

### Notes from the composer:

*Of Mercy and Judgment* is a setting of Psalm 101:1–4 which addresses tensions between the longing for both moral perfection and the unforced grace of divine presence in relationship with God. The music underscores the psalmist’s striving for righteousness, expressed in mounting declarations of fidelity to “the perfect way”. Yet these declarations have failed — God has not appeared. Thus the aching cry of the psalmist’s heart: “O when wilt thou come unto me?” The music echoes its refrain — “I will sing of mercy and judgment unto thee, O Lord” — with the gathering conviction that both are perfectly reconciled in the heart of God.

### Of Mercy and Judgment

I will sing of mercy and judgment:  
unto thee, O Lord, will I sing.  
I will sing of mercy and judgment:  
unto thee, O Lord, will I sing.

I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way.  
I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.  
O when wilt thou come unto me?

I will sing of mercy and judgment:  
unto thee, O Lord, will I sing.  
I will sing of mercy and judgment:  
unto thee, O Lord, will I sing.

I will set no wicked thing before my eyes:  
I hate the work of them that turn aside;  
it shall not cleave to me.  
A froward heart shall depart from me:  
I will not know a wicked person.

I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.  
O when wilt thou come unto me?

I will sing of mercy and judgment:  
unto thee, O Lord, will I sing.  
I will sing of mercy and judgment:  
unto thee, O Lord, will I sing.

# Of Mercy and Judgment

Psalm 101:1-4  
adapted J.A.C. Redford

SATB and piano

J.A.C. Redford

**Rubato** ♩ = ca. 76

The musical score is written for SATB choir and piano. It begins with a piano introduction in 4/4 time, marked 'Rubato' with a tempo indication of 'ca. 76'. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand. The vocal parts enter in the second measure. The first system covers measures 1-3. The second system, starting at measure 4, includes the vocal line with lyrics 'I will sing of — mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to' and the piano accompaniment. The tempo changes from 'Rubato' to 'a tempo' at measure 4. The third system, starting at measure 7, includes the vocal line with lyrics 'thee, O — Lord, I will sing of — mer - cy and' and the piano accompaniment. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and a triplet in the piano part at measure 10.

4 S  
rit. *a tempo*  
*mp*  
I will sing of — mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to

7  
thee, O — Lord, I will sing of — mer - cy and

Duration: 4:30

10 S *mp*

judg - ment: un - to thee, O Lord, will I sing. I will

A *mp*

I will

T *mp*

I will

B *mp*

I will

13

sing of mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to thee, O

sing of mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to thee,

sing of mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to thee, O

sing of mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to thee, O

516

Lord, I will sing of mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to

O Lord, I will sing of mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to

Lord, I will sing of mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to

Lord, I will sing of mer - cy and judg - ment: un - to

19

thee, O Lord, will I sing. I will be - have my -

thee, O Lord, will I sing. I will be - have my -

thee, O Lord, will I sing.

thee, O Lord, will I sing.

*dim.* *p* *cresc.*

self wise - ly in a per - fect way. I

self wise - ly in a per - fect way. I

8

*mp* *dim.* 3

25 *cresc.* *mf*

— will walk with - in my house with a per - fect

*cresc.* *mf*

— will walk with - in my house with a per - fect

8

*cresc.* *mf*