

# IN YOU, O GOD, I FIND REFUGE

Responsorial Song from Psalm 31 for Good Friday  
for Cantor, Assembly & 2 Descants  
with Keyboard, Organ & Guitar

TONY BARR

*Father, into your hands I have put my life.*

In you, O God, I find refuge,  
keep far away all disdain, confusion.  
Show me justice, release from torment.  
Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
You alone are my hope, come restore me.

I am disgraced by my enemies,  
I am a laughing stock to my foes.  
My friends run from my pursuit,  
I am forgotten, just like the dead,  
as a thing that is broken and discarded.

My trust, O God, is in you,  
for you alone are the One who saves me.  
I place my trust in your hands,  
come to my rescue, make haste,  
from the hands of those who wish to destroy me.

Let your face shine on your faithful One,  
in your compassion come to my aid.  
Let your face shine, let your voice take courage,  
let your strength be made manifest in God,  
and let your loving kindness release you.

The three distinctive elements which make up this psalm, all of them probably pre-Exilic, and most likely used by the Davidic Kings at a time of extreme religious fervor, each section was originally independent of the others. The post-Exilic Temple liturgy conflated them into one poem for liturgical use, perhaps as a reflection on the experience of Exile. The structure of Psalm 31 appears to be:

- vv 1-8 an opening song of praise to a powerful God
- vv 9-18 two lamentations: vv 9-12 the lamentation of a sick man  
vv 13-18 the lamentation of one who has been unjustly accused
- [missing] an oracle of deliverance
- vv 19-24 a concluding thanksgiving for deliverance

The music relies on interval technique, from the dramatic, sweeping range of the call in the refrain to the resolution through the reflective and introspective verses.

- Tony Barr

music & text of Psalm 31 & music © Tony Barr 1992, 2018  
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# In You, O God, I Find Refuge

*Responsorial Song from Psalm 31 for Good Friday*

REFRAIN ♩ = ca. 63

text from Psalm 31 Tony Barr

Oboe

Descants

Fa - ther, in - to your hands I put my

All

Fa - ther, in - to your hands I put my

Em Am Amsus4

life.

life.

life.

n+2

IN YOU, O GOD, I FIND REFUGE - Ps 31, cont (4)

VERSES ♩ = ♩

1. In you, O God, I find refuge, how far a -

2. I am dis - graced by my en - e - mies a

3. My trust, O God, is in you, you a -

4. Let your face shine on you Love come, in your com -  
Em A+2 Em

The first system of the musical score consists of four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves contain the lyrics for verses 1 through 4. The piano accompaniment is written in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of one sharp (F#). A large, diagonal watermark reading 'SAMPLE' is overlaid across the entire page.

1. way all dis - saine Show me jus - tice, re - lease from

2. laugh - ing stock to my neigh - bors. My friends run from me in

3. lone are the who despise me. I place my life in your

4. as - sion, come to my res - cue me. Be strong, let your heart take  
Am A+2 Em Cmaj7 Am+2

The second system of the musical score continues the lyrics from the first system. It includes four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment features various chords such as Am, A+2, Em, Cmaj7, and Am+2. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'SAMPLE' is overlaid across the entire page.

1. tor - ment. In - to your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

2. fear, I am for - got - ten, just like the deer

3. hands, come to my res - cue, haste, de - liv - er me

4. cour - age, all you who hope in the Lord, do not trust in God,

Bm Em Dsus4 Em6

The first system of the musical score consists of four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves contain lyrics for four different parts. The piano accompaniment is written for a grand piano with treble and bass clefs. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'SAMPLE' is overlaid across the entire page.

*to Refrain*

1. You a - lone my re - store me.

2. as a thing that is bro - ken, dis - card - ed.

3. from the hand of the enemy who wish to de - stroy me.

all who are in trouble, the One to re - lease you.

Bm7 Am+2 Gsus4 Bm+2 G Am Bm

The second system of the musical score continues the lyrics and includes a piano accompaniment. It features a 'to Refrain' section. The piano accompaniment includes triplets and various chords. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'SAMPLE' is overlaid across the entire page.

# In You, O God, I Find Refuge

*Responsorial Song from Psalm 31 for Good Friday*

REFRAIN ♩ = ca. 63

Descants

Fa - ther, in - to your hands I put my life.  
All  
Fa - ther, in - to your hands I put my life.

VERSES ♩ = ♩

1. In you, O God, I find refuge, keep far a -  
2. I am dis - graced by my ene - mies I am a  
3. My trust, O God, is in you for you a -  
4. Let your face shine on your Loved One, in your com -  
1. way all my sins, com - fort me. Show me jus - tice, re - lease from  
2. stock to my neigh - bors. My friends run from me in  
3. I place my life in your  
4. pas - sion come to res - cue me. Be strong, let your heart take

1. tor - ment. In - to your hands I com - mit my spir - it.

2. fear, I am for - got - ten, just like the dead,

3. hands, come to my res - cue, do not de - ceive me

4. cour - age, all you who trust in God,

*to Refrain*

1. You a - lone are my re - fuge - store me.

2. as a thing that has bro - ken and dis - card - ed.

3. from the enemy I wish to de - stroy me.

4. all who long for the One to re - lease you.

**SAMPLE**