Lord, Send Out Your Spirit
for Father John McGrann
Assembly, Cantor, SAT Choir, Keyboard, and Guitar
Psalm 104: 1, 24, 29–30, 31, 34
Ken Canedo

INTRO
Baptist “River” feel (q = ca. 98)

From the collection DOXOLOGY Octavo Packet #20795 Compact Disc #20794
REFRAIN: 1st time: Cantor, All repeat; thereafter: All

Soprano

Lord, send out your Spirit, and re-

Alto

new the face of the earth.

Tenor

VERSES 1, 2

1. Bless the LORD, my soul! O LORD, my
2. May the glory of the LORD, my en -

F Gm7 F/A Bb Am Gm F C/E Dm F/C
1. God, you are great indeed! How manifold is your theme;
   O Lord! The earth is full of your creatures!
2. endure forever; How pleasing to him be my theme;
   I will be glad in the Lord.

Bb6 C Dm C/E F
Gm F/A Bb
Am Gm F C/E Dm F/C Bb6
C Bb F/A Gm7 F
D.S.
VERSE 3

3. If you take away their breath, they perish

*Suggested voicing for Harmony: Altos on the lower part, Tenors (in their customary octave) on the upper part.
3. spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

3. Ah, Ah, and you renew the

3. face of the earth.

3. face of the earth.
Lord, Send Out Your Spirit

for Father John McGann

(Guitar/Vocal)

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(Keyboard)

Capo 3:

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(Keyboard)

Capo 3:
VERSE 3

3. If you take away their breath, they perish and remain dust.

3. turn to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

Composer Notes

Psalm 104 is the prescribed responsorial psalm for Pentecost, and this gospel-style setting utilizes the verbatim (Lectionary) text, (albeit with one line missing from verse 2). The song is also useful for confirmation and for any celebration of the Holy Spirit.

Some musicologists refer to the motif of this song as the “Baptist River” style, a uniquely American approach to hymn interpretation that relies on a pronounced chored piano, a basic I-IV-V chord structure (in this case, I-vi-IV-V, with passing chords), a strict 3/4 tempo that utilizes occasional sudden stops (the so-called railroad tracks of music notation), and an inspiring gospel singer on the verses, with choral support. If you can utilize all these elements in your ensemble, great! But this song can also be presented simply. The important thing is to let the melody and the text soar.

Why a Baptist approach for a Catholic responsorial psalm? The Second Vatican Council (1962–1965) opened the door to an ecumenical dialogue among Christians. Music can be the common language of the Spirit that unites diverse communities. Is that not what the Pentecost event was all about?

—Ken Canedo
Assembly Edition

LORD, SEND OUT YOUR SPIRIT

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Verses 1, 2

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD, my God, you are great indeed! How manifold are your works, O LORD!
2. May the glory of the LORD endure forever; How pleasing to him be my theme;

Verses 3

3. If you take away their breath, they perish and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created
3. The earth is full of your creatures!


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