

*For Fr. Sergius
A Servant of Beauty*
*This work is further dedicated to all those who, in their art and in their lives,
respect the inherent freedom of every person and who cherish the beauty of every living thing.*

VESPERS

BENEDICT SHEEHAN

1. *The Opening Psalm*

Psalm 103 (104),
trans. Donald Sheehan (1940–2010)

Based on Valaam chant

Boldly $\text{♩} = 100$

ALTO SOLO

BARITONE SOLO

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Bless - ed art thou, _____ *O*

Boldly $\text{♩} = 100$

for rehearsal only

Mak-ing his an - gels his spi - rits, his mi-ni-sters a flame of fire.

-scend-ing on the wings of the wind, Mak-ing his an - gels his spi - rits, his mi-ni-sters a

-scend-ing on the wings of the wind, Mak-ing his an - gels his spi - rits, his mi-ni-sters a

-scend-ing on the wings of the wind, Mak-ing his an - gels his spi - rits, his mi-ni-sters a

-scend-ing on the wings of the wind, Mak-ing his an - gels his spi - rits, his mi-ni-sters a

He es-tab-lished earth on her sure foun - da - tions, she shall ne-ver give way unto

flame of fire. He es - tab - lished earth on her sure foun - da - tions, she shall ne-ver give way unto

flame of fire. He es - tab - lished earth on her sure foun - da - tions, she shall ne-ver give way unto

flame of fire. He es - tab - lished earth on her sure foun - da - tions, she shall ne-ver give way unto

flame of fire. He es - tab - lished earth on her sure foun - da - tions, she shall ne-ver give way unto

61

f

BAR. SOLO.

Won - drous are thy works, — O Lord. —

s. found - ed for them. — Won - drous are thy works, —

A. found - ed for them. — Won - drous are thy works, —

T. found - ed for them. — Won - drous are thy works, —

B. found - ed for them. — Won - drous are thy works, —

67

rit.

p

s. O — Lord, — won - drous are thy works, — O Lord. —

A. — O — Lord, — won - drous are thy works, — O Lord. —

T. O — Lord, — won - drous are thy works, — O Lord. —

B. — O — Lord, — won - drous are thy works, — O Lord. —

rit.

8

Tranquil ♩ = 46

A. SOLO 73 *mp* 6 6 —— 3 —— 7 —— 3 ——

Thou didst set a bound'-ry ne-ver to be passed, the wa-ters shall ne-ver a-gain co-ver the earth. — *p semper*

S. —— 3 —— 7 —— 3 ——

Won - drous are thy works, O
p semper

A. —— 3 —— 7 —— 3 ——

Won - drous are thy works, O
p semper

T. —— 3 —— 7 —— 3 ——

Won - drous are thy works, O
p semper

B. —— 3 —— 7 —— 3 ——

Won - drous are thy works, O
p semper

Tranquil ♩ = 46

p semper

A. SOLO 77 —— 3 —— —— 3 —— 6

Send-ing the springs in-to the val-leys, — he shall make the wa-ters flow — be-tween the moun-tains. — *mp*

BAR. SOLO —— 3 —— 6 —— 3 ——

He shall give wa-ter to ev'-ry beast,

S. Lord, won - drous are thy

A. Lord, won - drous are thy

T. Lord, won - drous are thy

B. Lord, won - drous are thy

p semper

89

The trees of the plain shall be fed, the ce-dars of Le-ba-non__ which thou didst plant._
strength-en his heart._

works, O Lord,

works, O Lord,

8 works, O Lord,

works, O Lord,

{

works, O Lord,

91

On the high__ hills are the

In them shall the spar - rows make nests, the he - ron's home great-est a - mong them._

won - - - drous are thy works, O

won - - - drous are thy works, O

8 won - - - drous are thy works, O

won - - - drous are thy works, O

{

poco più mosso $\text{♩} = 60$

110

poco più mosso $\text{♩} = 60$

eve - ning. The

O Lord, how ma - ni - fold are thy works, in wis - dom hast thou made them ah

O Lord, how ma - ni - fold are thy works, in wis - dom hast thou made them all.

O Lord, how ma - ni - fold are thy works, in wis - dom hast thou made them all.

O Lord, how ma - ni - fold are thy works, in wis - dom hast thou made them all.

poco più mosso $\text{♩} = 60$

Più animato $\text{♩} = 70$ *mf*

As is this great and spa - cious sea that teems with

earth is filled with thy cre - a - tions,

p

Glo - - - ry to thee, O Lord, who hast

p

O Lord, who hast

Più animato $\text{♩} = 70$

p

119

count-less things, liv-ing things both small and great.

There the ships

Who hast made them all,

made them all,

Who hast made them all,

made them all,

122

ply their way, there is that Le-vi-a-than¹ that thou mad-est to play there.

glo-ry to thee, O Lord, who hast made them

glo-

glo-

¹ Leviathan = a sea creature of enormous size, such as a whale

143

May the Lord's

send forth thy Spi - rit and they shall be cre - at - ed, thou shalt re - new the face of the earth.

pp (stagger breathing)

ah

148

mp

glo - ry en-dure for - ev - er; the Lord shall be glad in his works.

mp

He gaz-es on the earth and it trem - bles,

p

p

p

p

p

175

s. — who hast made them all.

A. — who hast made them all.

T. — who hast made them all,

B. — who hast made them all.

181 *f*

A. SOLO Glo - ry to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit.

BAR. SOLO Glo - ry to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit.

s. *f* Both now and *ff*

A. *f* Both now and *ff*

T. *f* Both now and *ff*

B. *f* Both now and ev - er *ff*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to thee, O God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to thee, O God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to thee, O God.

rit.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to thee, O God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to thee, O God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to thee, O God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ry to thee, O God.

rit.

13

those who en - ter it with faith, re - v'rence, and the fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

16

For the ho-n'rable priest - hood, the di - a - co-nate in Christ, and for
Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy.

33

Bassoon part:

-bun - dance of the fruits of the earth, and for peace - ful times, let us pray to the Lord.

36

Bassoon part:

For tra-vel-ers by land, by sea, and by air; for the sick and the suf-fer - ing; for
Lord, have mer - cy.

52

glo - ri - ous La - dy The - o - to - kos and Ev - er - Vir - gin Ma - ry _____ with all the saints, Let us com -
pp
 Most ho - ly The - o - - to - - kos, save us.
pp
 Most ho - ly The - o - - to - - kos, save us.
pp
 Most ho - ly The - o - - to - - kos, save us.
pp
 Most ho - ly The - o - - to - - kos, save us.

55

-mend our-selves and each o-ther, and all our life un-to Christ our God. For un-to
mf
p
 To thee, O Lord.
p
mf

10

Al - le -

Al - le -

TUTTI

right - eous, and the way of the un - god - ly shall pe - - - rish. Al - le -

TUTTI

right - eous, and the way of the un - god - ly shall pe - - - rish. Al - le -

14

- lu - i - a.

- lu - i - a.

2 SOLI

- lu - i - a. Serve the Lord with fear and re - joice_ in_ him ____ with_

SOLO

- lu - i - a. Serve the Lord with fear and re - joice_ in_ him ____ with_

39

- lu - - - i - a. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the
 - lu - - - i - a. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the
 - lu - - - i - a. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the
 - lu - - - i - a. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the

44

Ho - ly Spi - rit. Al - le - lu - i - a. Now and
 Ho - ly Spi - rit. Al - le - lu - i - a. Now and
 Ho - ly Spi - rit. Al - le - lu - i - a. Now and
 Ho - ly Spi - rit. Al - le - lu - i - a. Now and

4. Small Litany

Text from the Hieratikon (Office Book for Priest and Deacon)

Calmly and steadily ♩ = 70

BARITONE SOLO

A-gain and a-gain in peace, let us pray to the Lord. Help—

SOPRANO

Lord, have mer - cy.

ALTO

Lord, have mer - cy.

TENOR

Lord, have mer - cy.

BASS

Lord, have mer - cy.

Calmly and steadily ♩ = 70

4

— us, save us, have mer - cy on us, and keep us, O God, by thy

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

{

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

{

7

grace. Com - me - mo - rat - ing our most ho - ly, most pure, most bless - ed and

Lord, have mer - cy.

10

glo - ri - ous La - dy The - o - to - kos and Ev - er - Vir - gin Ma - ry with all the saints, Let us com -

Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

Most ho - ly The - o - to - kos, save us.

5. The Lamp-lighting Psalms

Psalms 140 (141) and 141 (142),
trans. Donald Sheehan (1940–2010)

Based on motifs from Byzantine chant, First Mode

Energico ♩ = 108

SEMI-CHORUS

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

O Lord, _____ I called up-on thee, hear me,

CHORUS

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Hear me, _____
p

Hear me,
p

Hear me,
p

O, _____ hear me,

Energico ♩ = 108

5

O Lord, I called up-on thee, hear me, re-ceive the voice of my prayer when I call up-on thee.

O — Lord.

O — Lord.

O — Lord.

O — Lord.



28

cir - cles.

The right-eous man shall chas - tise me with sweet mer - cy, and cor - rect me, but the

Hear me, O Lord.

Hear me, O Lord.

Hear me, O Lord.

Hear me, O Lord.

33

sweet oil of sin - ners shall ne - ver touch my head, for my prayer shall con - ti-nual-ly be a-against their de -

37

Their judges were smashed on the rock, al-though they had heard my words, heard how sweet they
-lights.

Hear me, O Lord.

Hear me, O Lord.

Hear me, O Lord.

Hear me, O Lord.

41

were. For my

Their bones were all scat-tered in Ha - des, like an earth-clod bro-ken on the earth.

Hear me, O Lord.

Hear me, O

63

mf (1–3 singers per part)

Be - fore him I shall pour out my prayer, in his
Lord, with my voice I prayed to the Lord.
Hear me, O Lord.
Hear me, O Lord.
Hear me, O Lord.

67

presence de-clare my af - flic - tions.
When my spi - rit faint - ed with - in me, then thou knew-est my
Hear me, O Lord.
Hear me, O Lord.
Hear me, O Lord.
Hear me, O Lord.

85

low, free me from my tor - ment - ors for they are strong - er than I.

SOLO *mf*

Bring my soul ___ out of ***p***

Hear me, O Lord, ***p***

Hear me, O Lord, ***p***

Hear me, O Lord, ***p***

Hear me, O Lord,

89

senza rit.

pri - son, O Lord.

mf

that I may_ sing praise to thy name.

mf

that I may_ sing praise to thy name.

mf

that I may_ sing praise to thy name.

mf

that I may_ sing praise to thy name.

senza rit.

mf

attacca

M.-S. SOLO 25 MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLO *mf*

From out of the depths, O Lord, I have
li - vered us from our trans - gres - sions.

BAR. SOLO S. A. T. B.

mp *p* *oh* *p* *p* *p*

p *mp* *p*

oh

p

p

mp *mf*

31 3 MEZZO-SOPRANO SOLI

cried out to thee,

Come, O peo - ple, let us

mf *p* *voh* *p*

O Lord, hear my *voh* let us

(stagger breathing)

mf *p* *mp* *p*

O Lord, hear my *voh*

mf *p*

O Lord, hear my voice.

mf *p*

O Lord, hear my voice.

p

p

62

— in glad - ness, O moun - tains! Be - hold, Em - ma - nu - el has
— Sing in glad - ness, O mah
— in glad - ness, O mah
— in glad - ness, O mah
— in glad - ness, O mah

67

nailed our sins to the Cross; grant-ing life, he has slain death. He has re-sus-rect-ed A-dam as the
—
grant-ing life, he has slain death.
grant-ing life, he has slain death.
grant-ing life, he has slain death.

95

A. SOLI peace for our life as the gracious Lov - er of man.

BAR. SOLO For thy name's sake, O Lord, I have

S.

A. *p* Grant peace _____ for our life.

T. *p* Grant peace _____ for our life. *oh*

B. *p* Grant peace _____ for our life as the Lov - er of man. *oh*

p

101 pa-tient-ly wait-ed for thee, my soul went on pa-tient-ly wait-ing for thy word,

mp

my

my

my

my

my

my

my

mp

127

S. SOLO *mf*

night, from the morn-ing watch,

3 SOPRANO SOLI
mp

Let us praise the

S. *mp*

Let Is - ra - el hope in the Lord.

A. *p* *mp*

ah Let Is - ra - el hope in the Lo(rd.) oh

T. *mp*

ah Let Is - ra - el hope in the Lo(rd.) oh

B. *mp*

ah Let Is - ra - el hope in the Lo(rd.) oh

133

S. SOLO

Word, co - e - ter - nal with the Fa - ther. He in - ef - fa - bly came forth from the vir - gin - al

S.

Co - e - ter - nal with the Fa - ther. He in - ef - fa - bly came forth from the vir - gin - al

gradually change vowel

A.

oo

gradually change vowel

T.

oo

gradually change vowel

B.

oo

gradually change vowel

oo

161 *mp*

S. Let us praise ____ the Vir - gin ____ Ma - ry, the gate of hea - ven, the glo - ry of __ the world, the

A. *p* (stagger breathing)

T. 8

B.

mp

167

song ____ of an - gels, the beau - ty of the faith - ful. *mm*

p

mp

She was born ____ of

pp

She was born of

pp

She was born of

p

193

rage, cou - rage, O peo - ple of God, for Christ will de - stroy our
 rage, cou - rage, O peo - ple of God, for Christ will de -
 rage, cou - rage, O peo - ple of God, for Christ will de - stroy our
 rage, cou - rage, O peo - ple of God, for Christ will de - Christ will de -

199

rit.
 e - ne - mies, since he is all pow - er - ful.
 - stroy our e - ne - mies, since he is all pow - er - ful.
 e - ne - mies, since he is all pow - er - ful.
 - stroy our e - ne - mies, since he is all pow - er - ful.
 rit.

22 *mf* *p* *mp*

God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit. For

God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit. For meet it is at all times to

God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit. For meet it is at all times, —

God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit. at all times,

mf *p* *pp*

p *pp*

p *pp*

p

28 *f*

meet it is at all times to wor - ship thee with voi - ces of praise; —

mp

For meet it is at all times to wor - ship thee with voi - ces of praise, —

mp

wor - ship thee with voi - ces of praise, O Son of

mp

for meet it is at all times to wor - ship thee with voi - ces of praise, O

mp

for meet it is at all times to wor - ship thee with voi - ces of praise, O Son of

mp

mf

9 strength and has gird - ed him - self, for he has es - tab-lished our lands _____ so that they shall

- ty, robed in ma - - jes - ty. The Lord is King, he is robed in

The Lord _____ is King, he is

8 robed in ma - - jes - ty, robed in ma - - jes - ty. The

Lord _____ is King, he is robed in ma - - jes - ty.

13 ne - ver be shak - en. From of old _____ is thy

ma - - jes - ty, in ma - - - jes - ty.

robed in ma - - - jes - ty.

8 Lord _____ is King, he is robed in ma - - - jes -

- ty, robed in ma - - jes - ty.

31

f

Won - drous is the surg - ing of the sea,

f *mf*

ma - - - - - jes - ty. The Lord

f *mf*

ma - jes - ty, ma - jes - ty. The

f *mf*

ma - jes - ty, ma - jes - ty. The Lord

f *mf*

ma - jes - ty, ma - jes - ty. The

f *mf*

ma - - - - - jes - ty. The

34

won - drous is the Lord on high. Thy

f

— — — — —

is King, he is robed in ma - - - - - jes - ty.

f

Lord is King, he is robed in ma - - - - - jes - ty.

f

— — — — —

is King, he is robed in ma - - - - - jes - ty.

f

Lord is King, he is robed in ma - - - - - jes - ty.

f

9. Evening Prayer

Text from the Horologion (Book of the Hours),
trans. Anon.

SOPRANO **Meditatively** $\text{♩} = 56$

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Vouch-safe, O Lord, to keep us this eve - ning with-out sin. Bless-ed art thou, O

Vouch-safe, O Lord, to keep us this eve - ning with-out sin. Bless-ed art thou, O

Vouch-safe, O Lord, to keep us this eve - ning with-out sin. Bless-ed art thou, O

Vouch-safe, O Lord, to keep us this eve - ning with-out sin. Bless-ed art thou, O

Meditatively $\text{♩} = 56$

5

Lord, God of our fa - thers, and praised and glo-ri-fied is thy Name for - ev - er. A - men.

Lord, God of our fa - thers, and praised and glo-ri-fied is thy Name for - ev - er. A - men.

Lord, God of our fa - thers, and praised and glo-ri-fied is thy Name for - ev - er. A - men.

Lord, God of our fa - thers, and praised and glo-ri-fied is thy Name for - ev - er. A - men.

Piano Accompaniment

32

mf

thee _____ is due glo - ry: to the Fa - ther_ and to the Son____ and to the Ho - ly

mf

thee _____ is due glo - ry: to the Fa - ther_ and to the Son____ and to the Ho - ly

mf

8 thee ____ is due glo - ry: to the Fa - ther_ and to the Son____ and to the Ho - ly

mf

thee ____ is due glo - ry: to the Fa - ther_ and to the Son____ and to the Ho - ly

f

36

rit.

p

Spi - rit, now and ev-er_ and un-to ag-es of ag - es. A - - - - men.

p

Spi - rit, now and ev-er_ and un-to ag-es of ag - es. A - - - - men.

p

8 Spi - rit, now and ev-er_ and un-to ag-es of ag - es. A - - - - men.

p

Spi - rit, now and ev-er_ and un-to ag-es of ag - es. A - - - - men.

rit.

p

17

thou hast pre-pared be-fore the face of all peo- ple: a light,

thou hast pre-pared, a light,

thou hast pre-pared be-fore all peo- ple: a light,

thou hast pre-pared be-fore all peo- ple: a light, a light,

thou hast pre-pared be-fore all peo- ple: a light,

piano part:

22

light, a light to en-light-en the Gen-tiles,

a light, a light to en-light-en the Gen-tiles,

light, a light to en-light-en the Gen-tiles, and the

a light, a light to en-light-en the Gen-tiles,

light, a light, a light to en-light-en the Gen-tiles, and the

piano part:

9

-cord-ing to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy sal-vation, For mine eyes have seen thy sal-vation, For mine eyes have seen thy sal-vation, For mine eyes have seen thy sal-vation,

13

eyes have seen thy sal-vation, Which thou, which thou, which
mine eyes have seen thy sal-vation, Which thou, which thou, which
mine eyes have seen thy sal-vation, Which thou, which thou, which
mine eyes have seen thy sal-vation, Which thou, which thou, which
thy sal-vation, Which thou, which thou, which

11. Rejoice, O Virgin

Text from the Horologion (Book of the Hours),
trans. Anon.

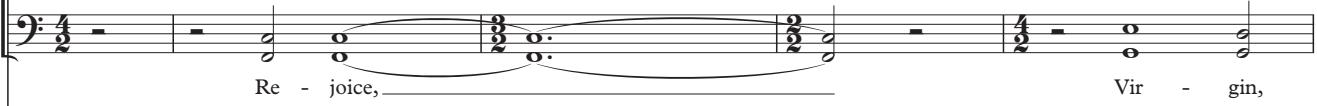
Based on a chant of the Monastery of St Cyril on the White Lake

Very slow, and as if from a distance $\text{♩} = 48$

SOPRANO 

ALTO 

TENOR 

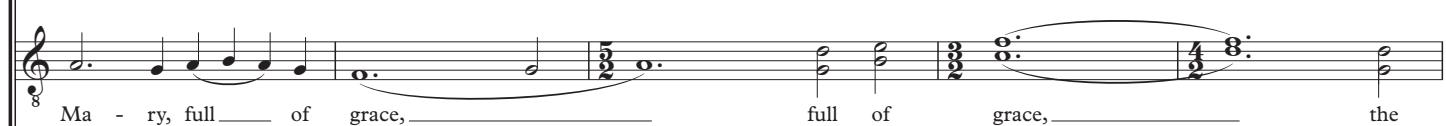
BASS 

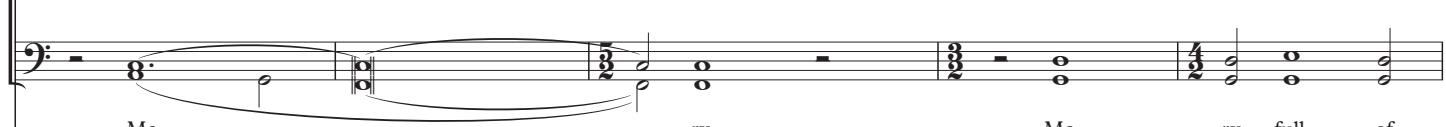
Very slow, and as if from a distance $\text{♩} = 48$



5







28

f

vior, the Sa - vior of our souls.
our souls, the Sa - vior of our souls,
vior, the Sa - vior of our souls,
borne the Sa - vior, the Sa - vior of our souls,
the Sa - vior, the Sa - vior

32

rit.

pp
the Sa - vior of our souls.
p pp
the Sa - vior of our souls.
p pp
the Sa - vior of our souls.
p pp
of our souls, the Sa - vior of our souls.
p pp
rit.

23

mp

Come

Lord and he heard me, and de - li - vered me from all my af - flic - tions.

I sought the Lord and he heard me, _____ and de - li - vered me from all my af - flic - tions. __

I sought the Lord and he heard me, _____ and de - li - vered me from all my af - flic - tions. __

I sought the Lord and he heard me, _____ and de - li - vered me from all my af - flic - tions. __

I sought the Lord and he heard me, _____ and de - li - vered me from all my af - flic - tions. __

I sought the Lord and he heard me, _____ and de - li - vered me from all my af - flic - tions. __

27

—3—

close to him and be il - lu - minded, and your coun - te - nance shall ne - ver be shamed.

This

— Come close to him _____ and be il - lu - minded, _____ and your coun - te - nance shall ne - ver be shamed. —3—

— Come close to him _____ and be il - lu - minded, _____ and your coun - te - nance shall ne - ver be shamed. —3—

— Come close to him _____ and be il - lu - minded, _____ and your coun - te - nance shall ne - ver be shamed. —3—

— Come close to him _____ and be il - lu - minded, _____ and your coun - te - nance shall ne - ver be shamed. —3—

— Come close to him _____ and be il - lu - minded, _____ and your coun - te - nance shall ne - ver be shamed. —3—

49

Rich men have turned
Rich men have turned

Fear the Lord, you his saints, there is no want to those who fear him.

taste and see that the Lord is good;

taste and see that the Lord is good;

bless - ed is the

bless - ed is the

54

poor and starved, but those who seek the Lord shall not lack a ny good things.

O taste and

O taste and

man that puts his hope in him. O taste and

man that puts his hope in him. O taste and

3

77

on the right - eous, his ears _____ are o - pen to their sup - pli -
on the right - eous, his ears _____ are o - pen to their sup - pli -
on the right - eous, his ears _____ are o - pen to their sup - pli -
on the right - eous, his ears _____ are o - pen to their sup - pli -

82 *mf*

The Lord's coun - te-nance is up - on e - vil - do - ers, to up -
The Lord's coun - te-nance is up - on e - vil - do - ers, to up -
- ca - tions. To up -
- ca - tions. The Lord's coun - te - nance is up - on e - vil - do -
- ca - tions. The Lord's coun - te - nance is up - on e - vil - do -
- ca - tions. The Lord's coun - te - nance is up - on e - vil - do -

107 *mp*

The Lord shall guard all their bones, __

all.

Not one of them shall be bro -

li - vers them out of them, ah

p (stagger breathing)

112

mp

The death of sin - ners is e - vil,

ken.

and those hat - ing the

ah