

Psalm 51

Charles H. Giffen

Antiphon A - Joel 2:17.

[Antiphon before verses begin, once by cantor/choir, once by congregation;
thereafter, congregation repeats antiphon once after each group of verses]

Spare, O spare us Lord, spare thy peo-ple, spare them Lord:
Par - ce Do - mi - ne, par - ce po - pu - lo tu - o:

and let not thy wrath be up - on us ev - er.
ne in ae - ter - num i - ra - sca - ris no - bis.

Verses:

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

Antiphon A

Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.
And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgement.
Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

Antiphon A

Antiphon B

Descant

Par - - - ce Do - - - mi - - - ne, _____

Spare, O spare us Lord, spare they peo-ple, spare them Lord,
Par - ce Do - mi - ne, par - ce po - pu - lo tu - o: _____

par - - - ce Do - - - mi - ne. _____

and let not thy wrath be up - on us ev - er.
ne in ae - ter - num i - ra - sca - ris no - bis.

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system is labeled 'Descant' and features a vocal line with lyrics 'Par - - - ce Do - - - mi - - - ne, _____' and an instrumental accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal line with lyrics 'Spare, O spare us Lord, spare they peo-ple, spare them Lord, Par - ce Do - mi - ne, par - ce po - pu - lo tu - o: _____' and the instrumental accompaniment. The third system continues the vocal line with lyrics 'par - - - ce Do - - - mi - ne. _____' and the instrumental accompaniment. The fourth system continues the vocal line with lyrics 'and let not thy wrath be up - on us ev - er. ne in ae - ter - num i - ra - sca - ris no - bis.' and the instrumental accompaniment.

Verses:

For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

Antiphon B

Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

Antiphon B

Verses:

Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.
Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.

Antiphon B

Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice;
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Antiphon C

Antiphon C
Descant

Par - ce Do - mi - ne, par - ce po - pu -

Spare, O spare us Lord, spare thy peo-ple, spare them Lord:
Par - ce Do - mi - ne, par - ce po - pu - lo tu o:

lo tu - o, par - - - ce Do - mi - ne.

and let not thy wrath be up - on them ev - - - er.
ne in ae - ter - num i - ra - sca - ris no - - - bis.