

# Psalm 79

for Soprano and String Quartet

Slowly and Deliberately  $\text{♩} = 60$

Elaine Fine

Soprano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

*p*

*p*

*p*

S

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*p*

S

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

14

S

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

20

S

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*molto crescendo*

*ff*

*molto crescendo*

*ff*

*molto crescendo*

*ff*

*molto crescendo*

*ff*

25

S

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*diminuendo*

*diminuendo*

*diminuendo*

*diminuendo*

31 *mf*

S De - us ve-ne-runt Gen - tes in he - re - di - ta - tem tu - am, pol-lue-runt tem - plum

Vln. I *p*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

36

S sanc - tum tu - um: \_\_\_\_\_ po-sue-runt Je-ru-sa-lem in

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

41

S po - mo - rum cus - to - di - am. \_\_\_\_\_ Po - sue - runt mor - ti - ci - na ser - pizz.

Vln. I pizz.

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

45

S  
vo - - - rum tu - or - um, es - cas vo - la - ti - li - bus cae - - - li:

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. pizz. arco

49

S  
car - nes sanc-to - rum tu - o - rum bes - ti - is ter - rae. Ef -

Vln. I arco

Vln. II arco

Vla.

Vc.

55

S  
fu - de - runt san - gui - nem e - o - rum tam - qu - am a - qu - am in cir - cui - tu Je - ru - sa -

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

59

S  
lem: et non e - rat — qui se -

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

64

S  
pe - li - ret. — Fac - ti su - mus op - pro - bri - um vi - ci - nis

Vln. I  
pizz.

Vln. II  
pizz.

Vla.

Vc.

69

S  
nos - - - tris: sub - san - na 3 ti - o 3 et

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.  
pizz.

72

S  
il - lu - si - o his, qui in cir - cui - tu nos - tro sunt.

Vln. I  
arco

Vln. II  
arco

Vla.  
3 3

Vc.  
arco

76

S  
Us - - - que-quo

Vln. I  
76

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

81

S  
Do - mi - ne, Us - que - quo Do - mi - ne, ir - a - sce - ris in fi - nem: ac -

Vln. I  
81

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

86

S  
cen-de-tur — ve-lut ig-nis ze - lus tu - us? Us - - que-quo

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

92

S  
Do - mi-ne, Us - que - quo Do-mi-ne, ir - a - sce-ris in fi - nem: ac -

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

97

S  
cen-de-tur — ve-lut ig-nis ze - lus tu - us?

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Violin I

# Psalm 79

for Soprano and String Quartet

Slowly and Deliberately ♩ = 60

Elaine Fine

*p*

6

11 *mp*

16

21 *molto crescendo* *ff* *diminuendo*

26

31 *p*

37

42 *pizz.*

The score is written for Violin I in a single staff. It begins with a tempo marking of 'Slowly and Deliberately' and a metronome marking of ♩ = 60. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The piece is composed of several measures, with measure numbers 6, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31, 37, and 42 indicated. Dynamics include piano (*p*), mezzo-piano (*mp*), fortissimo (*ff*), and pizzicato (*pizz.*). Time signatures include 4/4, 3/4, 5/4, 6/4, and 3/2. The score features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.



Violin I

48 arco

Musical staff 48-53: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 48 starts with a sixteenth-note triplet. Measure 49 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 50 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 51 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 52 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 53 has a fermata over a quarter note.

54

Musical staff 54-59: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 54 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 55 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 56 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 57 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 58 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 59 has a fermata over a quarter note.

60

Musical staff 60-66: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 60 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 61 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 62 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 63 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 64 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 65 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 66 has a fermata over a quarter note.

67 pizz.

Musical staff 67-72: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 67 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 68 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 69 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 70 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 71 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 72 has a fermata over a quarter note.

73 arco

Musical staff 73-78: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 73 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 74 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 75 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 76 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 77 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 78 has a fermata over a quarter note.

79

Musical staff 79-84: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 79 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 80 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 81 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 82 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 83 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 84 has a fermata over a quarter note.

85

Musical staff 85-90: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 85 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 86 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 87 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 88 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 89 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 90 has a fermata over a quarter note.

91

Musical staff 91-96: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 91 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 92 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 93 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 94 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 95 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 96 has a fermata over a quarter note.

97

Musical staff 97-102: Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 97 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 98 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 99 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 100 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 101 has a fermata over a quarter note. Measure 102 has a fermata over a quarter note.

Violin II

# Psalm 79

for Soprano and String Quartet

Slowly and Deliberately ♩ = 60

Elaine Fine

*p*

6

11 *mp*

17 *molto crescendo*

23 *ff* *diminuendo*

28 *p*

34

39 *pizz.*

45 *arco*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for Violin II, consisting of eight staves of music. The piece is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and starts in 4/4 time. The tempo is 'Slowly and Deliberately' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 60. The score includes various dynamic markings: *p* (piano) at the beginning, *mp* (mezzo-piano) at measure 11, *ff* (fortissimo) at measure 23, and *p* (piano) at measure 28. There are also performance instructions: *molto crescendo* starting at measure 17, *diminuendo* starting at measure 23, *pizz.* (pizzicato) at measure 39, and *arco* (arco) at measure 45. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 at measure 10, back to 4/4 at measure 11, to 5/4 at measure 28, back to 4/4 at measure 34, to 6/4 at measure 39, and finally back to 4/4 at measure 45. The music features a variety of note values, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and slurs.

Violin II

51

58

64

pizz.

71

arco

77

83

88

94

98

Viola

# Psalm 79

for Soprano and String Quartet

Slowly and Deliberately ♩ = 60

Elaine Fine

The musical score for the Viola part of Psalm 79 consists of eight staves of music, numbered 1 through 35. The score is written in a grand staff with a bass clef and a C-clef for the viola. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The tempo is 'Slowly and Deliberately' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 60. The score includes various dynamic markings: *p* (piano) at measure 1, *mp* (mezzo-piano) at measure 11, *ff* (fortissimo) at measure 24, and *p* (piano) at measure 28. Performance instructions include *molto crescendo* starting at measure 20 and *diminuendo* starting at measure 24. The score features several time signature changes: 4/4 (measures 1-5), 3/4 (measures 6-10), 4/4 (measures 11-15), 3/4 (measures 16-19), 4/4 (measures 20-23), 5/4 (measures 24-27), 3/4 (measures 28-31), 6/4 (measures 32-34), and 4/4 (measures 35-36). The music is characterized by long, flowing lines with many slurs and ties, and a gradual increase in volume towards the end of the piece.

Viola

41

Musical staff for measures 41-48. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 4/4 time signature, changes to 3/4, then 4/4, and ends with a 3/4 time signature. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some triplets and slurs.

49

Musical staff for measures 49-54. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and ends with a 3/4 time signature. The music consists of eighth-note patterns and quarter notes.

55

Musical staff for measures 55-59. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 5/4, then 4/4, and ends with a 4/4 time signature. The music features eighth-note patterns and quarter notes.

60

Musical staff for measures 60-64. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and ends with a 3/4 time signature. The music includes eighth-note patterns and quarter notes, with triplets in measures 61-63.

65

Musical staff for measures 65-71. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and ends with a 4/4 time signature. The music features eighth-note patterns and quarter notes.

72

Musical staff for measures 72-77. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and ends with a 3/4 time signature. The music consists of eighth-note patterns and quarter notes, with triplets in measures 72-73.

78

Musical staff for measures 78-82. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It consists of a continuous eighth-note pattern throughout the five measures.

83

Musical staff for measures 83-88. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and ends with a 4/4 time signature. The music features eighth-note patterns and quarter notes.

90

Musical staff for measures 90-94. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and ends with a 4/4 time signature. The music consists of eighth-note patterns and quarter notes.

95

Musical staff for measures 95-98. The staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and ends with a 4/4 time signature. The music features quarter notes and half notes, with some slurs.

Cello

# Psalm 79

for Soprano and String Quartet

Slowly and Deliberately ♩ = 60

Elaine Fine

*p*

5

9

*mp*

14

19

*molto crescendo* *ff*

25

*diminuendo* *p*

33

38

The musical score is written for Cello in bass clef. It begins in 4/4 time and features several time signature changes: 3/4 at measures 10-11, 5/4 at measure 19, 4/4 at measure 33, and 6/4 at measure 38. The piece is marked 'Slowly and Deliberately' with a tempo of 60 beats per minute. The dynamics range from piano (*p*) to fortissimo (*ff*), with a 'molto crescendo' section starting at measure 19 and a 'diminuendo' section starting at measure 25. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and accidentals.

Cello

45 pizz. arco

51

59

65 pizz.

72 arco

78

83

89

96

Psalm 79 is made of music that I wrote for a podcast of Geoff Ryman's Novel *The Child Garden*. The introduction is an illustration of the first few lines of Purgatory 38 in Canto IV of Dante's *Divine Comedy*,

*Noi salavam per entro il sasso rotto,  
E d' ogni lato ne stringea lo stremo,  
E piedi e man voleva il suol di sotto.*

(We were climbing within the broken rock, and its surface grazed us on either side, and the ground below us required both feet and hands.)

The text is from the first five lines of Psalm 79:

O God, the Gentiles have entered into your inheritance; they have polluted your holy temple. They have set Jerusalem as a place to tend fruit trees. They have placed the dead bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the sky, the flesh of your saints for the beasts of the earth. They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one who would bury them. We have become a disgrace to our neighbors, an object of ridicule and mockery to those who are around us. How long, O Lord? Will you be angry until the end? Will your zeal be kindled like a fire?

My interest in this psalm setting is dramatic and artistic rather than religious.