

By the Waters of Babylon

Psalm 136

Anonymous Melody
ed. by V. Morosan

Not too slowly. (♩ = 108-120)

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

By the waters of Bab - y - lon we sat
down and wept when we re - mem - bered Zi - on.
Al - le - lu - i - a.

2 On the willows in the midst there - of we
hung up our harps. Al - le - lu - i - a.

3

For there our cap - tors re - quired of us songs,

and our tormentors re - quired mirth, say - ing:

"Sing us one of the songs of Zi - on."

Al - le - lu - i - a.

4

How shall we sing the Lord's song in a for - eign land?

[Alleluia.]

The musical score is for a piece in G major, indicated by one sharp (F#) on the key signature. The tempo is marked *p* (piano). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics "Al - le - lu - i - a." are written below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

5



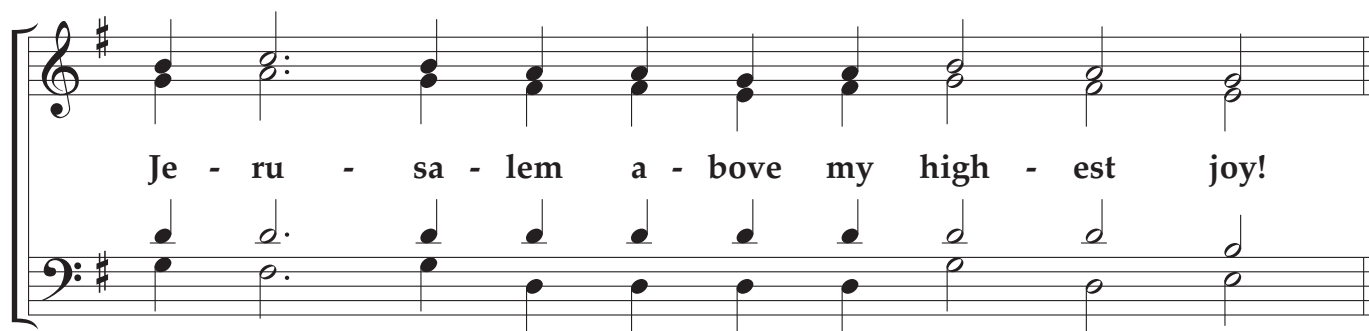
If I for-get thee, O Je - ru - sa - lem,

let my right— hand— with - er! Al - le - lu - i - a.

6 May my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth

if I do not re - mem - ber thee, you, if I do not set

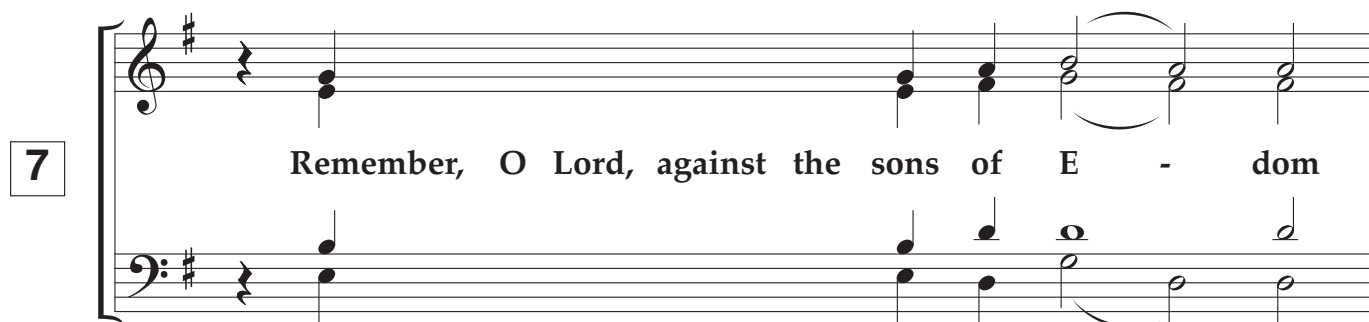
[Je-ru-sa-lem . . .]



Je - ru - sa - lem a - bove my high - est joy!



p Al - le - lu - i - a.



7 Remember, O Lord, against the sons of E - dom



in the day— of Je - ru - sa - lem's fall, who said: "Tear it



down, tear it down to its foun - da - tions!"

p

Al - le - lu - i - a.

p

8

O Daughter of Babylon, thou wretch - ed one!

Blessed is he who re-quires thee you for what thou hast done to us!

p

Al - le - lu - i - a.

p

9

Blessed is he who takes thy your lit - tle ones and

[dash-es them. . .]

poco rit.
p

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (one sharp). The time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be common time. The first staff (Treble) contains the melody, which is a series of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by a half note in the second measure. The second staff (Bass) contains the accompaniment, which is a series of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by a half note in the second measure. The lyrics are written below the staves. The first measure of the melody is marked with a forte 'p' and a 'poco rit.' instruction. The second measure of the melody is marked with a forte 'p' and a 'poco rit.' instruction. The lyrics are: 'dash - es them a - gainst the rock! Al - le - lu - i - a.'

dash - es them a - gainst the rock! Al - le - lu - i - a.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This setting can also be sung using only the soprano melody over an unchanging ison on the note E.