



Sisters in Song

Choral Music
for Women

O God, You Search Me

for SSAA Choir, Harp, and Solo Instrument

Based on Psalm 139

Bernadette Farrell
Arranged by Christopher Walker

INTRO *Peacefully* (♩ = ca. 80)

Harp*

VERSE 1

1. O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie o-pen to your

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*Keyboard may be used in place of harp.

From the recording
SISTERS IN SONG REJOICE!
Stereo Cassette #11383 Compact Disc #11384

1. gaze. When I walk or lie down you are be - fore me: Ev - er the

1. mak - er and keep - er of my days.

VERSE 2

2. You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis - cern my pur - pose from a -

2. far, And with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: In ev - 'ry mo - ment of

2. life or death, you are.

VERSE 3

Melody (Solo)

3. Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have known its mean - ing through and

Harmony
Soprano
Alto

3. Oo Oo

3. through. You are with me beyond my un-der-stand-ing: God of my

3. Oo Oo

3. pres-ent, my past and fu-ture, too.

3.

VERSE 4

All mp

4. Al-though your Spir-it is up-on me, Still I search for shel-ter from your

mp

4. light. There is no - where on earth I can es - cape you: E - ven the

S1 *mp* 3

S2 3

A1 3

A2 *mp* 3

4. dark - ness is ra-diant in your sight.

rit. 3 *mf* *a tempo*

rit. 3 *mf* *div.* *a tempo*

rit. *mf* *p* *a tempo* *gliss.*

VERSE 5

5. For you cre-at - ed me and shaped_ me, Gave me

mf

mf

5. life _____ with-in my moth-er's womb. _____ For the won - der of who I am, I

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It features a melody with some rests and slurs. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef, consisting of chords and moving lines. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line.

5. praise__ you: _____ Safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

This system contains the next two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with triplets marked with a '3' above the notes. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment, also featuring triplets. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present in the lower right of the piano part. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line.

rall. e dim.

This system contains the final two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with a long slur over the notes. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment. A dynamic marking of *rall. e dim.* (ritardando e diminuendo) is placed above the piano part. The system ends with a double bar line.

O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME

Bernadette Farrell

SOLO INSTRUMENT

Arranged by Christopher Walker

INTRO Peacefully ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 80$)

VERSE 1

10

VERSE 2

VERSE 3

4

7

VERSE 4

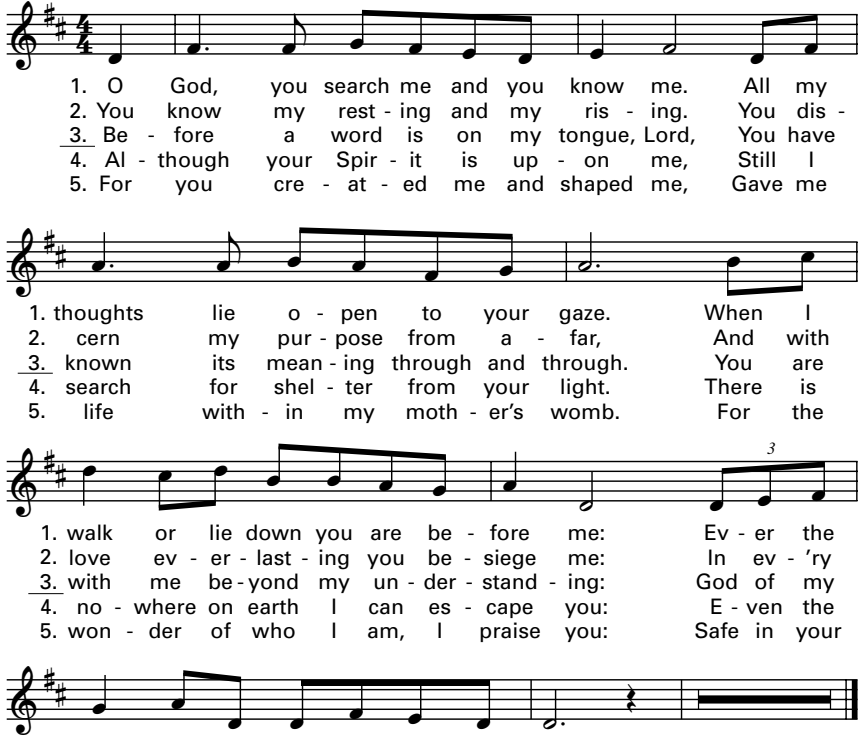
7

VERSE 5

Assembly Edition

O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME

Bernadette Farrell



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 2. You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -
 3. Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have
 4. Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, Still I
 5. For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, Gave me

1. thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I
 2. cern my pur - pose from a - far, And with
 3. known its mean - ing through and through. You are
 4. search for shel - ter from your light. There is
 5. life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the

1. walk or lie down you are be - fore me: Ev - er the
 2. love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: In ev - 'ry
 3. with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing: God of my
 4. no - where on earth I can es - cape you: E - ven the
 5. won - der of who I am, I praise you: Safe in your

1. mak - er and keep - er of my days.
 2. mo - ment of life or death, you are.
 3. pres - ent, my past and fu - ture, too.
 4. dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
 5. hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

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PERFORMANCE NOTES

This Sisters in Song choral arrangement of Bernadette Farrell's well-loved *O God, You Search Me* can be enhanced with keyboard, using a gentle string tone to support the voices. The harpist should use arpeggiated chords as desired. Vocalists should sing gently, bringing out the meaning of the text and paying attention to the dynamics and tempo indications.

—Christopher Walker