Song of Simeon

Based on Luke 2:29–32

Janèt Sullivan Whitaker

INTRO (¾ = ca. 90)

Now, O God, let your servant go.

Let me go in peace according to your word.

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A clarinet part is available from the publisher, edition 70211.
For my eyes behold your saving work: a light for all the world, alleluia.
Performance Notes

This simple setting of the *Nunc Dimittis* is based upon the account of Simeon’s stirring encounter with the newborn Christ Child in the temple (Luke 2). This beautiful Gospel passage is proclaimed on the Feasts of the Holy Family (Lectionary Year B) and The Presentation (February 2). “Song of Simeon” has many general uses as well, having been used quite effectively during Taizé or evening prayer services, and as a dismissal song for funeral liturgies. It is especially suited for two-part choirs, and for duet singing. Because of its modest range, this canticle can be sung comfortably by junior high singers or Cambiata choirs (those containing changing adolescent male voices).

Although the form can be repeated as often as desired, the clarinet part (edition 70211) is scored for twice through, followed by the final ending, as on the recording. When the final ending is reached, the song should gently *decrescendo* to its final, hushed “alleluia.”
Song of Simeon

(Guitar/Vocal)

Based on Luke 2:29–32

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INTRO (q = ca. 90)

Capo 1: (A add9)

B add9

(Dsus4/A)

E sus4/B

(A add9)

B add9

(G)

A

(Bm)

Cm

(Gmaj7)

A b maj7

(B)

Gm

(A)

F(m)

Cm

(G)

Ab

(E(no3))

F(no3)

Let me go in peace according to your word.

For my eyes behold your saving work:

light for all the world, alleluia.

Now, O God, let your servant go.

For my eyes behold your saving work:

light for all the world, alleluia.

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SONG OF SIMEON

Janèt Sullivan Whitaker

Now, O God, let your servant go.

Let me go in peace according to your word.

For my eyes behold your saving work:

a light for all the world, allelujah.

Final

Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia.