

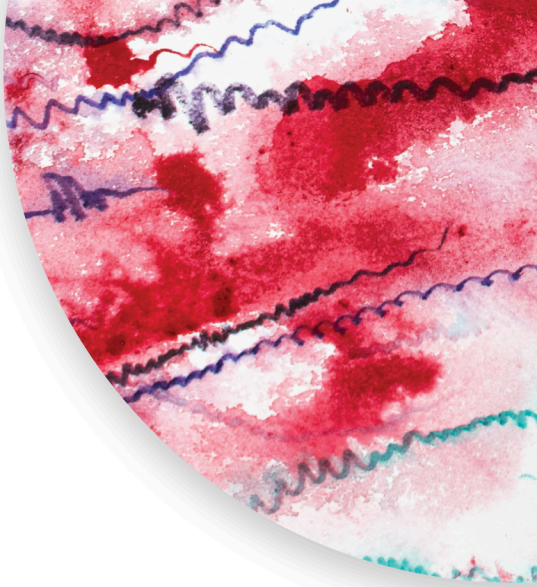

Save Me, O God

SATB Choir

LUKE CARLSON MUSIC

Save Me, O God

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Save Me, O God

SATB Choir

(2015)

Duration: 3 minutes

LUKE CARLSON MUSIC

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Program Notes

Laments and penitential Psalms often contain imagery of intense suffering and deep despair. Psalm 69 is no exception, and perhaps one of the most despondent.

This Davidic Psalm is messianic, prophesying Christ's suffering with phrases like, "I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me." The intensity of this despair is portrayed in the music with slow-moving and plaintive harmonies. The surprising harmonic shifts serve to punctuate the sharp pains—emotional and physical—experienced by the author. But there is a turning point, like many other Psalms. The focus shifts from the author and his personal struggles to God and his benevolence. The music picks up on this shift in mood, becoming less dissonant and more optimistic. The work closes with a gradual descent as the text "save me, O God" is repeated again and again, emphasizing the stability and comfort the author experiences when reaching out to his God.

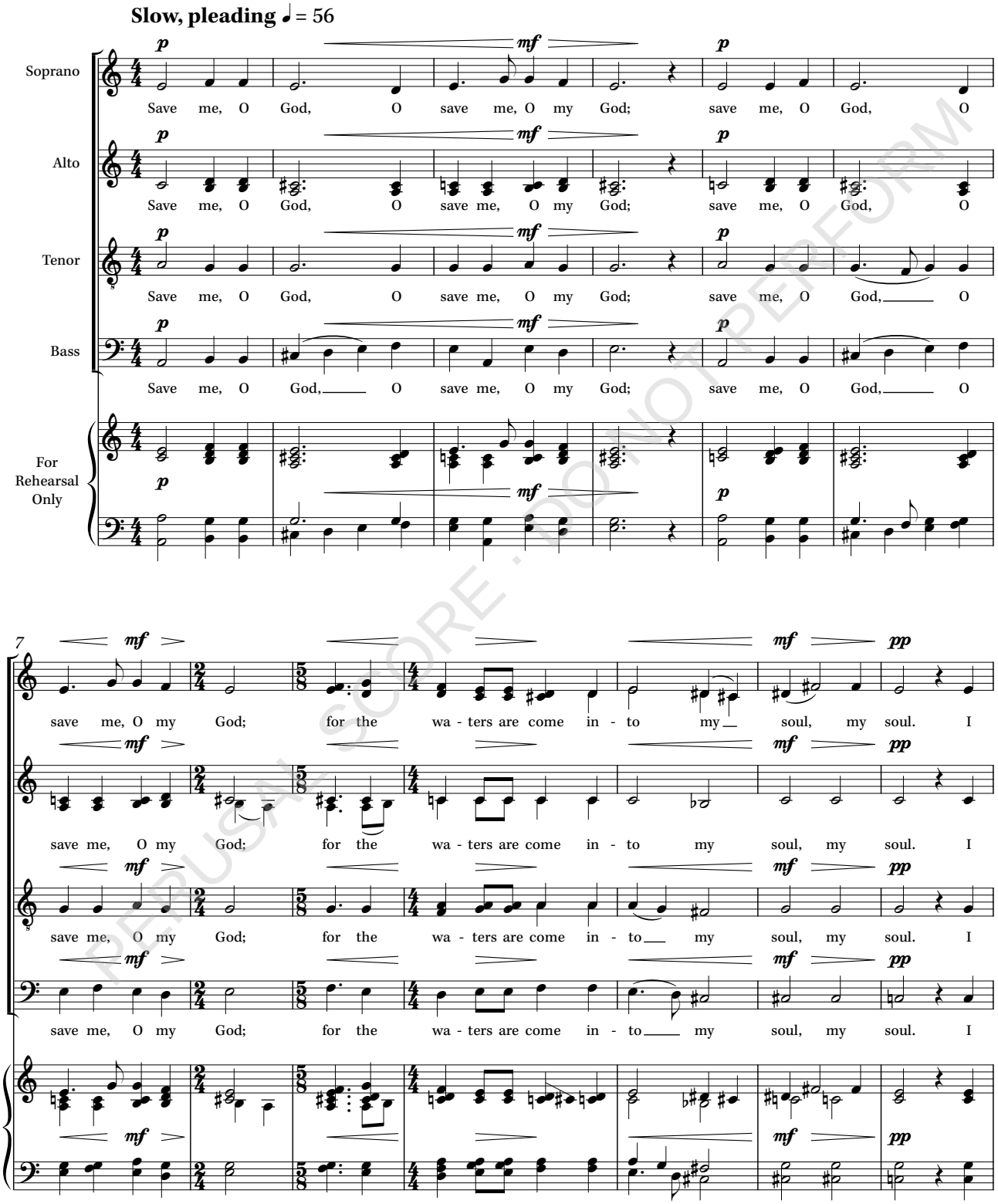
for the Tenth Church Choir

Save Me, O God

SATB Choir

Psalm 69:1–3, 16 (KJV)

Luke Carlson



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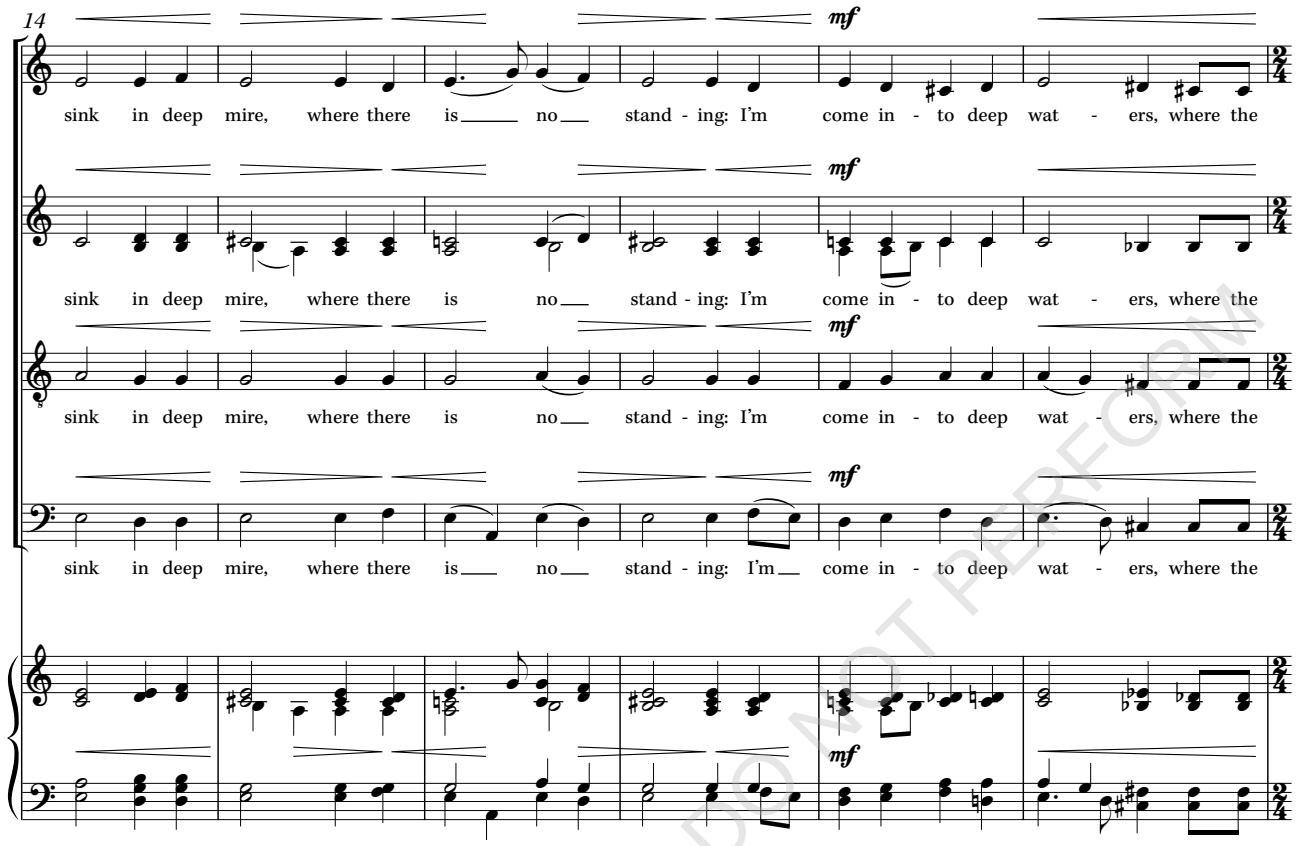

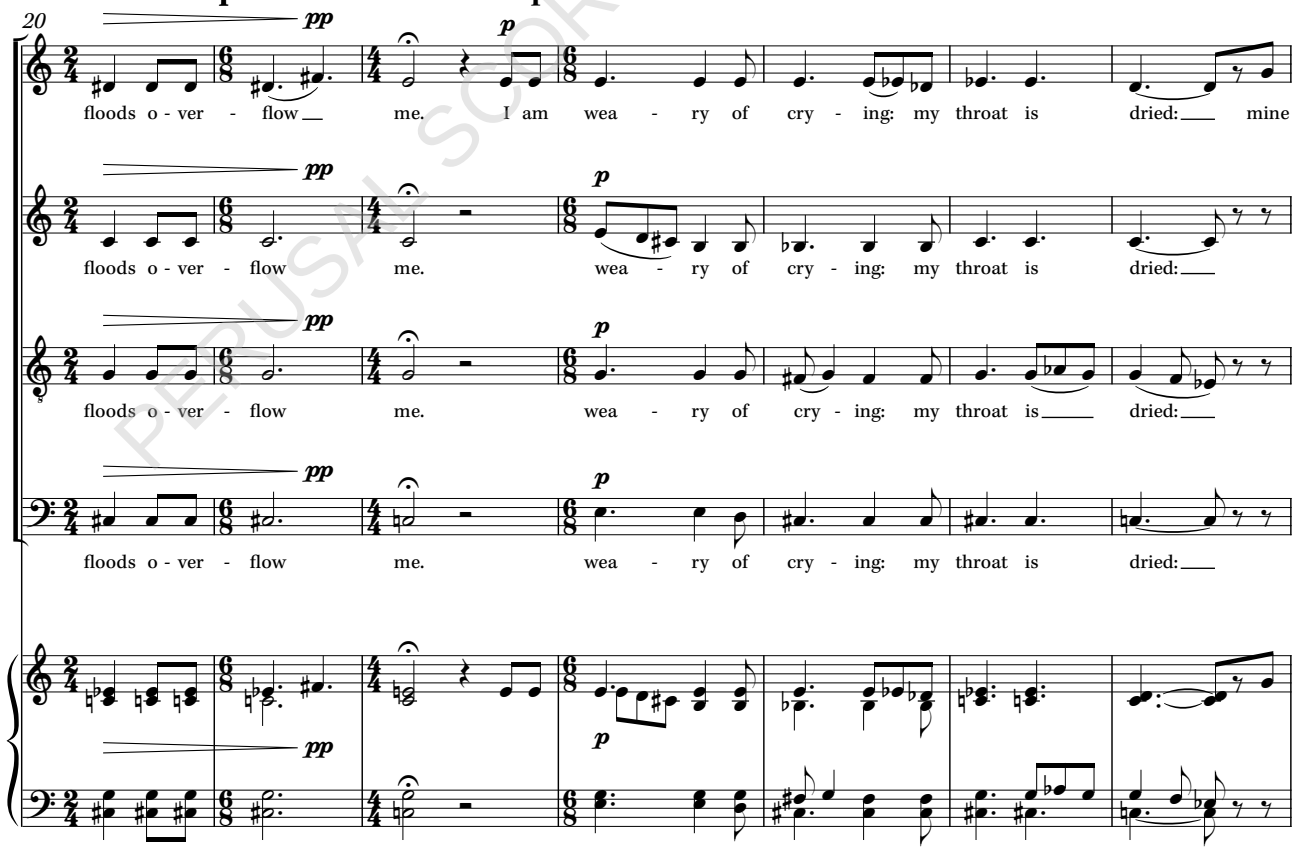

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