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O God, My God, Eagerly I Seek You

Peter Pindar Stearns

SATB and organ

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Born of musician parents, Peter Pindar Stearns began to compose at the age of twelve. He studied at the Mannes School of Music (now the Mannes College of Music) where he worked with Bohuslav Martinu in composition, Felix Salzer in theory, and Julia Fox in organ. After a brief period in Hollywood, studying under Miklos Rozsa and composing and arranging for films, he returned to New York, where he was appointed to the faculty of Mannes. He taught there from 1957 until 1989 and chaired the composition department for fifteen years. His interest in young musicians led him eventually to the directorship of the Mannes Preparatory Division. His more than 300 compositions include seven symphonies, six string quartets, and many other orchestral and chamber works, as well as a substantial amount of organ and choral pieces. He presently maintains his studio in Vermont.

For the Choir of St. John's Church, Gloucester, Massachusetts

O God, My God, Eagerly I Seek You

SATB and organ

Psalm 63:1-2, 8 (alt.)

Peter Pindar Stearns
Op. 272 (2003)
(Revised 2011)

Slowly (♩ = ca. 69) *p*

Sw. { *p* dolce

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5

God, my God, ea - ger - ly I seek you,

God, my God, ea - ger - ly I seek you,

5

Ch. or Gt. *mf*

9

my soul - thirsts for you my flesh - faints for you as in a

my soul - thirsts for you, my flesh - flesh faints for you as in a

p my soul - thirsts for you, my - flesh - flesh faints - for you as in a

p my soul - thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you as in a

9

rit.

13

bar - - ren land.

bar - - ren land.

bar - ren land.

bar - ren land.

Sw. { *p*

rit.

16 **a tempo**

p dolce

There-fore I have gazed _____ up on you in your ho - - ly

p dolce

There-fore I have gazed _____ up - on you in your ho - ly

16 **a tempo**

dolce

20

place,

place,

p dolce

that I might be - hold your

p dolce

that I might be - hold your

20

p dolce

23

pp

glo - - ry, glo - -

pp

glo - - ry, glo - -

pow'r and your glo - - ry, glo - -

pow'r and glo - - ry, and your

23

26

ry. For your lov-ing - kind - ness is

ry. For your

ry. For your lov-ing - kind - ness is bet - ter than life it -

glo - ry.

26

29

bet - ter than life it - self, than life it - self,

lov - ing - kind - ness is bet - ter than life it -

self, for your lov - ing - kind - ness,

for your

29

32 *p cresc.* *f*

bet - ter than life it - self, O God, My

cresc. *f*

self, for your lov - - ing - kind - ness is bet - ter, My

cresc. *f*

for your lov - ing - kind - ness is bet - ter than life My

cresc. *f*

lov-ing-kind-ness is bet - ter than life it - self, O God. My

32 Sw. *p* *Gt.* *mf*

(*p*)

36

lips shall give you praise, give you

lips shall give you praise, give you

lips shall give you praise, give you

lips shall give you praise, give you

36 *f* { *Gt.*

40 *ff* *dim.*
 praise, _____ give _____
ff *dim.*
 praise _____
ff *dim.*
 praise _____
ff *dim.*
 praise _____

40 *ff*

43 *p*
 you _____ praise. _____
p
 give _____ you _____ praise. _____
p
 give _____ you _____ praise. _____
p
 give _____ you _____ praise. _____

43 *rall.*

p espr.

48 **Slower** *p*

O God, my God, my soul clings to you,

p

O God, my God, my soul clings to you,

p

O God, my God, my soul clings to you,

p

O God, my God, my soul clings to you,

48 **Slower** *p dolce*

52 *pp*

clings to you; your right hand

pp

clings to you; your right hand

pp

clings to you; your right hand

pp

clings to you; your right hand

52 *pp* soft strings

58 **rall. al fine**

holds me fast, _____ holds _____ me fast. _____

holds me fast, _____ holds me fast. _____

holds me fast, _____ holds _____ me fast. _____

holds me fast, _____ holds _____ me fast. _____

Detailed description: This block contains the vocal score for measures 58 to 62. It consists of four staves: three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and one bass line. The tempo is marked 'rall. al fine'. The lyrics are 'holds me fast, _____ holds _____ me fast. _____'. The music features a melodic line with a fermata over the final measure of each line.

58 **rall. al fine**

pp

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 58 to 62. It consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass line. The tempo is marked 'rall. al fine'. The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo) is present in the second measure. The music concludes with a fermata over the final measure.

63

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 63 to 66. It consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass line. The music features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The music concludes with a fermata over the final measure.

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