

OXFORD

NEW

HORIZONS

Sacred
SSATB and organ

— CECILIA MCDOWALL —
Candlemas



Candlemas

Nunc Dimittis

Denise Levertov (1923–97)

CECILIA McDOWALL

Luke 2: 29–32

Bright ♩ = c. 76

SOPRANO **ff** Lord, _____

ALTO **ff** Lord, _____

TENOR **ff** Lord, _____

BASS **ff** Lord, _____

ORGAN **ff** sparkling (mixtures)
Man. _____

4 **f** **mf**

Lord, now let-test thou thy ser-vant de-part in

f **mf**

Lord, now let-test thou thy ser-vant de-part in

f **mf**

Lord, now let-test thou thy ser-vant de-part in

f **f** **mf**

Lord, now let-test thou thy ser-vant de-part in

mf

Ped. (16')

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9 *f* *mf*

peace, ac - cord - ing to thy word.

f *mf*

peace, ac - cord - ing to thy word.

f *mf*

peace, ac - cord - ing to thy word.

f *mf*

peace, ac - cord - ing to thy word.

f *legato* *mp* *mf*

Man. Ped.

13 *f* *mf* *pochiss. rit. a tempo* *mf*

With *mf*

f *mf* *mf*

With *mf*

f *mf* *mf*

With *mf*

f *mf* *mf*

With *mf*

legato *pochiss. rit. a tempo*

cer - ti - tude, Si-me - on o - pened

cer - ti - tude, Si-me - on o - pened

cer - ti - tude, Si-me - on o - pened

cer - ti - tude, Si-me - on o - pened

sim.

an-cient arms to light. De -

an-cient arms to in - fant light. De -

an-cient arms to in - fant light.

an-cient arms to light.

f *mf* *f*

f *mf* *f*

f *mf*

f *mf*

f

21

- cades be - fore, be -

-cades be - fore, be -

f De - cades be - fore, be - fore the cross,

f De - cades be - fore, be - fore the cross,

24

- fore the cross, and the

- fore the cross, the tomb, and the

be - fore the cross, the tomb,

be - fore the cross, the tomb,

new life, he knew new life.

mf

the new life, he knew new life.

mf

the new life, he knew new

mf

mp

mp dolce (always floating)

With cer - ti -

mp

mp dolce (always floating)

life. With cer - ti -

mf espress.

For mine eyes have seen thysal-va-tion,

mf espress.

life. For mine eyes have seen thysal-va-tion,

mp

34

- tude, with cer - ti - tude, cer - ti - tude, with cer - ti - tude, sal - va - tion, which thou hast pre -

p dolce

38

mp cresc. Si - me - on o -

mp cresc. Si - me - on o -

-pared be - fore the face of all peo - ple, thy peo - ple.

p

42 *mf* *mf cresc.*

pened, _____ to in - fant

mf *cresc.*

pened an - cient, an - cient arms to in - fant

mf cresc.

an - cient arms.

mf cresc.

an - cient arms to in - fant

mf

47 *f* *mf* *f*

light. _____ What

f *mf* *f*

light. _____ What

f *mf* *f*

light. _____ What

f *mf* *f*

light. _____ What

f

50

depth of faith he drew on, turn-ing il-lu-mined to -

depth of faith he drew on, turn-ing il-lu-mined to -

depth of faith he drew on, turn-ing il-lu-mined to -

depth of faith he drew on, turn-ing il-lu-mined to -

sim.

53

- wards deep night. De -

- wards deep night, deep night. De -

- wards deep night, deep night.

- wards deep night.

- cades be - fore, be -

- cades be - fore, be -

f De - cades be - fore, be - fore the cross,

f De - cades be - fore, be - fore the cross,

- fore the cross, and the

- fore the cross, the tomb, and the

be - fore the cross, the tomb,

be - fore the cross, the tomb,

62

new life, he knew new life.

new life, he knew new life, new

the new life, he knew new life.

the new life, he knew new

65

mf *mp dolce (always floating)*

What depth of

mf *mp dolce (always floating)*

life. What depth of

mf *mf espress.*

To be a light to light-en the Gen-tiles,

mf *mf espress.*

life. To be a light to light-en the Gen-tiles,

mp

69 *mp*

faith, what depth of faith,

mp

faith, of faith, what depth of faith,

mp *mp*

to be a light, and to be the

mp *mp*

to be a light, and to be the

p dolce

73 *mf*

what depth of faith he drew

mf

what depth of faith he drew

mf *mf*

glo - ry of thy peo-ple Is-ra-el, thy peo - ple. What

mf *mf*

glo - ry of thy peo-ple Is-ra-el, thy peo - ple. What

mp *mf*

78 *mf cresc.*

on, he drew on.

cresc.

on, of faith he drew on.

cresc. *f*

depth of faith.

cresc. *f*

depth of faith he drew on.

cresc.

82 *f* *pochiss. rit.*

f

f *pochiss. rit.*

NEW HORIZONS showcases the wealth of exciting, innovative, and occasionally challenging choral music being written today. It encompasses the whole gamut of small-scale choral genres, both secular and sacred, and includes pieces for upper-voice and mixed choirs. With titles by some of the most accomplished choral composers active in Great Britain and abroad, the series introduces new repertoire and fresh talent to a broad spectrum of choirs.

Cecilia McDowall

Born in 1951 and educated at Edinburgh and London Universities, Cecilia McDowall has been described by the International Record Review as having a 'communicative gift that is very rare in modern music'. An award-winning composer, McDowall is often inspired by extra-musical influences, and her choral writing combines rhythmic vitality with expressive lyricism. Her music has been commissioned, performed, and recorded by leading choirs, among them Phoenix Chorale and the Choir of New College, Oxford, and is regularly programmed at prestigious festivals in Britain and abroad.



Photo: Christie Dickason

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