

## PERFORMANCE NOTES

*Christ Has Become Our Paschal Sacrifice* was composed for the Communion procession for both the celebration of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday and the Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday, and would be appropriate throughout the Easter season. It is set for SATB choir, congregation, and organ, and a cantor may intone the initial antiphon and substitute for, or alternate with, the choir on the verses. An optional descant, set in Latin, is provided. One might consider delaying the introduction of the descant after several verses have been sung in order to allow the congregation to become secure with the antiphon.

The piece is composed in the style of plainchant and should follow the natural rhythm of the text. Care should be taken to allow the melodic lines to flow freely. Though the tempo marking at the beginning indicates a pulse of 58 to the quarter note, the rhythm of the words themselves and the acoustics of the worship space should dictate the tempo.

The antiphon utilizes melodic material taken from the original Gregorian chant, *Pascha nostrum*, the Communion Antiphon for Easter Sunday, found in the *Graduale Romanum*. The text of the antiphon is adapted from the Latin. The verses are newly composed plainchants, also based on the melodic material of the original chant. The translation of Psalm 118 is from the *Revised Grail Psalms*.

# Christ Has Become Our Paschal Sacrifice

## *Communion Antiphon for Easter*

Cantor, SATB Choir, Congregation, and Organ

Antiphon: *based on the Communion Antiphon for Easter Sunday*  
Verses: Psalm 118:1-9, 15-16a, 19-20, 22-24,  
*The Revised Grail Psalms*

Normand Guoin  
ASCAP

**Fluidly, as in plainchant** (♩ = ca. 58)

### Antiphon

*Cantor or Unison Choir*

Unison  
Voices

*f*

Christ has be-come our Pas - chal sac - ri - fice, al - le - lu - ia;

4

let us then keep — this feast with joy, al - le -

7

lu - ia.

7

Organ

*mp*

Man.

Antiphon text and music: Normand Guoin, *based on the Communion Antiphon for Easter Sunday, Pascha nostrum*. Newly composed, and copyright © 2013 with this publication.

Verse text: Psalm 118:1-2, 3-4, 5-7, 8-9, 15-16a, 19-20, 22-23, 24, *The Revised Grail Psalms*, © 2010, Conception Abbey/The Grail, administered by GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638  
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## Antiphon

10 *Soprano descant* ***f***

Descant

Pas - cha no - strum im-mo-la-tus est

10 *Cantor/Choir/Congregation* ***f***

Unis. Choir and Cong.

Christ has be-come our Pas - chal sac-ri-fice, al-le-lu - ia;

10 ***f***

Organ

Ped.

13 *to Verses*

Chri - stus, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

13 *to Verses*

let us then keep this feast with joy, al - le - lu - ia.

13 *to Verses*

Stanza 1: Cantor or Unison Choir

Unison Voices

17 *mf*

1. Give — praise to the LORD, for he is good;

*mf*

Ped.

19

his — mer - cy en - dures — for - ev - er. Let the house of Is - ra - el say,

21 *to Antiphon*

“His mer - cy en - dures for - ev - er.”

*to Antiphon*

*to Antiphon*

### Stanza 2: Men in Unison

22 *mf*

Unison Men

2. Let the house of Aar-on say, "His mer-cy en-dures for -ev - er."

22 *mp legato* *mf*

Man. Ped.

25 *to Antiphon*

Let those who fear the LORD say, "His mer-cy en-dures for -ev - er."

25 *to Antiphon*

### Stanza 3: Women in Unison

27 *mf*

Unison Women

3. I called to the LORD in my dis-tress; he has an-swered and freed me.

27 *mp sostenuto*

Man.

29

The LORD is at my side; I do not fear. What can man-kind do a-gainst me? The

Ped.

32

Lord is at my side as my help-er; I shall look in tri-umph on my foes.

to Antiphon

32

to Antiphon

#### Stanza 4: Choir

34 *mf warmly*

S  
A

4. It is bet-ter to take ref-uge in the LORD than to trust in man;

*mf warmly*

T  
B

*N.B.*

*mf warmly*

36

S  
A

it is bet-ter to take ref-uge in the LORD than to trust in princ-es.

*mp poco rall.*

to Antiphon

T  
B

*mp poco rall.*

## Stanza 5: Choir

5. There are shouts of joy and sal - va - tion

5. There are shouts of sal - va - tion in the tents of the just.

his right hand is ex - alt - ed.”

“The LORD’s right hand has done might-y deeds;

to Antiphon

to Antiphon

Man. Ped.

Man. Ped.

## Stanza 6: Cantor or Unison choir

Unison Voices

6. O - pen to me the gates of jus - tice:

Man. Ped.

47

I will en - ter and thank the LORD.

49

This is the LORD's own gate, where the just en - ter.

*to Antiphon*

Stanza 7: Choir

51

*f* N.B.

7. The stone that the build-ers re - ject - ed has be-come the cor-ner-stone.

*f* N.B.

54

*mp* *poco. rall.* *to Antiphon*

By the LORD has this been done, a mar-vel in our eyes.

*mp* *poco. rall.*

54

*mp* *poco. rall.* *to Antiphon*

Ped.



Stanza 8: Choir

57 *f*

S  
A

8. This is the day\_\_\_ the LORD has made;\_\_\_\_\_

T  
B

*f* 8. This is the day\_\_\_ the LORD has made;\_\_\_\_\_

57 *f*

Man.

60

this is the day\_\_\_ the LORD\_\_\_ has made; let us re-joice in it,\_\_\_\_\_

63 *ff*

let us re-joice in it and be glad.\_\_\_\_\_

63 *mf*

Ped.

## Final Antiphon

67 *Soprano descant* ***f***

Descant

Pas - cha no - strum im - mo - la - tus est

67 *Cantor/Choir/Congregation* ***f***

Unis. Choir and Cong.

Christ has be - come our Pas - chal sac - ri - fice, al - le - lu - ia;

67 ***f***

70

Chri - stus, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

70

let us then keep this feast with joy, al - le - lu - ia.

70

74 ***mp*** *molto espressivo* *rit.* ***p***