# **Malcolm Dedman**

# **Four Psalms**

# for SATB Choir

1966 rev. 2018

Duration: 8 mins. 30 secs.

### **Words for Psalm Settings**

#### Psalm 43

Judge me, God, defend my cause against a people who have no faithful love;

from those who are treacherous and unjust, rescue me.

For you are the God of my strength; why abandon me?

Why must I go around in mourning, harassed by the enemy?

Send out your light and your truth; they shall be my guide,

to lead me to your holy mountain to the place where you dwell.

Then I shall go to the altar of God, to the God of my joy.

I will rejoice and praise you on the harp, O God, my God.

Why so downcast, why all these sighs? Hope in God! I will praise Him still, my Saviour, my God.

#### Psalm 133

How good, how delightful it is to live as brothers all together!

It is like a fine oil on the head, running down the beard, running down Aaron's beard, onto the collar of his robes.

It is like the dew of Hermon falling on the heights of Zion;

for there Yahweh bestows His blessing, everlasting life.

#### Psalm 137

By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept at the memory of Zion.

On the poplars there we had hung up our harps.

For there our gaolers had asked us to sing them a song, our captors to make merry,

'Sing us one of the songs of Zion.'

How could we sing a song of Yahweh on alien soil?

If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand wither!

May my tongue remain stuck to my palate if I do not keep you in mind,

if I do not count Jerusalem the greatest of my joys.

Remember, Yahweh, to the Edomites' cost, the day of Jerusalem, how they said,

'Down with it! Rase it to the ground!'

Daughter of Babel, doomed to destruction, a blessing on anyone who treats you as you treated us, a blessing on anyone who seizes your babies and shatters them against a rock!

#### Psalm 114

Alleluia! When Israel came out of Egypt, the House of Jacob from a people of foreign speech, Judah became his sanctuary, and Israel his domain.

The sea fled at the sight, the Jordan turned back,

The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like sheep.

Sea, what makes you flee? Jordan, why turn back?

Why skip like rams, you mountains? Why like sheep, you hills?

Tremble, earth, at the coming of the Lord, at the coming of the God of Jacob,

who turns rock into pool, flint into fountain.

### **Four Psalms**

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1. Psalm 43

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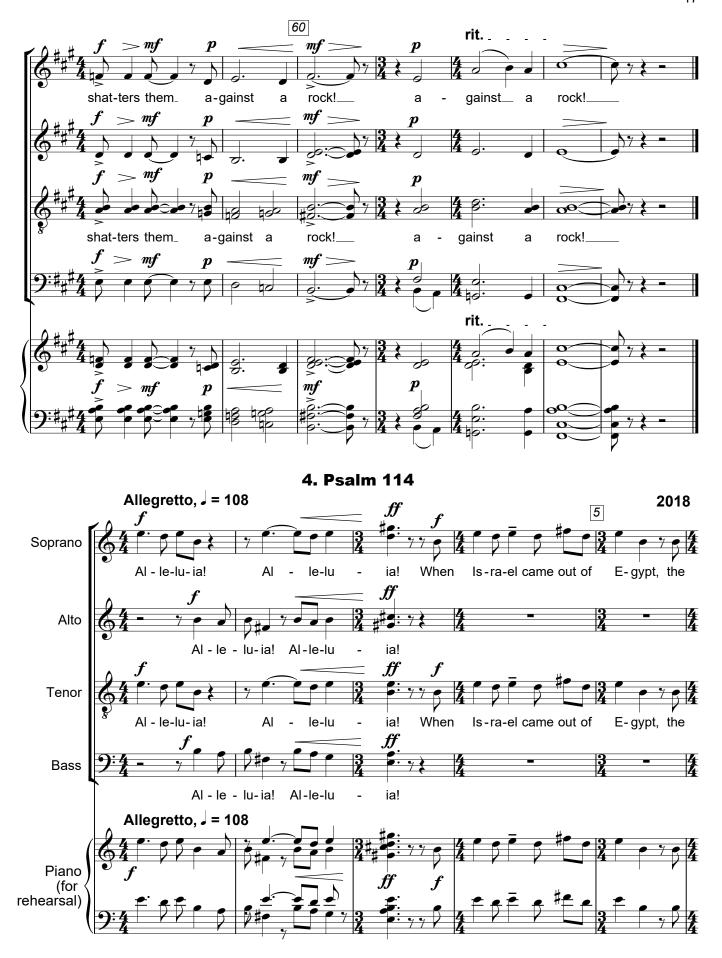
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