

Saturday of Souls
Psalm 118 "Blessed are the blameless in the way..."

Psalm 118 is chanted in 2 parts:

Section I

S
A

Bless-ed are the blame-less in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.

T
B

Musical notation for Soprano and Alto parts of Section I. The Soprano part is on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The Alto part is on a bass clef staff with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are: "Bless-ed are the blame-less in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord."

Refrain:

Bless - ed art Thou, O Lord. Blessed are they that search out His

Musical notation for the first refrain. The Soprano part is on a treble clef staff and the Bass part is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Bless - ed art Thou, O Lord. Blessed are they that search out His"

tes - ti - mo - nies; with their whole heart shall they seek af - ter Him.

Musical notation for the second part of the refrain. The Soprano part is on a treble clef staff and the Bass part is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "tes - ti - mo - nies; with their whole heart shall they seek af - ter Him."

Refrain:

Bless - ed art Thou, O Lord.

The reader continues with the 1st half of the psalm, while the choir sings softly, "Blessed art Thou, O Lord".

Musical notation for the second refrain. The Soprano part is on a treble clef staff and the Bass part is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Bless - ed art Thou, O Lord." A note indicates that the reader continues with the first half of the psalm while the choir sings softly.

After the reader has read verse 91: "By Thine ordinance...", the choir sings the next 2 verses thrice:

If Thy law had not been my med - i - ta - tion, then should I have perished in my

The musical notation consists of a treble and bass clef system in G major. The treble clef part features a series of chords and single notes, while the bass clef part provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Refrain:

hu - mil - i - a - tion. Bless - ed art Thou, O Lord.

The musical notation continues with the refrain. It features a treble and bass clef system. The treble clef part has a melodic line with some phrasing slurs, and the bass clef part provides a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.

I will never forget Thy sta - tutes, for in them hast thou quick - ened me.

The musical notation continues with the second verse. It features a treble and bass clef system. The treble clef part has a melodic line with some phrasing slurs, and the bass clef part provides a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Refrain:

Bless - ed art Thou, O Lord.

Small litany for the reposed, as at a Pannykhida.

The musical notation concludes with the second refrain. It features a treble and bass clef system. The treble clef part has a melodic line with some phrasing slurs, and the bass clef part provides a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the notes. To the right of the musical notation, there is a small text box containing the note: "Small litany for the reposed, as at a Pannykhida."

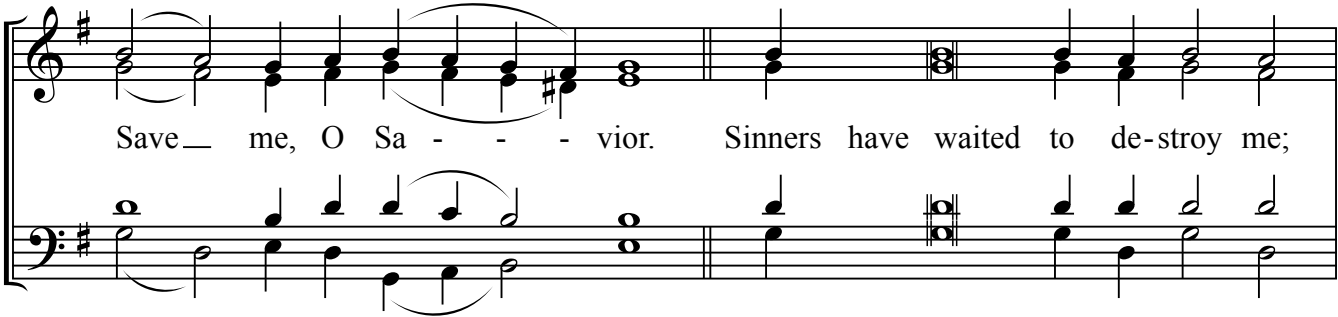
Section II

After the small Litany:



I am Thine, save me; for af - ter Thy sta - tutes have I sought.

Refrain:

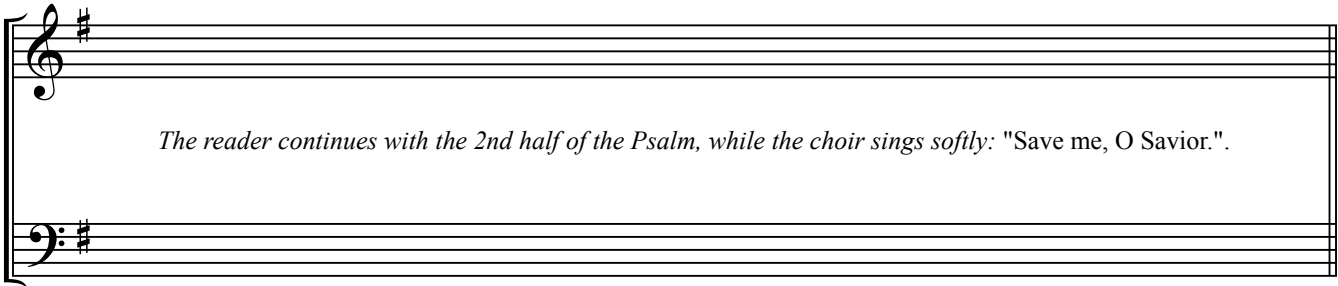


Save_ me, O Sa - - - vior. Sinners have waited to de-stroy me;

Refrain:



but Thy testimonies have I un - der-stood. Save_ me, O Sa - - - vior.



The reader continues with the 2nd half of the Psalm, while the choir sings softly: "Save me, O Savior."

After verse 174, "I have longed for Thy salvation...", the choir sings the two concluding verses thrice.

My soul shall live and shall praise Thee, and Thy judgements will help me.

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in G major. The melody is primarily homophonic, with block chords and simple rhythmic patterns. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Refrain:

Save me, O Sa - - - vior. I have gone astray like a sheep

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in G major. The melody features a prominent melisma on the word "Savior" (Sa - - - vior). The lyrics are written below the notes.

that is lost; O seek Thy servant, for I have not forgotten Thy com-mand-ments.

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in G major. The melody is homophonic with block chords. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Refrain:

Save me, O Sa - - - vior.

Immediately, the choir begins the Evlogitaria of the Departed as at a Pannykhida.

The musical score consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in G major. It features a melisma on "Savior" and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

Music from the Slavonic: "Obikhodniye Pesnopenia Panikhidi i Otpevania", ©E. Kustovskiy, 1995