

Righteous art thou, O Lord

Psalm 119 vv. 137-140

Book of Common Prayer

John Bishop (1665-1735)

From *A Supplement to the New Psalm Book* (1725)

Edited by Francis Roads

[♩=100]

Soprano [Air] *ff* Right-eous art thou, O Lord, Right-eous art thou, O Lord, and true,
Alto *ff* Right-eous art thou, O Lord, Right-eous art thou, O Lord, and true,
Tenor *ff* Right-eous art thou, O Lord, Right-eous art thou, O Lord, and true,
Bass *ff* Right-eous art thou, O Lord, Right-eous art thou, O Lord, and

9
S true are thy judg - ments; Right-eous art thou, O Lord, Right-eous art
A true are thy judg - ments; Right-eous art thou, O Lord, Right-eous art
T true are thy judg - ments; Right-eous art thou, O Lord, Right-eous art
B true are thy judg - ments; Right-eous art

18
S thou, O Lord, and true, true are thy judg - ments; **A** Right-eous art thou, O
A thou, O Lord, and true are thy judg - ments; Right-eous art thou, O
T thou, O Lord, and true, true are thy judg - ments;
B thou, O Lord, and true are thy judg - ments;

26
S Lord, Right - eous art thou, O Lord,
A Lord, Right - eous art thou, O Lord,
T Right - eous art thou, O Lord, Right - eous art thou, O
B Right - eous art thou, O Lord, Right - eous art thou, O

1

Righteous art thou, O Lord

32

S Lord, and true, true are thy judg - - - ments.

A Lord, and true, are thy judg - - - ments.

T Lord, and true are thy judg - - - ments.

B Lord, and true are thy judg - - - ments. **FINE**

Verse

B (Soprano)

[p] Thy ten - der mer - cies that thou hast com - mand-ed; Thy ten - der mer - cies that

(Bass)

[p] Thy ten - der mer - cies that

44

S thou hast com - mand-ed; are ex - ceed - ing right - eous and true, are ex - ceed - ing

B thou hast com - mand-ed; are ex - ceed - ing right - eous and true,

50

S right-eous, are ex - ceed - ing right - eous and true, ex - ceed - ing

B are ex - ceed - ing right - eous, are ex - ceed - ing right - eous and true.

57

S right-eous, ex - ceed - ing right - eous and true.

B ex - ceed - ing right - eous, ex - ceed - ing right - eous and true.

Repeat the chorus from bars 1-36 (with repeat) as before; then to rehearsal letter C.

Righteous art thou, O Lord

[C] Verse (Alto)

A [mf] Thy word is tried to the

T (Tenor) [mf] Thy word is tried to the ut - ter-most, Thy word is tried to the

68

A ut - ter-most, thy word is tried to the ut - ter-most; and thy ser - vant, thy

T ut - ter-most, thy word is tried to the ut - ter-most; and thy ser - vant, thy

73

A ser - vant lov - eth it, [p] thy ser - vant thy

T ser - vant lov - eth it, [p] thy ser - vant thy

77

A ser - - vant lov - - - eth it.

T ser - - - vant lov - - - - eth it.

D. C. al Fine

Editorial notes and emendations:

Bars 2, 6: consecutives sic

Bar 34 bass note 3: second inversion sic

Bars 50-59: Perhaps William Knapp remembered this passage when composing bars 60-67 of his anthem "Be thou my judge", published 13 years later in 1738

Bar 55 bass note 1: original has \circ .

Bar 65 tenor note 2; bar 69 tenor note 2; bar 71 tenor note 2;

bar 76 tenor note 4: \sharp s all unmarked but probably intended; last \sharp marked in 1770 edn

Bar 76 tenor note 2: \bullet in original, i.e. bar contains five crotchet beats

Bar 72: "Righteous art thou and conclude.

The first verse may be sung by a tenor."

All signs enclosed in [] are editorial.