

Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of Our Hearts

(Second Setting)

SATB a cappella or with continuo

Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)

The musical score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent vocal parts: Soprano (treble clef), Alto (alto clef), Tenor (tenor clef), and Bass (bass clef). The fifth staff represents the Organ (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (indicated by a '2'). The vocal parts sing a simple melody of eighth and sixteenth notes. The organ part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. The lyrics are repeated three times: "Thou know - est, Lord, the se - crets of our hearts; Shut not," followed by a repeat sign and the bassoon part continuing.

The musical score continues with the same five staves. The key signature changes to no sharps or flats (C major). The vocal parts sing a more melodic line with sixteenth-note patterns. The organ part continues to provide harmonic support. The lyrics are repeated three times: "shut not thy mer-ci - ful ears un - to our pray'rs; but spare us, Lord, spare us," followed by a repeat sign and the bassoon part continuing.

10

Lord most ho - ly, O God, O God most might - y, O ho - ly and most
 Lord most ho - ly, O God, O God most might - y, O ho - ly and most
 Lord most ho - ly, O God, O God most might - y, O ho - ly and most
 Lord most ho - ly, O God, O God most might - y, O ho - ly and most

15

mer - ci - ful Sa - viour, Thou most worth - y judge e - ter - nal, suf - fer us
 mer - ci - ful Sa - viour, Thou most worth - y judge e - ter - nal, suf - fer us
 mer - ci - ful Sa - viour, Thou most worth - y judge e - ter - nal, suf - fer us
 mer - ci - ful Sa - viour, Thou most worth - y judge e - ter - nal, suf - fer us

19

not, suf - fer us not at our last hour for a - ny pains of death, for
not, suf - fer us not at our last hour for a - ny pains of death, for
not, suf - fer us not at our last hour for a - ny
not, suf - fer us not at our last hour for a - ny
6 6 6 4 7 6 4 7 5 6 5

23

a - ny pains of death to fall, to fall from Thee. A - men.
a - ny pains of death to fall, to fall from Thee. A - men.
pains of death, of death, to fall, to fall from Thee. A - men.
pains of death. to fall, to fall from Thee. A - men.

6 5 6 6 7 # 6

Edited by Rafael Ornes

SOURCE: *Musica Sacra, Vol. I* (London, 1724, ed. William Croft)

OTHER SOURCES:

British Library, MS 31444, ff. 208-208v

British Library, Harleian MS 7340,

Christ Church, MS 794

(Manuscript source information from Henry Purcell-Works, Volume XXXII)