

ANCIENT GROOVE MUSIC

Miserere mei, Deus

The ‘Unadorned’ Original

Edited by
Ben Byram-Wigfield

GREGORIO ALLEGRI **(1582 - 1652)**

Choir I

Verse 1

Soprano

Alto

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bass

Miserere mei Deus, misericordia tua in die iustitiae meae.

Musical score for five voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Organ) singing the lyrics "secundum magnam miseri - cor - di - am tu - - - - am." The score consists of five staves. The Soprano and Alto parts are in treble clef, the Tenor part is in bass clef, the Bass part is in bass clef, and the Organ part is in bass clef. The music is in common time, with various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are aligned with the musical notes, showing a rhythmic pattern where each word corresponds to a specific note or group of notes.

Verse 2

Et secundum multitudinem miserati-o - num tu - a - rum: dele iniquita - tem me - am.

Choir II

Verse 3

Soprano 1: Amplius lava me, ab iniqui - ta - te me - - - a:
 Soprano 2: Amplius lava me, ab iniqui - ta - te me - - - a:
 Alto: Amplius lava me, ab iniqui - ta - - - te me - - - a:
 Bass: Amplius lava me, ab iniqui - ta - te me - - - a:

et a pec - ca - to me - - - o mun - da me.
 et a pec - ca - to me - - - o mun - da me.
 et a pec - ca - to me - o mun - - - da me.
 et a pec - ca - to me - o mun - - - da me.

Verse 4

Quoniam iniquitatem meam e - go co - gno - sco: et peccatum meum contra me est sem - per.

Choir I

Verse 5

Tibi soli peccavi, et malum co - ram te fe - - - ci:
Tibi soli peccavi, et malum co - ram te fe - - - ci:
Tibi soli peccavi, et malum co - ram te fe - - - ci:
Tibi soli peccavi, et malum co - ram te fe - - - ci:
Tibi soli peccavi, et malum co - ram te fe - - - ci:

ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis et vincas cum ju - di - ca - - - ris.
ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis et vincas cum ju - di - ca - - - ris.
ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis et vincas cum ju - di - ca - - - ris.
ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis et vincas cum ju - di - ca - - - ris.
ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis et vincas cum ju - di - ca - - - ris.

Verse 6

Ecce enim in iniiquita - ti - bus con - cep - tus sum: et in peccatis concepit me ma-ter me - a.

Choir II

Verse 7

Ecce enim veritatem di - le - - - xi - - - - sti:

Ecce enim veritatem di - le - - - xi - - - - sti:

Ecce enim veritatem di - - - - le - - xi - - - - sti:

Ecce enim veritatem di - le - - - xi - - - - sti:

incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manife - sta - sti mi - - - - hi.

incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manife - sta - sti mi - - - - hi.

incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manife - sta - sti mi - - - - hi.

incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manife - sta - sti mi - - - - hi.

Verse 8

Asperges me hyssopo, et mun - da - bor: lavabis me, et super nivem de-al - ba - bor.

Choir I

Verse 9

Auditui meo dabis gaudium et lae - ti - - - - - - - - - am:
 Auditui meo dabis gaudium et lae - - ti - - - - - - - am:
 Auditui meo dabis gaudium et lae - - ti - - - - - - - am:
 Auditui meo dabis gaudium et lae - ti - - - - - - - am:
 Auditui meo dabis gaudium et lae - - ti - - - - - - - am:

et exultabunt ossa hu - mi - - - li - a - - - - - ta.
 et exultabunt ossa hu - mi - - - li - a - - - - - ta.
 et exultabunt ossa hu - mi - - - li - a - - - - - ta.
 et exultabunt ossa hu - mi - - - li - a - - - - - ta.

Verse 10

Averte faciem tuam a pec - ca - tis me - is: et omnes iniquitates me - as de - le.

Choir II

Verse 11

Cor mundum crea in me De - - - us:
Cor mundum crea in me De - - - us:
Cor mundum crea in me De - - - us:
Cor mundum crea in me De - - - us:

Et spiritum rectum innova in vi - sce - ri-bus me - - - is.
Et spiritum rectum innova in vi - sce - ri-bus me - - - is.
Et spiritum rectum innova in vi - sce - ri-bus me - - - is.

Verse 12

Ne projicias me a fa - ci - e tu - a: et spiritum sanctum tuum ne au - fe - ras a me.

Choir I

Verse 13

Redde mihi laetitiam salu - ta - ris tu - - - - i:

Redde mihi laetitiam salu - ta - - - - ris tu - - - - i:

Redde mihi laetitiam salu - ta - - - ris tu - - - - i:

Redde mihi laetitiam salu - ta - ris tu - - - - i:

Redde mihi laetitiam salu - ta - ris tu - - - - i:

et spiritu princi - pa - - li con - fir - - - ma me.

et spiritu princi - pa - - li con - fir - - - me.

et spiritu princi - pa - - li con - - - fir - - - ma me.

et spiritu princi - pa - - li con - fir - - - ma me.

et spiritu princi - pa - - li con - - - fir - - - ma me.

Verse 14

Docebo ini - quo s vi - as tu - as: et impii ad te con - ver - ten - tur.

Choir II

Verse 15

Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus sa - lu - tis me - - - ae:

Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus sa - lu - tis me - - - ae:

Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus sa - lu - - - tis me - - - ae:

Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus sa - lu - tis me - - - ae:

et exultabit lingua mea ju - sti - ti - am tu - - - am.

et exultabit lingua mea ju - sti - ti - - - am tu - - - am.

et exultabit lingua mea ju - sti - ti - am tu - - - am.

et exultabit lingua mea ju - sti - ti - - am tu - - - am.

Verse 16

Domine, labia me - a a - pe - ri - es: et os meum annuntiabit lau-dem tu - am.

Choir I

Verse 17

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium de - dis - sem u - - - - ti - que:

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium de - dis - - - sem u - - - ti - que:

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium de - dis - sem u - - - - ti - que:

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium de - dis - sem u - - - - ti - que:

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium de - dis - sem u - - - - ti - que:

holocaustis non de - - le - cta - - - be - ris.

holocaustis non de - - le - cta - - - be - ris.

holocaustis non de - - le - cta - - - be - ris.

holocaustis non de - - le - cta - - - be - ris.

holocaustis non de - - le - cta - - - be - ris.

Verse 18

Sacrificium Deo spiritus con - tri - bu - la - tus: cor contritum et humiliatum, Deus, non de - spi - ci - es.

Choir II

Verse 19

Benigne fac Domine in bona voluntate tu - a Si - - - on:
 Benigne fac Domine in bona voluntate tu - a Si - - - on:
 Benigne fac Domine in bona voluntate tu - - - a Si - - - on:
 Benigne fac Domine in bona voluntate tu - a Si - - - on:

ut aedificantur mu - ri Je - ru - sa - lem.
 ut aedificantur mu - ri Je - ru - sa - lem.
 ut aedificantur mu - ri Je - ru - sa - lem.
 ut aedificantur mu - ri Je - ru - sa - lem.

Choir II

Verse 20

Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae oblationes et ho - lo - cau - sta:
 Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae oblationes et ho - - - lo - cau - - - sta:
 Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae oblationes et ho - lo - cau - - - sta:
 Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae oblationes et ho - lo - cau - - - sta:
 Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae oblationes et ho - lo - cau - - - sta:

S

A

T 1

T 2

B

Choir II

S 1

S 2

A

B

Source: Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana: MSS 205 & 206, (1638). This is the earliest source for Allegri's original fauxbordon setting. It is written out without the *abbellimenti*, which were pre-existing ornaments, known to the Papal Choir. A later manuscript in the Vatican library, dated 1731, shows a major alteration to the first choir, superposing one of the tenor parts by an octave to become a soprano part.

The usual modern rendering of this work displays a further adaptation of the first choir, from an unknown source (possibly Mozart). The second choir combines the first half of the verse as shown here, with ornaments, before the second half of the verse accidentally and erroneously shows the first half of the verse again, but transposed up a fourth -- the top G thus becomes a Top C. This fortunate accident was never sung in the Sistine Chapel, but has made the work famous in the modern era, despite the work being previously famous without it!

Other editions of this work are available from Ancient Groove Music, including details of the *abbellimenti*.

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Highlights of the collection include:

Miserere mei, by Gregorio Allegri, edited from the Vatican Manuscripts.

Four Tudor Settings of the Lord's Prayer, designed to accompany the well-known edition of Tudor Responses.

St. John Passion by Tomás Luis de Victoria, in a new English language edition.

The sacred music of Antonio Lotti, including concertante works for choir, soli and instruments, as well as masses, motets and canticles for choir and organ.



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