

148. Earnest Appeal Against Enemies

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in two systems, each with six lines of text. The first system of lyrics is aligned with the first two staves of music, and the second system is aligned with the third and fourth staves. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Je - ho - vah, to my prayer give ear, Nor hide Thee from my cry;
2. My e - ne - mies lift up their voice, The vi - o - lent op - press;
3. Sore pained in heart I find no ease, Death's ter - rors fill my soul,
4. O had I wings, I sigh and say, Like some swift dove to roam,
5. Lo, wan - d'ring far my rest should be In some lone de - sert waste;
6. O Lord, their ma - lice re - com - pense, Their wick - ed tongues con - found,

At - tend my sad com - plaint, and hear My rest - less moan and sigh.
To do me wrong my foes re - joice, And love my soul's dis - tress.
Great fear and trem - bling on me seize, And hor - rors o'er me roll.
Then would I has - ten far a - way And find a peace - ful home.
I from the stor - my wind would flee, And to a shel - ter haste.
For in the ci - ty vi - o - lence And bit - ter strife a - bound.

7. They walk her walls both night and day,
Within all vices meet;
Oppression, fraud, and crime hold sway,
Nor leave the crowded street.

8. No foreign foe provokes alarm,
But enemies within;
May God destroy their power to harm
And recompense their sin.