

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart

1

Book of Common Prayer

Adapted (anon.) from Robert Barber (fl. 1723-53)

Nunc Dimittis

Edited by Francis Roads

The musical score is written for four voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor [Air], and Bass. It is in 2/2 time and begins with a tempo marking of [♩=40]. The lyrics are: "Lord now let-test thou thy ser - - vant de - part in peace; ac - cor - ding to thy word. thy sal - va - tion, be - fore the face of all peo - ple. For mine eyes, for mine eyes have seen thy sal - va - tion, which thou hast pre - pa - red be - fore the face of all peo - ple. To be a light to ligh - ten the Gen - tiles, the Gen - tiles; To be a light to ligh - ten the Gen - tiles; To be a light to ligh - ten the Gen - tiles; To be a light to ligh - ten the Gen - tiles;". The score includes a first ending marked 'A' at measure 5 and a second ending marked 'B' at measure 14. The Soprano part has a fermata over the final note of the first ending. The Tenor part is marked as an 'Air' and has a fermata over the final note of the first ending. The Bass part has a fermata over the final note of the first ending. The lyrics are aligned with the vocal lines.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart

18

S

A

T

B

and to be the glo - ry, the glo - - - ry, the glo - - - ry,

the glo - - - ry, the glo - - -

and to be the glo - ry, the glo - - - - - ry, the glo - ry,

21

S

A

T

B

the glo - - - - - ry of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el.

the glo - - - - - ry of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el.

ry, glo - ry of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el.

the glo - ry, glo - ry of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el.

24 **C**

S

A

T

B

Glo - - - - - ry be to the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to the

Glo - - - - - ry, glo - - - - - ry glo - - - - -

Glo - - - - - ry be to the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to the

Glo - - - - - ry, glo - - - - - ry be to the

27

S

A

T

B

Son, glo - - - - - ry be to the Ho - ly Ghost

ry, glo - - - - - ry be to the Ho - ly, Ho - ly Ghost

Son, glo - ry, glo - ry be to the Ho - ly Ghost

Son, Glo - - - - - ry be to the Ho - ly Ghost

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart

30 **D**

(Tenor)

(Bass)

is now, and e - ver e -

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and e - ver, e -

34

ver shall be;

ver shall be;

38 **E** [$\text{♩} = 112$]

S world with - out end, world with - out end.

A world with - out end.

T world with - out end.

B world with - out end, world with - out end.

44 **F** [**Tempo I**] [$\text{♩} = 40$]

S A - - - - - men.

A A - - - - - men.

T A - - - - - men.

B A - - - - - men.

The image shows a musical score for a vocal piece. It is divided into four systems, each with a key signature and a time signature. The first system (measures 30-33) is in D major and 4/4 time, featuring Tenor and Bass parts. The second system (measures 34-37) continues the Tenor and Bass parts. The third system (measures 38-43) is in E major and 3/4 time, featuring Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts. The fourth system (measures 44-47) is in F major and 2/2 time, featuring Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts. The lyrics are: 'Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever, ever shall be; world without end, world without end. Amen.' The score includes various musical notations such as rests, notes, and slurs.

This version is transcribed from the Colby MSS, IOM. Barber's original soprano part has been restored in bars 21-23, which have rests in the MS.