

Psalm 136: "By the Waters of Babylon"

(Sung on the 3 Sundays preceding Great Lent)

Obikhod
P. Dinev

S
A

B

-p

By the wat-ers of Bab-y-lon, there we sat down and we

p

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are written on a single treble clef staff. The Bass (B) part is on a separate bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The Soprano part begins with a dynamic marking of *-p* (pianissimo) and features a series of chords. The Bass part begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and consists of a simple melodic line.

wept _____ when we _____ re - mem - bered Si - on.

f

f

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are on a treble clef staff, and the Bass (B) part is on a bass clef staff. The Soprano part features a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and includes a long horizontal line under the word "wept" to indicate a sustained note. The Bass part also features a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a long horizontal line under the word "re" to indicate a sustained note.

Al - le - lu - ia. Up - on _____ the wil - lows in the midst there-

pp

p

pp

p

Detailed description: This system contains the third two staves of music. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are on a treble clef staff, and the Bass (B) part is on a bass clef staff. The Soprano part starts with a dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo) and includes a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) later in the system. The Bass part also starts with *pp* and includes a dynamic marking of *p*. Both parts feature long horizontal lines under the words "Up" and "there-" to indicate sustained notes.

of _____ did we hang our in - stru - ments. Al - le - lu - ia

f

pp

f

pp

Detailed description: This system contains the final two staves of music. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts are on a treble clef staff, and the Bass (B) part is on a bass clef staff. The Soprano part features a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and includes a dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo) later in the system. The Bass part also features a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a dynamic marking of *pp*. Both parts feature long horizontal lines under the words "of" and "Al - le - lu - ia" to indicate sustained notes.

p

For there they that had tak - en us cap - tive asked us for

p

words_ of song._____ and they that had led us a - way asked

f

us for a hymn, say - ing: Sing us one of the songs of

f

pp

Si - on. Al - le - lu - ia. How_ shall we sing_ the

pp

p

pp

Lord's_ song_ in a strange_ land? Al - le - lu - ia.

pp

If I for - get _____ thee O _____ Jer _____ ru - sa - lem Let my

f right _____ hand be for - got - ten. *pp* Al - le - lu - ia.

p Let my tongue cleave to my throat, _____ if I re - mem - ber thee

not, _____ if I set not Je - ru - sa - lem a - bove all oth - er.

f as _____ the head _____ of my joy. *f* Al - le - lu - ia.

p Re - mem - ber, O Lord, the sons of E - - dom, in the

p

day of Je - ru - - - sa - lem, Who said: Lay waste,

lay waste to her, ev - en to the four - - - da - tions there - of.

pp Al - le - lu - ia. *p* O dau - ghter of Bab - y - lon, thou wretch - ed

pp *p*

one, bless - ed shall he be who shall re - ward thee where-

with — thou — hast re - ward - - - ed us.

Al - le - lu - ia. Bless - ed shall he be who shall seize and

dash — thine in - fants a - gainst the rock. —

Al - le - lu - - - ia.

Music from the Slavonic arr. of P. Dinev,
"Collection of Church Hymns for 3-part Choir", Sophia, Bulgaria, 1955.

English text from "The Psalter according to the Seventy",
Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Boston, MA ©1987

English phrasing adapted from the arrangement by Tim Clader, Rochester, NY, 1995.
4-part arrangement by Krupitsky in English available from: sjkp.org