

COMPOSER'S NOTE

Since my childhood, I've been singing this beautiful text in evensong services. For me it is often the most magical moment of the service. It is a text which connects deeply with me, and speaks of a quiet sense of hope and peace. This composition is created with those ideas in mind. The music should be sung with smooth, soft lines and gentle, peaceful phrases. It need never be rushed and can always have a sense of space and tranquility.

I am deeply grateful to VOCES8 for their uplifting and moving interpretation of this work.

Paul Smith

A recording of *Nunc Dimittis* is available on the VOCES8 album *Reflections* (VCM Records, VCM125)

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum verbum tuum in pace:
Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum
Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum:
Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Luke 2:29–32

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Translation from the Book of Common Prayer, 1662

Nunc Dimittis

Paul Smith

Tranquil and meditative (♩ = 100)

p

Soprano

ser - vum tu - um, ser - vum

p

Alto

ser - vum tu - um, ser - vum

p

Tenor

di - mit - tis ser - vum tu - um, di - mit - tis ser - vum

p

Bass

Nunc di - mit - tis ser - vum tu - um, nunc di - mit - tis ser - vum

Piano
(for rehearsal only)

8

p

tu - um, Do - mi - ne, se-cun-dum ver-bum tu-um in

p

tu - um, Do - mi - ne, se-cun-dum ver-bum tu-um in

p

tu - um, Do - mi - ne, se-cun-dum ver-bum tu-um in

p

tu - um, Do - mi - ne, se-cun-dum ver-bum tu-um in

p