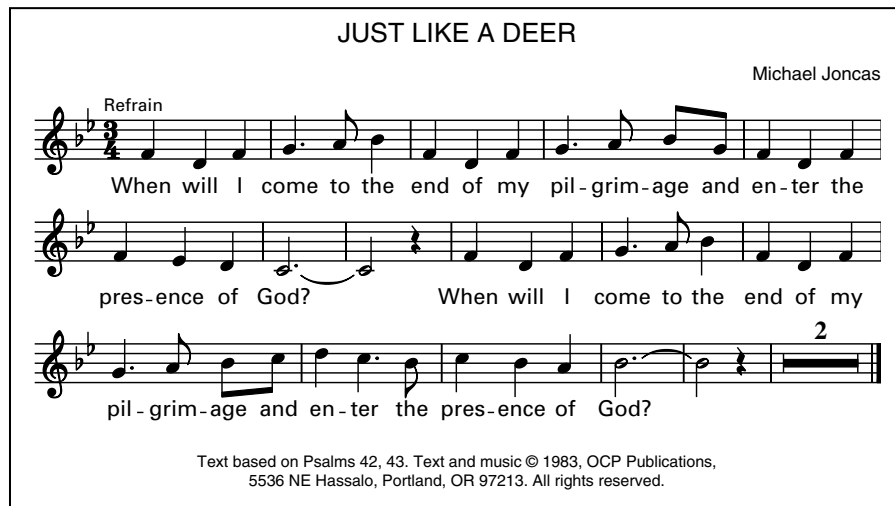
en - ter the pres - ence of God

en - ter, en - ter the pres - ence of God?

## Assembly Edition

**JUST LIKE A DEER**

Michael Joncas



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## Performance Notes

Most Scripture scholars suggest that Psalm 42/43 originally formed one unit of psalmody; the same “refrain” occurs three times in the text (42:5–6, 42:11, and 43:5–6) and there is no “title” at the beginning of Psalm 43. It is classified as an individual lament, yet scripture scholar Sigmund Mowinckel considers this intensely personal poem to be uttered in the name of the community. The shifts of feeling and the water imagery are especially notable in evoking a mood of longing.

Until the reforms of Vatican II, the Roman Eucharist (in the Missal of Pius V) used Psalm 43 as the text for the “prayers at the foot of the altar.” In the revised Eucharistic liturgy it is appointed for use during the Easter Vigil, Christian Initiation, and Masses for the Dead; in the Liturgy of the Hours Psalm 42 is appointed for Monday Morning Prayer of Week II, and Psalm 43 for Tuesday Morning Prayer of Week II. In addition it appears in the Office of Readings for the Office of the Dead. I have used this setting in Advent and Lent scripture services as well as at wakes and graveside services.

*Just Like A Deer* is straightforward and lyrical without great dynamic contrasts. The refrain is compatible with the Joseph Gelineau setting of Psalm 42 in the Grail Gelineau Psalter. I have provided two sets of “alternate” verses which paraphrase all of Psalm 42/43; these verses may be used interchangeably if the piece is used as a communion processional.

—M.J.

**Just Like A Deer**  
(Optional Inclusive-Language Text)

**REFRAIN:** No change

**VERSES:**

1. No change
2. ...are the songs of the house of our God,
3. ...Hope in our God, sing praise once again,  
(God: half note; sing: quarter)

**ALTERNATE VERSES I:**

1. No change
2. No change
3. Same as 3 above

**ALTERNATE VERSES II:**

1. Plead for me, God, stand witness for me...
2. No change
3. Same as 3 above