

Hear my prayer, O Lord

Psalm 102: 1

HENRY PURCELL (1659–95)

Edited by John Rutter

[Slow and solemn]

SOPRANO *mp* And let my cry - ing come un -

ALTO *mp* Hear my pray - er, O Lord, and let my cry - ing

Choir I

TENOR *mp* Hear my pray - er, O

BASS *mp* Hear my

SOPRANO

ALTO

Choir II

TENOR

BASS

Keyboard reduction *mp*

Organ *mp*

This impressive and deeply-felt anthem was probably written in 1682, the year in which Purcell copied it into a large album containing twelve of his own anthems and more than thirty by other English composers including Byrd, Gibbons, and Blow. (See Shay, *Purcell as collector of 'ancient' music*, in *Purcell Studies*, ed. Price, Cambridge, 1995.) There are empty bars after it, suggesting that Purcell intended it to be the opening of a longer anthem, but it stands well on its own. The first page is headed '8 voc' and the voice parts are laid out in score in the order S1, S2, A1, A2, T1, T2, B1, B2, but the double-choir layout of the present edition reflects the spatial placement of voices Purcell would have expected in church performance with *decani* and *cantoris* half-choirs. There is no accompaniment shown in the MS, and an editorial organ continuo part is given here, as well as a more literal keyboard reduction for use in rehearsal.

Source: Fitzwilliam MS 88 (in the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge) Editorial method: Barlines have been added midway through the original eight-beat bars. Vocal slurs are as in the score. Accidentals redundant in modern usage have been omitted, those needed because of the modernized key signature are shown full size. Tempo and dynamic markings are editorial suggestions which conductors should feel free to disregard. The keyboard reduction and organ part are editorial.

Approximate duration: 2½ minutes

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S. *cresc.*
- to thee, hear my pray - er, O

A. *cresc.*
come, my cry - - ing come un - to thee, and let my

T. *cresc.*
Lord, and let my cry - - ing

B.
pray - er, O Lord,

S. *mp*
And let my cry - - ing come un - to thee,

A. *mp* *cresc.*
And let my cry - - ing come un - to thee, hear my

T. *mp*
Hear my pray - er, O Lord,

B. *mp*
Hear my pray - er, O Lord,

Rdn. *cresc.*

Org. *cresc.*

11

S. *mf*
 Lord, and let my cry - - ing come un -

A. cry - - ing come un - to thee,

T. come un - to thee,

B. *cresc.* and let my cry - - ing *mf cresc.* come un - to thee,

S. *mf cresc.* and let my cry - - - ing

A. *mf* pray - er, O Lord, my pray - - er, O

T. *mf cresc.* hear my pray - er, O

B. *f* hear my

Rdn. *mf* *cresc.*

Org. *mf* *cresc.*

20

S. *mf*
thee, hear my pray - er, O

A. *mf*
cry - - ing come un - to thee, hear my

T. *mf*
pray - er, O Lord, and let my

B. *mf*
and let my

S. *mf*
hear my pray - er, O Lord,

A. *cresc.*
- to thee, and let my cry - ing come un - to thee,

T. *cresc.* *mf*
and let my cry - - - ing come un - to thee,

B. *cresc.* *mf*
Lord, and let my cry - - ing come un - to thee,

Rdn. *cresc.* *mf*

Org. *cresc.* *mf*

25

S. Lord, and let my cry - ing come un - to thee, and *f*

A. pray - er, O Lord, *cresc.* and let my cry - ing come, —

T. cry - ing come un - to thee, *f* and let my

B. cry - ing come un - to thee, —

S. and let my cry - ing come un - to thee, let my cry - *cresc.*

A. and let my cry - ing come un - *mf cresc.*

T. and let my cry - ing come un - *mf cresc.*

B. and *f*

Rdn. *cresc.*

Org. *cresc.*

30

S. let my cry - - ing, cry - - - ing come un - to thee. *dim.* *p*

A. — my cry - - ing, cry - - ing come. — un - to thee. *f* *dim.* *p*

T. cry - - - - ing come, my cry - - ing come — un - to thee. *dim.* *p*

B. — my cry - ing, my cry - ing come un - to thee. *f* *dim.* *p*

S. - ing come, — my cry - ing come. — un - to thee. *f* *dim.* *p*

A. - to thee, let — my cry - - - ing — come un - to thee. *f* *dim.* *p*

T. - to thee, and let my cry - ing come, my cry - ing come un - to thee. *f* *dim.* *p*

B. let my cry - - ing come — un - to thee. *dim.* *p*

Rdn. *f* *dim.* *p*

Org. *f* *dim.* *p*

OCCO 32 Hear my prayer, O Lord (SATB/SATB) PURCELL ed. RUTTER

