

*January 2008*

# Nunc Dimittis

## Canticle of Simeon

SATB and organ

by Tim Risher

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum verbum tuum in pace:  
Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum  
Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum:  
Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.  
Lucas 2:29-32

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

2008  
**Nunc Dimitis**

for SATB (with soloists) and organ

**Tim Risher**

Luke 2:29-32

Book of Common Prayer (1662)

*J = c. 75 mp*

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Organ



## Nunc Dimitis

3

15

S

A

T

B

ac - cord - ing to thy word.

For

ac - cord - ing to thy word.

Org.

15

ac - cord - ing to thy word.

23

Soprano (S) staff: Dynamics include *mf* and *decresc.*

Alto (A) staff: Dynamics include *mf* and *decresc.*

Tenor (T) staff: Dynamics include *mf* and *decresc.*

Bass (B) staff: Dynamics include *mf*.

Organ (Org.) staff: The organ part consists of sustained notes and chords.

Text lyrics:

- For mine eyes — mine eyes — have
- thy sal - va - - - tion, For mine eyes — have
- mine eyes — have seen — For mine eyes mine eyes — have
- thy sal - va - - - tion,

29

Soprano (S) vocal line:

*p*

seen — thy sal - va - tion, —

Alto (A) vocal line:

*p*

seen thy sal - va - tion, —

Tenor (T) vocal line:

*p*

seen thy sal - va - tion, —

*mf* solo

Which

Bass (B) vocal line:

seen — thy sal - va - tion, —

Organ (Org.) accompaniment:

*mf*

29

33

S

A

T 8 thou hast prepared Which

B Which thou hast pre - pared —

*mf* solo

33

Org.

The musical score consists of five staves. The top three staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) are vocal parts, each with a single note at the start. The Bass staff contains the lyrics 'thou hast prepared' and 'Which thou hast prepared —'. The Organ staff has a sustained note at the beginning. Measure 33 begins with a bass note. The Tenor staff has a melodic line with eighth-note patterns. The Bass staff continues with the lyrics. The Organ staff has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The score is in common time, with a key signature of two flats.

## Nunc Dimitis

7

36

S

A

T 8 thou \_\_\_\_\_ hast \_\_\_\_\_ pre - pared \_\_\_\_\_ be - fore \_\_\_\_\_ the face of all \_\_\_\_\_

B thou \_\_\_\_\_ hast \_\_\_\_\_ pre - pared \_\_\_\_\_ be - fore \_\_\_\_\_

36

Org.

f

f

41

Soprano (S) part:

Alto (A) part:

Tenor (T) part:

Bass (B) part:

Organ (Org.) part:

41

solo ***mf***

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all

be - fore the face of all

peo - - - ple;

Nunc Dimitis

47 *tutti f*

S peo - - - ple; To be a light \_\_\_\_\_

A peo - - - ple; To be a light \_\_\_\_\_

T <sup>8</sup> To be a light \_\_\_\_\_

B To be a light \_\_\_\_\_

47 Org.

The musical score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent the vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). Each vocal part has a melody line with lyrics. The lyrics are: "peo - - - ple; To be a light \_\_\_\_\_" for Soprano, "peo - - - ple; To be a light \_\_\_\_\_" for Alto, "To be a light \_\_\_\_\_" for Tenor, and "To be a light \_\_\_\_\_" for Bass. The vocal parts enter at measure 47, indicated by a measure number and the dynamic "tutti f". The bottom staff is for the Organ (Org.), featuring two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The organ part consists of sixteenth-note patterns in the treble staff and eighth-note patterns in the bass staff, providing harmonic support. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats), and the time signature is common time.

54

S — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

A — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

T 8 — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

B — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

Org.

54

Soprano: — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

Alto: — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

Tenor: 8 — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

Bass: — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

Organ: (with two staves) — to light - en the Gen-tiles and to

## Nunc Dimitis

11

60

S be the glo - ry\_\_\_\_ of thy peo - ple\_\_\_\_ Is - ra -

A be the glo - ry\_\_\_\_ of thy peo - ple\_\_\_\_ Is - ra -

T 8 be the glo - ry\_\_\_\_ of thy peo - ple\_\_\_\_ Is - ra -

B be the glo - ry\_\_\_\_ of thy peo - ple\_\_\_\_ Is - ra -

60

Org.

The musical score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The vocal parts sing a hymn tune with lyrics: "be the glo - ry\_\_\_\_ of thy peo - ple\_\_\_\_ Is - ra -". The bass staff includes a figure "8" above the staff, indicating a basso continuo part. The bottom staff is for the Organ, which provides harmonic support with sustained chords and rhythmic patterns. The music is in common time, with a key signature of one flat. Measure numbers 60 and 61 are indicated at the beginning of each section of the score.

65

Solo  
**mp** *subito*

S el. Lord, \_\_\_\_ tutti

A solo  
**mp** *subito*

A el. Lord, \_\_\_\_ tutti

T solo  
**mp** *subito*

T 8 el. Lord, \_\_\_\_ tutti

B solo  
**mp** *subito*

B el. Lord, \_\_\_\_ tutti

Org.

65

## Nunc Dimitiss

13

74

Soprano (S) lyrics: now let - test \_\_\_\_ tutti now let - test \_\_\_\_ tutti thou thy ser - vant \_\_\_\_ Lord, \_\_\_\_

Alto (A) lyrics: now let - test \_\_\_\_ tutti now let - test \_\_\_\_ tutti thou thy ser - vant \_\_\_\_ Lord, \_\_\_\_

Tenor (T) lyrics: tutti thou thy ser - vant \_\_\_\_ Lord, \_\_\_\_

Bass (B) lyrics: tutti now let - test thou thy ser - vant \_\_\_\_ Lord, \_\_\_\_

Organ (Org.) lyrics: (no lyrics)

Dynamic markings: *solo*, *tutti*, *mf*

80

Soprano (S) vocal line:

A (Alto) vocal line:

Tenor (T) vocal line:

Bass (B) vocal line:

Organ (Org.) harmonic line:

## Nunc Dimitis

15

87

S

part in peace \_\_\_\_\_ de - part in peace in peace

A

part in peace \_\_\_\_\_ de - part in peace in peace

T

8 part in peace \_\_\_\_\_ de - part in peace in peace

B

part in peace \_\_\_\_\_ de - part in peace in peace

87

Org.

The organ part consists of two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. Both staves show sustained notes and chords, with the organ playing a harmonic bass line.

Musical score for the hymn "Nunc Dimitis". The score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent the vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The Bass staff includes a "8" indicating octave. The fifth staff represents the Organ. The key signature is two flats, and the time signature is common time (indicated by "96"). The vocal parts sing "A - men." followed by a short melodic line ending with a fermata over the last note. The organ part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and harmonic bass lines.