Be Merciful, O Lord Ps. 51

Gene Klosner Light the Fire! Music www.LTFMusic.com

Thank you for choosing Cher & Gene Klosner's psalm series!

All of our psalms are written in comfortable "congregational keys," and presented in SATB(+), but have been written so that all music ministry groups can use them, from soloist to duo, to contemporary praise teams (SAT), to full choirs. Also available in Soloist/Small Group format.

This PDF contains the following versions:

- Refrain Full Score + Verse chords (for director, piano accompanist)
- Refrain P/G/V + Verse chords (for piano accompanist)
- Refrain Lead Sheet + Verse chords (for cantor, guitar accompanist, piano "chorders" similar to fake books)
- Refrain SAATBB (for choir members)
- Verse Full Score (for cantor, accompanist) different sets of verses for different uses
- Refrain Assembly (for director, worship aid makers)

Format:

- Solo cantor refrain melody*
- Choir and congregation respond in unison (melody) refrain
- Solo cantor verse
- Choir and congregation refrain with harmonies
- [Continue thru multiple verses and harmonized refrains]
- End with repeat of harmonized refrain (optional)

Verses are by ONE **cantor**, chant-style (non-metered, free rhythm) using either of the two melodies, depending on their vocal range. Verses are not designed for multiple singers or harmonies.

For the **accompanist**, the rhythm resumes (a tempo) on the last word of each verse to bring choir and congregation in for the refrain, which then has **choir** harmonies from there on out.

We like to do a double refrain after the last verse to "close out" the song, so we use the turnaround accompaniment for repeating the refrain, then the Final ending at the very end.

Note to accompanist:

Follow the "turnaround" chords when repeating the refrain (refer to recording).

Use the "interlude into verses" when going into verses.

Psalm Tones:

Overall, we have 16 different melodies of psalm tones for the verses that get "mixed and matched" with all the hundreds of different psalm refrains throughout the 3-year cycle, one per psalm refrain. We normally give two options from which the cantor can choose, depending on the cantor's vocal range; for this psalm, we give one psalm tone choice, but a few lower notes if needed. Choose the smaller notes for the lower melody.

This way, a cantor doesn't have to learn hundreds of different verse melodies over the three-year cycle.

The particular psalm tone assigned to this refrain is Psalm Tone 8 in Cm, which starts up a fifth from the end of the refrain (Mi in solfege on the **major** scale, not the minor).

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Other tips for the vocalists on "Be Merciful, O Lord":

Solo Cantor: Use with Psalm Tone 8 (in Cm). The Lead Sheet and PGV refrains are presented in treble clef for simplicity. **All singers:** The melody lyrics are in the Tenor line. Melody can choose to hold out note from m. 3 into 4 for 2 extra beats. This is presented in SAATBB, but can be done by any configuration of choir members. The most important harmonies are S and A2.

Add harmonies according to your choir member availability. Baritone and Bass are the same except for a few octave notes, depending on your singers' ranges.

Guitarists: in the verses, you can choose to add the B bass to your Dm6 or not.

We strongly recommend listening to the recordings of this psalm.

Musically yours,

DIFFICULTY LEVEL		
(easy/medium/advanced)		
melody	harmony	accompaniment
e	e	e

^{*}The melody line is the **tenor** part (female cantor sings an octave above), unless otherwise indicated.



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Verse chords (Psalm Tone 8), Guitar, ...

Verse chords (Psalm Tone 8), Guitar, capo 3:

Cm | Gm7 | Fm7 | G7 | Amaj7 | Eadd9/G# | Fm6/D | G7sus4 | Am | Em7 | Dm7 | E7 | Fmaj7 | Cadd9/E | Dm6/B | E7sus4 |



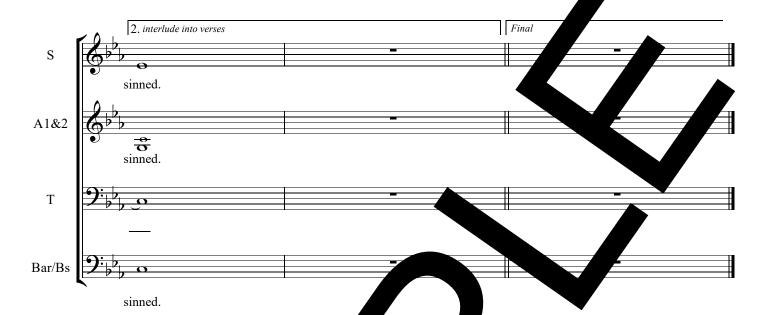




Be Merciful, O Lord

Ps. 51

slowly, pleading = 54ne Klosner NOTE: No harmonies until after 1st verse; follow TENOR line for melody. See at on next p SOPRANO Be_ mer-ci-ful ALTO 1&2 Tenors have melody **TENOR** ci-ful,_ O be mer-ci-ful,_ BARITONE/ **BASS** ful, O Lord, 1. turnarounds into repeated refrains have sinned. A1&2 $\frac{\bullet}{\mathbf{o}}$ have sinned. T ci - ful,_ for we_ have sinned. Be_ Bar/Bs for we have sinned. Be



Format:

- Solo cantor refrain melody*Choir and congregation respond in (melody) refr
- Solo cantor verse
- Choir and congregation refrain with h[Continue thru multiple verses and harm
- End with repeat of harmonized refrain (op

*The melody lin the TEN rt (female cantor sings an octave above).

Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6(ab), 12-13, (14 &) 17 / Psalm Tone 8 in Dm
Ash Wednesday / 1st Sunday of Lent A / Various Needs: For the Remission Sins

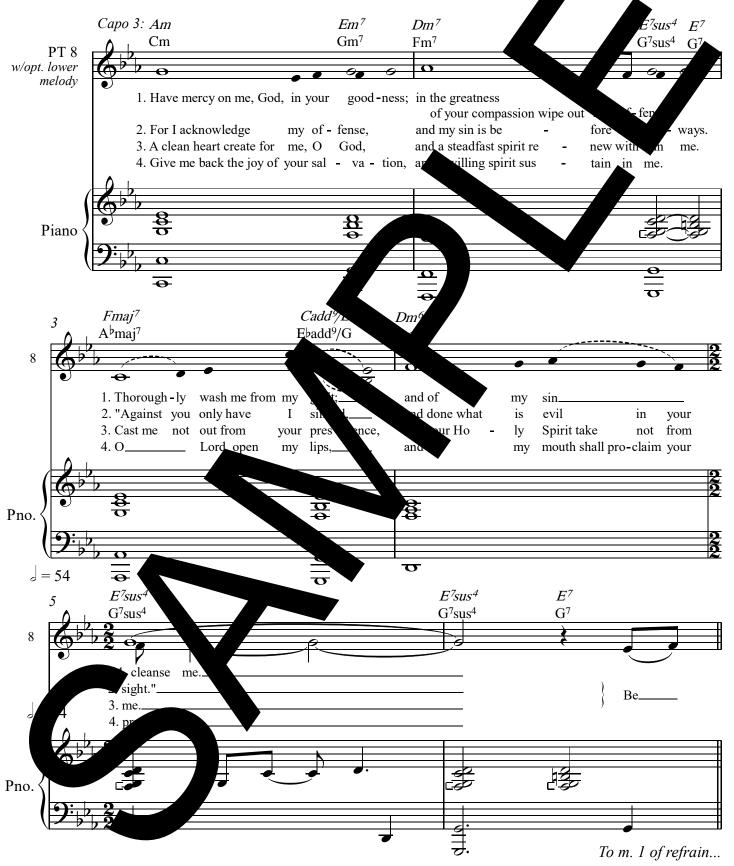
sner-Lane/Gene Klosner Freely chanted, non-metered, solo cantor only Cheroly Capo 3: Am Em^7 $E^7 sus^4 E^7$ Dm^7 Gm^7 Cm Fm^7 G⁷sus⁴ **PT** 8 w/opt. lower melody 1. Have mercy on me, O God, in your good-ness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my of-fense, 2. For I acknowledge and my sin is be fore ways: 3. A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit re newwith me. 4. Give me back the joy of your sal - va - tion, villing spirit sus tain in 8 Piano 0 Fmaj⁷ A♭maj⁷ Ebado 1. Thorough wash me from n and or sin. 2. "Against only have and done what evil in your you inned your s - ence 3. Cast me out from d your Ho -Spirit take not from mouth shall pro-claim your 4. O_ ord, open my 8 Pno. J = 54 $E^7 sus^4$ E^7 $E^7 sus^4$ G^7 G⁷sus⁴ G⁷sus⁴ cleanse me. sight." 3. me Pno.

To m. 1 of refrain...

Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 & 17 / Psalm Tone 8 in Dm Common Psalm for Lent

Freely chanted, non-metered, solo cantor only

Cherolyr Ssner-Lane/Gene Klosner



Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11 / Psalm Tone 8 in Dm Friday of the 3rd Week in Ordinary Time (II)



Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 & 16 / Psalm Tone 8 in Dm Tuesday of the 11th Week in Ordinary Time (II)

Freely chanted, non-metered, solo cantor only sner-Lane/Gene Klosner Cheroly Capo 3: Am Em^7 $E^7 sus^4 E^7$ Dm^7 Gm^7 Cm Fm^7 G⁷sus⁴ **PT** 8 w/opt. lower melody 1. Have mercy on me, O God, in your good-ness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe ou 2. For I acknowledge my of - fense, and my sin is be ways: 3. Turn away your face from my sins, and blot out all of my suilt. 8 Piano 0 Fmaj⁷ Dm^6/B Cada A♭maj⁷ Fm⁶/D **6** 1. Thorough and of ly my guilt_ my sin 2. "Against you on sinned, and done what is evil in your 3. Free me from blood guilt, O God, then my tongue shall revel in your 0 0 0 0 8 Pno. $\mathbf{\sigma}$ - = 54 E^7 E^7sus $E^7 sus^4$ G⁷sus G⁷sus⁴ G^7 1. cleanse 2. sight.". Be_ just -Pno

To m. 1 of refrain...

Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6(ab), 6cd-7, 12-13 / Psalm Tone 8 in Dm Tuesday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time (I)



Be Merciful, O Lord

Be__ mer - ci - ful,__ O__ Lord,__ be mer - ci - ful,__ for we__ have sinne

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Use for:

Ash Wednesday ABC (ashwedABC)
1st Sunday of Lent A (lent1A)
Common Psalm for Lent (lentcom)

Friday of the 3rd Week in Ordinary Time (II) (ord3FrII)

Tuesday of the 11th Week in Ordinary Time (II) (ord1)
Tuesday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time (I) (ord1)

Various Needs: For the Remission of Sins

Use with Psalm Tone 8 in Cm

Text version:

Be Merciful, O Lord (Ps. 51) (Gene Klosner)

Be merciful, O Lord, be mercif

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