

OCP Choral Series

The Lord Is Kind and Merciful (Psalm 103)

Assembly, Cantor, Descant, SATB Choir, and Organ

Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13

Michael Joncas

INTRO *Gentle and flowing* (♩ = c♯) *sempre legato*

Organ

Sw. *p*

The musical score for the organ introduction is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef and contains a series of chords and moving lines. The middle staff is in bass clef and contains a few notes. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a single melodic line starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The tempo/mood is indicated as 'Gentle and flowing' with a quarter note equal to a c♯ (♩ = c♯) and 'sempre legato'.

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A full score with piano accompaniment (Ed. 21085) and parts for Flute & Oboe and Cello (Ed. 71033-Z3) are available online from the publisher. Please visit ocp.org.

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REFRAIN: Cantor

mp ⁵

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in com-

Gt. mp

mp

8

pas-sion. The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in com-

12

pas-sion.

Sw.

p

p

REFRAIN: Unison Choir

mp 17

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion. The

Gt. *mp*

mp

21

Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Sw. *p*

VERSE 1: Cantor

25

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and my being, bless his holy name.

p *mp*

(no Ped.)

29 *p* *mf* *p*

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul; for - get not all his be-ne-fits.

33 *mp* *mp* *pp* *Ct. mp* *p*

Soprano/Alto (Melody)

Tenor/Bass

The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, slow to

is kind and mer - ci - ful, slow to

W
L
M
A
S

37

an-ger and rich in com-pas-sion. The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, slow to

an - ger and rich in com - pas - sion. The Lord is kind and mer - ci - ful, slow to

41

VERSE 2: Cantor

an-ger and rich in com-pas-sion. 2. He pardons all your in-i-qui-ties,

an - ger and rich in com - pas - sion.

Sw. *p*

(needed.)

45 *mp* *mf*

2. heals _____ all your ills. He re - deems your life from de - struc - tion,

49 *mp* *p* *pp* *p*

2. crowns _ you with kind-ness and com - pas-sion

REFRAIN: All

S mp 53
The_ Lord is kind and mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger and rich in com - pas - sion. The_

T/B (Melody) mp
The_ Lord is_ kind and_ mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger and rich_ in com - pas - sion. The_

Gt. mp

mp

57
Lord is kind and mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger and rich_ in com - pas - sion.

Lord is_ kind and_ mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger and rich in com - pas - sion.

Sw. p

VERSE 3: Cantor

61 *p*

3. Mer-ci-ful and gra-cious is the LORD, slow to an-ger, a-bound-ing in

(no Ped.)

64 *mp* *mf* *mp*

3. kind-ness. Not ac-cord-ing to our sins does he deal with us, nor does

67 *p* *pp* *p*

3. he re-quite-us ac-cord-ing to our crimes

pp

p

REFRAIN

Descant *mp* 71

The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, slow to an - ger. The

S/A (Melody) *mp*

The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, slow an-ger and rich in com-pas-sion. The

T *mp*

B

The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, slow to an - ger. The

Gt. *mp*

mp

75

Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, rich in com - pas - sion.

Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger and rich in com - pas-sion.

Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, rich in com - pas - sion.

VERSE 4: Cantor

79 *p*

4. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our trans-

Sw. p

(no Ped.)

Detailed description: This system contains the first two measures of the verse. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar pattern in the left hand. A large, bold, black watermark 'LITURGICAL' is superimposed over the piano part.

82

4. gres - sions from us. As a father has com-pas-sion on his chil - dren, so the

Detailed description: This system contains measures 3 and 4. The vocal line continues with quarter notes D5, E5, F5, and G5, followed by a half note G5. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern. A large, bold, black watermark 'LITURGICAL' is superimposed over the piano part.

85

4. LORD has com-pas - sion on those who rear - him.

pp

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 5 and 6. The vocal line has quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by a half note G4. The piano accompaniment features a more complex texture with chords and sixteenth-note runs in the right hand. A large, bold, black watermark 'LITURGICAL' is superimposed over the piano part.

REFRAIN: Unison Choir

mf 89

The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger and rich in com-pas-sion. The

Gt. mp

mp

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. It begins at measure 89. The lyrics are: "The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger and rich in com-pas-sion. The". The middle staff is a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) for piano accompaniment, marked *Gt. mp*. The bottom staff is a bass line in bass clef, marked *mp*. Large black letters "W" and "L" are overlaid on the piano accompaniment.

93

Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, ger and rich in com-pas-sion.

This system contains the second two staves of music, starting at measure 93. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, ger and rich in com-pas-sion.". The piano accompaniment continues in the grand staff and bass line. Large black letters "R", "N", and "A" are overlaid on the piano accompaniment.

97

Sw. p *pp*

rit. *p* *pp*

This system contains the final two staves of music, starting at measure 97. The piano accompaniment in the grand staff is marked *Sw. p* and *pp*. The bottom staff is a bass line marked *p* and *pp*, with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. Large black letters "S" and "S" are overlaid on the piano accompaniment.

Assembly Edition

THE LORD IS KIND AND MERCIFUL
(Psalm 103)

Michael Joncas

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to
 anger and rich in com-pas-sion. The Lord is kind and
 mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger and rich in com - pas - sion.

<p>1. Bless the LORD, O my soul; all my being, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul; forget not all his benefits.</p> <p>2. He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion.</p> <p>3. Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger, abounding in kindness.</p>	<p>According to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes.</p> <p>4. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.</p>
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