

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

for Carolyn and Les

Isaac Watts (6th stanza adapted)

William Horne

Not too fast

The musical score is written for Oboe, Soprano Alto (SA), Tenor Bass (TB), and Piano. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 2/2. The tempo/mood is indicated as 'Not too fast'. The score is divided into two systems. The first system shows the Oboe playing a melodic line with a forte (mf) and expressive (espress.) dynamic. The SA and TB parts are silent. The Piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a slower, sustained bass line in the left hand, marked with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic and a 'legato pedal' instruction. The second system begins with a measure rest (6) for all parts. The Oboe continues its melodic line. The SA part enters with a vocal line, marked with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic and the instruction 'SA or solo'. The TB part remains silent. The Piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern. The lyrics 'O God, our help in a-ges' are written under the SA part. The score concludes with a final measure rest (6) for all parts.

Oboe *mf* *espress.*

SA

TB

Piano *mp* *legato pedal*

Ob. 6

SA or solo *mp*

O God, our help in a-ges

Pno. 6

O God, Our Help

2
11

Ob.

11

Past, Our hope for years to come, Our shel-ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal

Pno.

15

Ob.

15

home, and our e - ter - nal home, _____ and our e - ter - nal home. _____

Pno.

20

Ob.

20

SA *mf*

Be - neath the sha-dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure; Suf - fi - cient is Thine

Pno.

20

p

The musical score is written for Oboe (Ob.) and Piano (Pno.). It consists of three systems of staves. The first system (measures 1-11) features the Oboe playing a melodic line while the Piano provides harmonic accompaniment. The second system (measures 12-15) continues the vocal melody with lyrics. The third system (measures 16-20) includes a vocal entry marked 'SA' and 'mf' (mezzo-forte) for the Soprano Alto voice, with the Piano accompaniment continuing. The score is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: 'Past, Our hope for years to come, Our shel-ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home, and our e - ter - nal home, _____ and our e - ter - nal home. _____ Be - neath the sha-dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure; Suf - fi - cient is Thine'.

24

Ob.

24

arm a - lone, And our de-fense is sure, and our de-fense is sure,

Pno.

28

Ob.

mf *espress.*

28

and our de-fense is sure.

Pno.

mp

33

Ob.

33

Pno.

Ob. 38

Pno. 38

T or solo *mp*

Be - fore the hills in or-der stood, Or earth re-ceived her

Ob. 43

Pno. 43

frame, For ev-er-last-ing Thou art God, To end-less years the same, to end-less years the

Ob. 47

Pno. 47

same, to end-less years the same.

51

Ob.

51

TB
mf

A thou - sand ag-es in Thy sight are like an even-ing gone; Short as the watch that

51

Pno.

p

55

Ob.

55

ends the night be-fore the ris-ing sun, be-fore the ris-ing sun, _____

55

Pno.

59

Ob.

mp *espress.*

59

be-fore the ris-ing sun. _____

59

Pno.

p

Ob. 64

Pno. 64

Ob. 70

Pno. 70

Ob. 74

Pno. 74

mf

Time, like an ev - er - rol - ling stream, Bears all our griefs a -

mf

Leg. * *Leg.* *

way; they fly for - got - ten as a dream dies at the open - ing day, for - got - ten as a

Ped. simile

The musical score is for a piece titled "O God, Our Help". It features an Oboe (Ob.) and Piano (Pno.) accompaniment. The score is divided into systems, with measures 64, 70, and 74 marked at the beginning of each system. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo and style are indicated by the dynamics and performance instructions. The piano part includes complex figures with triplets and slurs. The vocal lines are interspersed with the piano accompaniment. The score concludes with a "Ped. simile" instruction.

78

Ob.

78

dream dies at the open-ing day.

Pno.

82

Ob.

mf

82

mf

And when our dai - ly work is done, Our course in life is

Pno.

82

mf

85

Ob.

85

run, We see Thee face to face at last, And hold Thy gar - ment

Pno.

85

8
88

Ob.

O God, Our Help

fast, Our help in ag - es past Our hope for years to

Pno.

91

Rit. - - - - A tempo

Ob.

mf

91

come, And our e - ter - nal home.

Pno.

91

Rit. - - - -

Ob.

95

95

Pno.

95

p