

O LORD, LET ME KNOW MINE END

from *Musica Deo sacra* (London, 1668)

Psalm 39:5-8

Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)
ed. Ross Jallo

The musical score consists of five staves. From top to bottom: 1. MEDIUS (Mean) staff: Treble clef, common time, note value quarter note. 2. CONTRATENOR staff: Treble clef, common time, note value eighth note. 3. TENOR staff: Treble clef, common time, note value eighth note. 4. BASSUS staff: Bass clef, common time, note value eighth note. 5. PARS ORGANICA staff: Treble clef, common time, note values include eighth note, sixteenth note, and sixteenth note tied to eighth note. The bassus staff has a bassoon-like sound indicated by a woodwind symbol.

The musical score consists of three staves. 1. T I (Tenor I) staff: Treble clef, common time, note value eighth note. 2. B (Bass) staff: Bass clef, common time, note values include eighth note, sixteenth note, and sixteenth note tied to eighth note. 3. PARS ORGANICA staff: Treble clef, common time, note values include eighth note, sixteenth note, and sixteenth note tied to eighth note. The vocal parts sing the words "O Lord, O Lord," at measure 5. The organum parts provide harmonic support.

Tomkins - O Lord, let me know mine end

9

T 1 let me know mine end, and the num - ber of my days,

B

T 2

T I

13
that I may be cer - ti - fied, that I may be

B

T I

13
that I may be cer - ti - fied, that I may be

B

17

T I

cer - ti-fied how long, how long, how long I have to live, I have to

B

21

Chorus

M How long I have to live, to live,

T I live. How long I have to live, how

Chorus

T II How long I have to live, how long I

Chorus

Bar How long I have to live, how long I have to

Chorus

B How long I have to



25

M to live, how long I have to live, how

T I — long I have to live, how long I have to live,

T II have to live, I have to live, how long I have to

Bar live, how long I have to live, how long I have to live, to

B live, I have to live, how long I have to live,



29

M long I have to live, to live.

T I how long I have to live, to live. **Verse**
Be - hold,

T II live, how long I have to live.

Bar live, how long I have to live.

B how long I have to live, to live.

34

T I be - hold, thou hast made my days, as it were a

B

38

T I

span long, as it were a span long, and mine age is even as no - thing, as

B

{

42

T I

no-thing, as no-thing in re-spect of thee, of thee, in re -

B

{

46

T I

spect of thee, in re -spect of thee, and ve -ri - ly,

B

{

Tomkins - *O Lord, let me know mine end*

50

T I and ve - ri - ly, ve - ri - ly, ev - 'ry man li - ving, ev -

B

54

T I - 'ry man li - ving, ev - 'ry man li - ving is al - to -

B

58

T I ge-ther va - ni-ty, is al-to - ge-ther va - ni-ty, va - ni - ty, al - to-ge-ther va-ni-

B

62

T I ty, al - to-ge-ther va - ni - ty, is al - to-ge-ther va - ni - ty, is al-to - ge - - ther va - ni-

B

{

T I

B

66

Chorus

M And ve - ri - ly, and ve - ri - ly, ev - 'ry man li - - ving.

Chorus

T I ty. And ve - ri - ly, and ve - ri - ly, ve - ri - ly, ev 'ry man li - - ving, li - ving,

Chorus

T II And ve - ri - ly, ve - ri - ly, and ve - ri - ly, ev - 'ry man li - - -

Chorus

Bar And ve - ri - ly, and ve - ri - ly, ve - ri - ly, ev - 'ry man

Chorus

B And ve - ri - ly, and ve - ri - ly, ev - 'ry man

{

T I

B

Tomkins - *O Lord, let me know mine end*

70

M ev - 'ry man li - ving is

T I ev - e - ry man li - ving, li - - - ving is

T II ving, ev - 'ry man li - ving, ev - 'ry man li - ving is

Bar li - ving, li - ving, ev - 'ry man li - ving is

B li - ving, ev - 'ry man li - ving, ev - 'ry man li - ving

74

M al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, is va - ni -

T I al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, is va - ni -

T II al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, va - ni - ty, is va - ni - ty, is va - ni -

Bar al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, is va - ni - ty, is va - ni -

B is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, is va - ni - ty

77

M ty, is va - ni - ty, is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty.

T I is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty.

T II ty, is va - ni - ty, is va - ni - ty, is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty.

Bar ty, is va - ni - ty, is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty.

B is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty, is al - to - ge - ther va - ni - ty.

81

Verse

T I For man, for

B

87

T I

man walk-eth in a vain sha - dow,

B

92

T I

vain,

B

96

T I

He heap - eth up rich - es,

B

100

T I and can - not tell who shall gath - er them,

B

104

T I who shall gath - er them, who shall gath - er them. And now Lord, and

B

108

T I now Lord, what is my hope, what is my hope?

B

Tomkins - O Lord, let me know mine end

112

T I

B

{

T I

B

{

120

M

T I

T II

Bar

B

Chorus

And now Lord, and now Lord,

Chorus

ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee.

And now Lord, and now

Chorus

And now Lord, and now

Chorus

And now Lord, and now

Chorus

And now Lord, and now

125

M what is my hope, what is my hope? Tru - ly my

T I Lord, what is my hope, what is my hope? Tru - ly my hope, my hope

T II Lord, what is my hope, what is my hope? Tru - ly my hope is in

Bar Lord, what is my hope, what is my hope, what is my hope?

B Lord, what is my hope, what is my hope, my hope? Tru - ly my

Tomkins - *O Lord, let me know mine end*

130

M hope is ev'n in thee, tru - ly my hope is ev'n in thee, —

T I is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee, in —

T II thee, is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee, in thee,

Bar is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in

B hope is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee, in

This section contains five staves. The top four staves represent vocal parts: M (Mezzo-Soprano), T I (Tenor), T II (Bass), and Bar (Baritone). The bottom staff represents the basso continuo. The vocal parts sing a repeating phrase: "hope is ev'n in thee, tru - ly my hope is ev'n in thee, —". The basso continuo part consists of sustained notes and some harmonic bass lines.

134

M — is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee.

T I — thee, is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee, in thee. —

T II is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee, in thee, —

Bar thee, in thee, is ev'n in thee, in thee, —

B — thee, is ev'n in thee, in thee, —

This section continues the musical score with the same five voices and basso continuo. The vocal parts now sing a new phrase: "— is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee, is ev'n in thee." The basso continuo part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and bass lines.