

The season of Lent serves to remind each believer of the 40 days that Jesus spent fasting and praying in the wilderness as He prepared to make the final sacrifice for our sins upon the cross. It affords us the opportunity to draw nearer to the Lord as we reflect on our lives and our own need for forgiveness. This anthem, “These Forty Days,” has been created to provide your choir and congregation an opportunity to join together as they embark on their own Lenten journeys. It is hoped that the words and music of this weekly reminder of Jesus’ love will remain with each person as they travel through the weeks of this holy season.

Performance Ideas

First Sunday of Lent

Have your choir sing the anthem with your congregation joining in at m. 50. Take the extended ending on p. 13. A reproducible part for your congregation is found on p. 16.

Each of the Remaining Sundays of Lent

Have your congregation sing their part. On these Sundays, begin the anthem at m. 49. End the anthem at m. 66 at the bottom of p. 12. If the choir is singing with the congregation, you could take the extended ending on p. 13.

The Flute (or C-Instrument) part on pages 14-15 can be used with any of these variations.

Rehearsal Notes

Although most church choirs usually perform at least one piece alone in worship each Sunday, the most important role of the choir is “leader” for congregational singing, particularly on less familiar hymns. This piece invites the congregation to sing along and provides a wonderful opportunity for the choir to lead. The choir has the opportunity to sing this beautiful AABA melody and to demonstrate how it can be sung musically and thus more meaningfully. Make sure the dotted notes (mm. 6-7, 10-11, 13, etc.) stay full of energy, leaning toward the eighth notes that follow, and propel the line forward. Shape the four-measure phrases dynamically, increasing volume and fullness in the middle of each phrase. Remember, the congregation will be more musical if the choir is musical.

These Forty Days

(Anthem for the Sundays of Lent)

Words by
Susan Naus Dengler***

For SATB Voices and Optional Congregation*, Accompanied
with Optional Flute (or C-Instrument)**

Music by
Lee Dengler

Gently flowing (♩ = ca. 76)

Flute (or C-Instrument)

mp

rit.

a tempo

SA mp

The _

mp

rit.

a tempo mp

5

Sav - ior went in - to the wil - der-ness for for - ty

5

*Part for Congregation is found on page 16.

**Part for Flute (or C-Instrument) is found on pages 14-15.

***Inspired by "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days," by Claudia F. Hernaman

mp

days. The Spir - it led Him there to be a-lone; to

This block contains the first system of the musical score. It features a vocal line in treble clef with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking. Below it is a piano accompaniment consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef). The lyrics 'days. The Spir - it led Him there to be a-lone; to' are written under the vocal line.

11

mp

fast and pray. And though the Tempt - er

mf

mf

mp

TB

This block contains the second system of the musical score. It includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking and a crescendo leading to a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The lyrics 'fast and pray. And though the Tempt - er' are written under the vocal line. The piano accompaniment also features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. A 'TB' (Trombone) part is indicated in the bass line.

13

mf

This block contains the third system of the musical score. It includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. The piano accompaniment also features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking.

14 *poco rit.*

met Him _ there, our _ Lord was strong - er than all his snares. The _

poco rit. *mp*

poco rit.

17 *a tempo* *mp* *rit.*

a tempo *rit.*

Sav - ior went in - to the wil - der-ness for for - ty

mp a tempo *rit.*

These Forty Days

20

a tempo *mp* *rit.*

a tempo *rit.*

days.

a tempo *mp* *rit.*

24

a tempo **25**

TB unis. mp *a tempo*

We fol - low Je - sus to the wil - der - ness these for - ty

25

a tempo *mp*

28

days; a pre - cious sea - son with the Lord of life to

31

mp *mf*

mp *mf*

He teach - es us to

learn His ways.

33

mf

34

poco rit.

poco rit. *mp*

mourn our sin, and helps us know His peace with - in. We

mp

poco rit.

37 *a tempo*

mp

a tempo

fol - low Je - sus to the wil - der - ness these for - ty

mp a tempo

40

41 *Slightly faster* (♩ = ca. 82)

mf

days. These for - ty days, Lord, by Your side, with -

mf

41 *Slightly faster* (♩ = ca. 82)

mf

43

in Your grace and mer-cy, I'll a - bide. Your lov - ing arms, my

This block contains measures 43, 44, and 45 of the musical score. Measure 43 is a whole rest for the vocal line. Measures 44 and 45 contain the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "in Your grace and mer-cy, I'll a - bide. Your lov - ing arms, my".

46

molto rit.

soul will hide, these for - ty days, these for - ty days. —

molto rit.

This block contains measures 46, 47, and 48. Measure 46 is a whole rest for the vocal line. Measures 47 and 48 contain the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "soul will hide, these for - ty days, these for - ty days. —". The tempo marking *molto rit.* appears above measure 47 and below measure 48.

Begin here for shorter Congregational version.

49 *a tempo* *mp* *rit.* *mf* *mp* **51** *Tempo I* (♩ = ca. 76)

a tempo *rit.* *mp* (+ opt. Congregation)

These - for - ty days I will

a tempo *mp* *rit.* *mf* *mp* **51** *Tempo I* (♩ = ca. 76)

52

spend with You, O bless - ed Lord. My -

These Forty Days

55

soul will know Your great re-deem - ing love, and be _____ re -

58

59 *mf*

stored. _____ Though _____ life brings days of doubt and _____ pain, Your _____

59 *mf*

These Forty Days

61

poco rit. *a tempo*

mp

poco rit. *mp* *a tempo*

East - er joy_ will_ I at - tain. These_ for - ty days I will

poco rit. *a tempo*

mp

64

rit. *Shorter Congregational ending*

rit. *Shorter Congregational ending*

spend with You, O bless - ed Lord. *Shorter Congregational ending*

rit. *Shorter Congregational ending*

*Congregation sings cue note.

These Forty Days

67 *Extended ending* *a tempo* **68**

mp

Extended ending *a tempo*

unis. mp *Choir only*

Lord. These for - ty days I will spend with You, O

mp

Extended ending **68**

a tempo mp

70 *rit.* *a tempo* *rit.*

rit. *a tempo* *rit.*

bless - ed Lord.

rit. *a tempo* *rit.* *p*

Permission is granted to reprint the material on this page, provided that a sufficient quantity of copies of the entire anthem has been purchased for performance by the choir and accompanists. The music must be reproduced with the title and all credits including the copyright notice.

These Forty Days

(Anthem for the Sundays of Lent)

For SATB Voices and Optional Congregation, Accompanied
with Optional Flute (or C-Instrument)

Words by
Susan Naus Dengler*

Music by
Lee Dengler

Congregation



These_ for - ty days I will spend with You, O bless - ed

Lord. My_ soul will know Your great re - deem - ing love, and

be_____ re - stored. Though_ life brings days of

doubt and pain, Your_ East - er joy will_ I at - tain. These_

for - ty days I will spend with You, O bless - ed Lord.

*Inspired by "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days," by Claudia F. Hernaman

© 2019 Celebrating Grace Music,
a division of Celebrating Grace, Inc. All rights reserved.



CELEBRATING GRACE
WORSHIP & CHURCH MUSIC RESOURCES

www.celebrating-grace.com



8 10008 34057 8