

The Holy Women

In memory of Joan Mangano and Marian Stelter, Mother's Day 2023

William Alexander Percy (1885-1942)

John Schimminger (b. 1950)

$\text{♩} = \text{c. } 55$

mp

The piano introduction consists of four measures. The first measure is in 3/4 time, and the subsequent three measures are in 4/4 time. The music is written for piano with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The melody is in the right hand, and the bass line is in the left hand. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

4

Women *mp*

I have seen Ma-ry at the cross — and Ma-ry at the tomb

Men *mp*

and

The vocal parts enter in the fourth measure. The Women's part is in the treble clef, and the Men's part is in the bass clef. Both parts are marked mezzo-piano (*mp*). The lyrics are: "I have seen Ma-ry at the cross — and Ma-ry at the tomb" for the Women and "and" for the Men. The music is in 3/4 time for the first measure and 4/4 for the rest.

4

The piano accompaniment continues from the introduction. It features a steady bass line in the left hand and a more active melody in the right hand. The dynamics remain mezzo-piano (*mp*).

9

Ma-ry weep - ing as she spread her hair in a lep - er's room. —

The vocal parts continue. The Women's part has a long note in the first measure, and the Men's part has a long note in the first measure. The lyrics are: "Ma-ry weep - ing as she spread her hair in a lep - er's room. —". The music is in 3/4 time for the first measure and 4/4 for the rest.

9

The piano accompaniment continues. It features a steady bass line in the left hand and a more active melody in the right hand. The dynamics remain mezzo-piano (*mp*).

13

But it was not in Beth - a-ny or grop-ing up

but it was not in Beth-a - ny, grop-ing

17

Cal-va-ry hill

up Cal-va-ry hill I learned how wo-men break their hearts to ease an-oth-er's

rit.

21 *mf a tempo* *mp*

S Com - pas-sion-ate and wise in pain, most faith-ful in de - feat, —

A *mf a tempo* *mp*

T *mf a tempo* *mp*

B ill. *mf a tempo* *mp*

ill. Com - pas-sion-ate and wise in pain, most faith-ful in de - feat, the

21 *a tempo* *mf* *mp*

26

S live on our

A live on our

T ho - ly Ma - rys I have watched and loved live on our,

B ho - ly Ma - rys I have watched and loved live on our

26

4
30

S
street. _____ and Ma-ry at the

A
street. _____ and Ma-ry at the

T
8 live on our street. I have seen Ma-ry at the cross —

B
street. _____ I have seen Ma-ry at the cross —

30

34

S
tomb and Ma-ry weep - ing as she spread her hair in a lep -

A
tomb and Ma-ry weep - ing as she spread her hair in a lep -

T
8 and Ma-ry weep - ing as she spread her hair in a lep -

B
Ma-ry at the tomb as she spread her hair in a lep -

34

38

S
- er's room. But it was not in Beth - a-ny

A
- er's room. But it was not in Beth - a-ny

T
8
- er's room. But it was not in Beth - a-ny

B
- er's room. But it was, but it was not in Beth - a -

38

42

S
or grop-ing up Cal-va-ry hill

A
or grop-ing up Cal-va-ry hill

T
8
Cal-va-ry hill I learned how wo-men break their hearts to

B
ny grop-ing up Cal-va-ry hill I learned how wo-men break their hearts to

42

6
46

rit. *mf a tempo*

S an-oth - er's ill. Com - pas - sion-ate and wise in pain, most

A an-oth - er's ill. *mf a tempo* Com - pas - sion-ate and wise in pain, most

T ease — an-oth - er's ill. *mf a tempo* Com - pas - sion-ate and wise in pain, most

B ease — an-oth - er's ill. *mf a tempo* Com - pas - sion-ate and wise in pain, most

46 *rit.* *a tempo* *mf*

50 *mp*

S faith-ful in de - feat, the ho-ly Marys I have watched and loved live — on

A faith-ful in de - feat, *mp* the ho-ly Marys I have watched and loved live — on

T faith-ful in de - feat, *mp* the ho-ly Marys I have watched and loved live — on

B faith-ful in de - feat, *mp* the ho-ly Marys I have watched and loved live — on

50 *mp*

55

S

our street.

rit.

A

our street.

rit.

T

our street.

rit.

B

our street.

rit.

55

This musical score is for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano. The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The vocal parts enter at measure 55 with the lyrics 'our street.' and are marked 'rit.' (ritardando). Each vocal line features a long, sustained note in the first measure, followed by a melodic line in the second measure. The piano accompaniment begins at measure 55 with a series of chords and a melodic line in the right hand, and a bass line in the left hand. The score concludes at measure 58.