

# Sarah MacDonald

*After this, we will return*

for lower voices (ATB)  
with optional sopranos

**PERFORMANCE NOTES:**

In bars 1-12, the three soloists should sing their phrases distantly and dispassionately. They could be placed away from the choir and each other where practical. The soloists should move to join the rest of the choir from bar 13.

If sopranos are not present, the descant can be sung by a solo tenor from the pick up to bar 112. Alternatively, a solo tenor could sing the entire descant. If performing it this way with only eight singers, the second tenor part should be sung by a baritone from bar 112 to the end, and the first bass part should be omitted from bar 120 to the end. In either case, the slower tempi should be observed.

The hymn is in the public domain. The words are by Robert Wadsworth Lowry, and it was first published with this anonymous tune in 1869. It is a particular favourite of Canon Victoria Johnson, Precentor of York Minster.

For Robert Sharpe and the Choir of York Minster,  
composed for the return of choral services after the Covid-19 lockdown of 2020

# After this, we will return

Words: compiled and adapted from  
Scripture by the composer

Music: Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)

**Slowly, independently, and uncondacted**

SOLO *mp*

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

4

SOLO *mp*

8

SOLO *mp*

More strict rhythmically, and conducted ♩ = c.74

TUTTI

13 *mp*

As for our harps, we hanged them up in an

TUTTI *mp*

As for our harps, we hanged them

TUTTI *mp*

As for our harps we

17

em - pty, bar - ren, si - lent land.

up in an em - pty, si - lent land.

hanged them up in a sil - ent land.

A little slower ♩ = c.63

22 *mp* *cresc.* **poco rall.**

Af - ter this, we will re - turn, we will re - turn, we will re -

*mp* *cresc.*

Af - ter this, we will re - turn, we will re - turn, re -

*mp* *cresc.*

Af - ter this, we will re - turn, we will re -

**poco accel. into new tempo****poco rit.**

26 *mf* *p*

- turn: \_\_\_\_\_ re - turn, re - turn, re - build, re - store, re -

- turn: \_\_\_\_\_ re - turn, re - turn, re - build, re - store, re -

- turn: \_\_\_\_\_ re - turn, re - turn, re - build, re - store, re -

32 *mf* **Optimistically** ♩ = c.88

- new: and we will build a - gain the ta - ber-na - cle of the

- new: and we will build a - gain the ta - ber-na - cle of the

- new: and we will build a - - gain the ta - ber-na - cle of the

36

Lord. May our song be re newed, and brought a-gain un-to the tem - ple

Lord May our song be re - newed, and brought a-gain un-to the tem - ple,

Lord. May our song be re - newed, and brought a-gain un-to the tem - ple, and

41 *mp*

and ev-'ry-one re - stored to God, re -

8 *mp*

and ev-'ry-one re - stored to the house of God, re -

*mp*

ev-'ry-one re - stored to their place in the house of God, re -

45 *mf*

-stored to the house of God. We will build the ta-ber-na-cle of the

8 *mf*

-stored to the house of God. We will build a - gain the ta-ber-na-cle of the

*mf*

-stored to the house of God. We will build a - gain the ta-ber-na-cle of the

51

Lord. May our song be re newed, and brought a-gain un-to the tem-ple

8

Lord. May our song be re - newed, and brought a-gain un-to the tem-ple, And

Lord. May our song be re - newed, and brought a-gain un-to the tem-ple,

56

and ev-ry-one re - stored to God, re - new our

ev-ry-one re - stored to their place in the house of God, re - new our

and ev-ry-one re-stored to the house of God, re - new our

61

*mf* **Confidently** ♩ = c.98

song. The Lord is my strength and my

song. in the house of God. The Lord is my strength and my

song. in the house of God. The Lord is my strength and my

66

song: He is be - come, be - come my sal - va - tion:

song: He is be - come, be - come my sal - - va - tion;

song: He is be - come, be - come my sal - - va - tion; He