

# Psalm 141: Let My Prayer Arise

for John West, the Valyermo Dancers, and St. Andrew's Abbey, Pearblossom, CA

ValLimar and Frank Jansen

Keyboard accompaniment by Janet Vogt

Psalm 141:1-9

INTRO *With mystery, meditatively* (♩ = ca. 66)

Keyboard

Csus2 Cm Gm7

Ebmaj7 D7 Fm7 Gm7 Cm Csus2

CHORAL INTRO

Choir

Let my prayer a-rise be-fore your pre-sence. Oo

Csus2 Cm Fm7 Ebmaj7 Csus2

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

Let my prayer a-rise — be - fore you like in - cense, — the rais - ing of — my

Cm Gm7 Ebmaj7

hands like an eve - ning o - la - tion. —

1 2-6 to Verses  
Cantor/Choir

1. I have  
2. ♯  
3. Their —  
4. To —  
5. ♯

D<sup>♯</sup>7 Fm7 Gm7 Cm

1 2-6 to Verses

**VERSE 1:** Cantor

1. (I have) called to you, — O Lo has - ten to help — me!

Cm G7(b9)

*D.S.*

1. Hear my voice \_\_\_\_\_ when I cry to \_\_\_\_\_ you. \_\_\_\_\_

*E<sub>b</sub>* *D<sup>ø</sup>7* *Gm7* *Csus2* *D.S.*

The first system of music features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "1. Hear my voice" followed by a long horizontal line, then "when I cry to" followed by another long horizontal line, and finally "you." followed by a third long horizontal line. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a simple bass line. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The system concludes with the instruction *D.S.*

**VERSE 2: Cantor**

2. Set, O Lord, a guard o - ver my mouth; keep watch at the door of my

*Cm* *G7* *E<sub>b</sub>*

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with "2. Set, O Lord, a guard" followed by a long horizontal line, then "o - ver my mouth;" followed by another long horizontal line, and finally "keep watch at the door of my" followed by a third long horizontal line. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. The system concludes with the instruction *E<sub>b</sub>*.

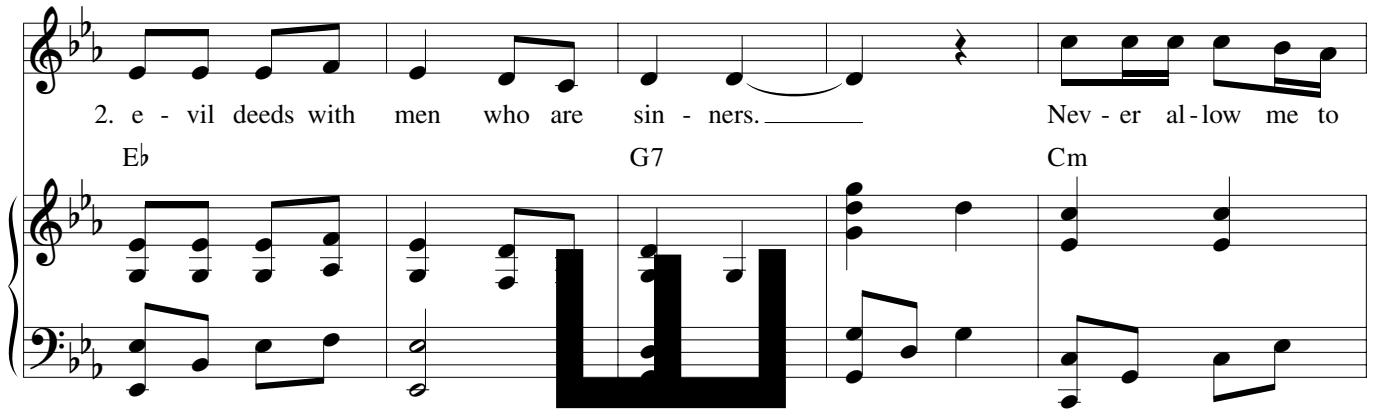
2. lips! \_\_\_\_\_ Do not turn my heart to things that are wrong, to

*D<sup>ø</sup>7* *G7* *Cm* *G7* *G7(b9)*

The third system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with "2. lips!" followed by a long horizontal line, then "Do not turn my heart" followed by another long horizontal line, and finally "to things that are wrong, to" followed by a third long horizontal line. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. The system concludes with the instruction *G7(b9)*.

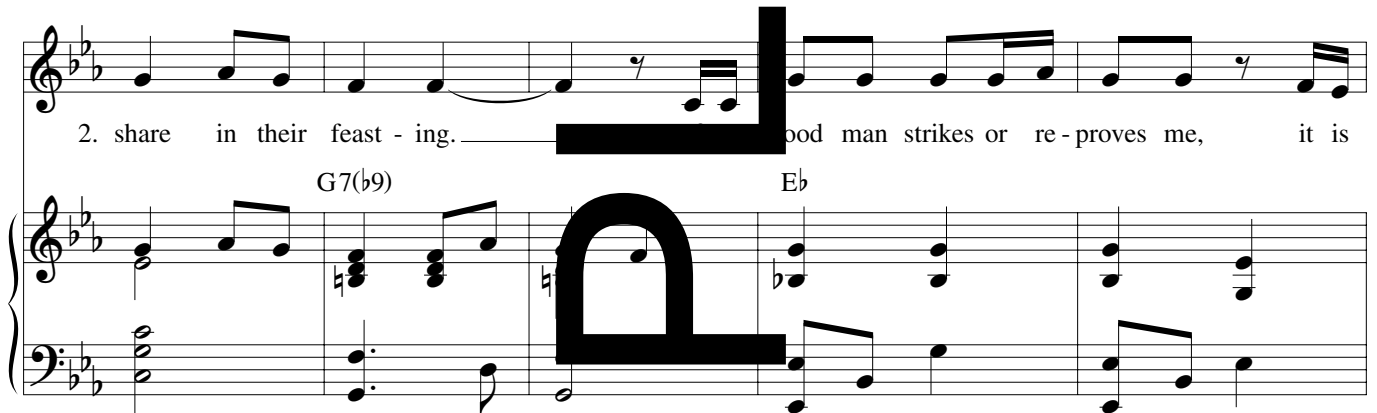
2. e - vil deeds with men who are sin - ners. Nev - er al - low me to

E $\flat$  G7 Cm



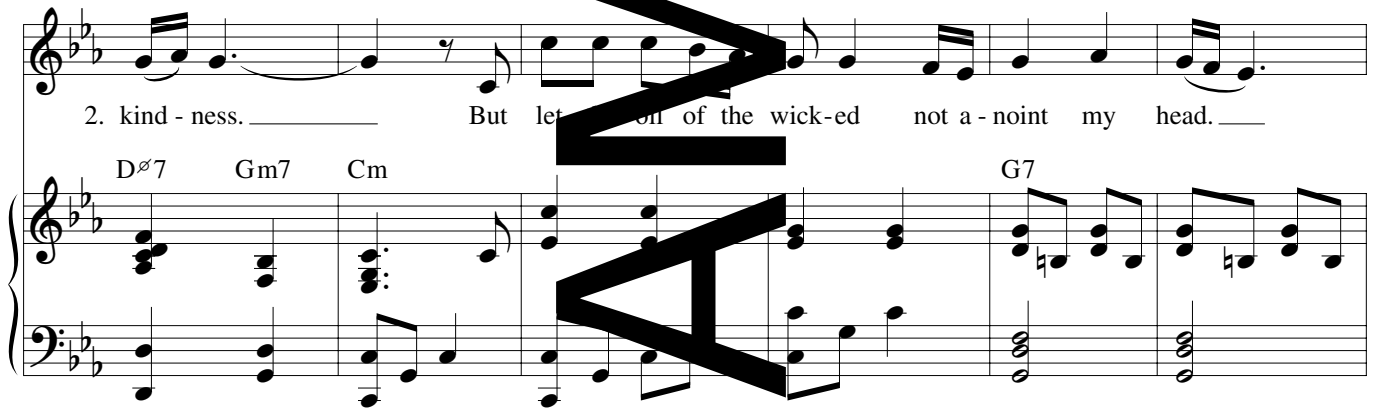
2. share in their feast - ing. Good man strikes or re - proves me, it is

G7(b9) E $\flat$



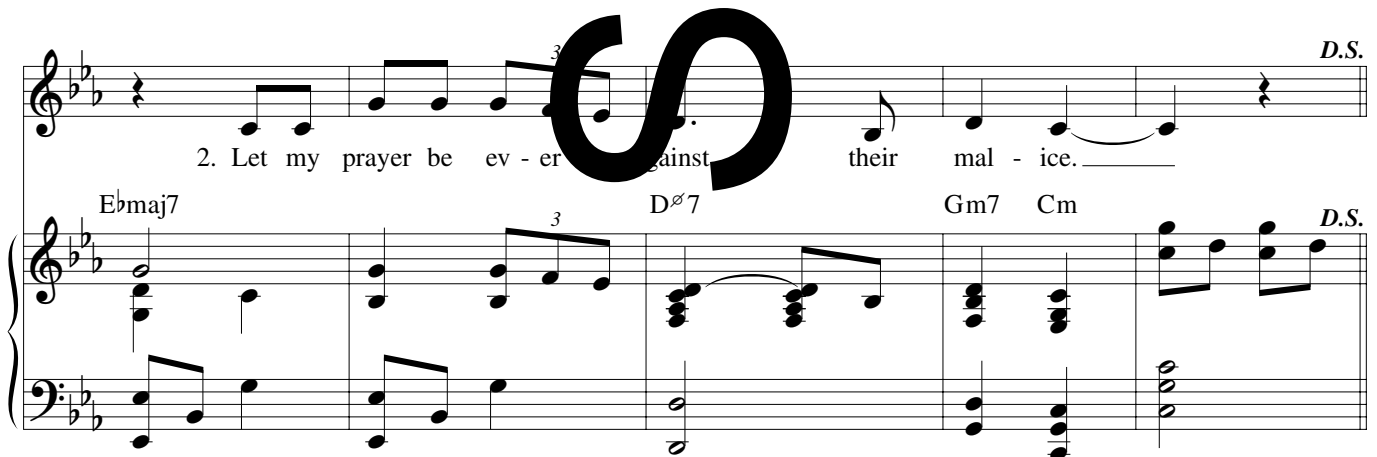
2. kind - ness. But let the mouth of the wick - ed not a - noint my head.

D $\emptyset$ 7 Gm7 Cm G7



2. Let my prayer be ev - er against their mal - ice.

E $\flat$ maj7 D $\emptyset$ 7 Gm7 Cm D.S.



VERSE 3: Cantor/Choir

3. (Their) princ - es were thrown down by the side of the rock; Then they un - der -

Ab Bb Fm7 Bb Eb Ab

3. stood that my words — were kind. As a mill - stone is shat - tered to piec - es on the

Bb Dø7 G7 C Bb Fm7 Bb

3. ground, So their bones were strewn at the mouth of the grave. *D.S.*

Eb Cm Dø7 Gm7 Cm *D.S.*

VERSE 4: Cantor

4. (To) you, Lord God, \_\_\_\_\_ my eyes are turned; \_\_\_\_\_ in

Cm G7

4. you I take \_\_\_\_\_ Spare my

Eb Dø7 G Cm

4. soul from the trap they \_\_\_\_\_ laid for me; keep me safe. \_\_\_\_\_

Gm Fm7

4. Keep me from the snares of those who do e - vil. \_\_\_\_\_

Dø7 Gm7 Cm Csus2 D.S.

VERSE 5: Cantor/Choir

5. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

Csus2 Cm G7 Eb

5. Ho - ly Spir - it: As it was in the be - gin - ning

Dø7 G Cm Bb

5. is for - ev - er.

Cm Bb Cm Bb Cm

5. A - men! A - men! A - men!

Bb Cm Bb Cm G7 Cm *8va*

The musical score is written in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "5. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it: As it was in the be - gin - ning is for - ev - er. 5. A - men! A - men! A - men!". The piano accompaniment includes various chords and textures, such as triads, dyads, and triplets. A large, bold, black text overlay reading "LET MY PRAYERS" is centered vertically across the middle of the page, partially obscuring the piano accompaniment.