

# NUNC DIMITIS

Paul Smith



Luc 2:29-32

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum  
verbum tuum in pace:

Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum

Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum:

Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis  
tuae Israel.

Maintenant, Seigneur, tu laisses ton serviteur S'en aller  
en paix, selon ta parole.

Car mes yeux ont vu ton salut,

Salut que tu as préparé devant tous les peuples,

Lumière pour éclairer les nations, Et gloire d'Israël, ton  
peuple.

# Nunc Dimittis

Paul Smith

Tranquil and meditative (♩ = 100)

Soprano *p*  
ser - vum tu - um, ser - vum

Alto *p*  
ser - vum tu - um, ser - vum

Tenor *p*  
di - mit - tis ser - vum tu - um, di - mit - tis ser - vum

Bass *p*  
Nunc di - mit - tis ser - vum tu - um, nunc di - mit - tis ser - vum

Piano (for rehearsal only) *p*

8

*p*  
tu - um, Do - mi - ne, se - cun - dum ver - bum tu - um in

*p*  
tu - um, Do - mi - ne, se - cun - dum ver - bum tu - um in

*p*  
tu - um, Do - mi - ne, se - cun - dum ver - bum tu - um in

*p*  
tu - um, Do - mi - ne, se - cun - dum ver - bum tu - um in

*p*

17

*mp* pa - ce, *pp* pa - ce: *mp* Qui - a vi - de - runt

pa - ce, pa - ce, pa - ce: Qui - a vi - de - runt

pa - ce, pa - ce, pa - ce: Qui - a vi - de - runt

pa - ce, pa - ce, pa - ce: Qui - a vi - de - runt

*mp* *pp* *mp*

*mp* *pp* *mp*

*mp* *pp* *mp*

25

*p cresc. poco a poco* o - cu - li me - i sa - lu - ta - re tu - um. Quod pa - ra - sti an - te

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*p cresc. poco a poco* o - cu - li me - i sa - lu - ta - re tu - um. Quod pa - ra - sti an - te

o - cu - li me - i sa - lu - ta - re tu - um.

*p cresc. poco a poco*

33

fa - ci - em om - ni - um, om - ni - um po - pu - lo - rum, *mf* po - pu - lo - rum, *mf*

fa - ci - em om - ni - um, om - ni - um po - pu - lo - rum, po - pu - lo - rum, *mf*

fa - ci - em om - ni - um, om - ni - um po - pu - lo - rum, po - pu - lo - rum, *mf*

om - ni - um, om - ni - um po - pu - lo - rum, po - pu - lo - rum, *mf*

41

Lu - men, *mf* lu - men, *mp* *p cresc. poco a poco*

- rum, *mp* po - pu - lo - rum. lu - men ad re - ve - la - ti - rum, *p cresc. poco a poco*

- rum, *mp* po - pu - lo - rum. Lu - men, lu - men ad re - ve - la - ti - rum, *p cresc. poco a poco*

- rum, *mp* po - pu - lo - rum. Lu - men, lu - men ad re - ve - la - ti - rum, *p cresc. poco a poco*

- rum, *mp* po - pu - lo - rum. Lu - men, lu - men ad re - ve - la - ti - rum, *p cresc. poco a poco*

49

- o - nem gen - ti - um, et glo - ri - am ple - bis tu - ae. Is - ra - el.

- o - nem gen - ti - um, et glo - ri - am ple - bis tu - ae. Is - ra - el.

- o - nem gen - ti - um, et glo - ri - am Is - ra -

- o - nem gen - ti - um, et glo - ri - am Is - ra -

57

Glo - ri - a Pa - tri et Fi - li - o et Spi - ri - tu - i San -

Glo - ri - a Pa - tri et Fi - li - o et Spi - ri - tu - i San -

- el. Glo - ri - a Pa - tri et Fi - li - o et Spi - ri - tu - i San -

- el. Glo - ri - a Pa - tri et Fi - li - o et Spi - ri - tu - i San -

65

-cto, si - cut e - rat et in sae - cu - la

-cto, si - cut e - rat

-cto, si - cut e - rat in prin - ci - pi - o, et nunc et sem - per.

-cto, si - cut e - rat in prin - ci - pi -

*mf*

Slower (♩ = 92)

71

sae-cu - lo - rum. A - men, A - men, A - men.

A - men A - men, A - men.

A - men A - men, A - men.

- o, et nunc et sem - per. A - men, A - men, A - men.

*mf* *mp* *p*

*p* *mf* *mp* *p*

## COMPOSER'S NOTE

Since my childhood, I've been singing this beautiful text in evensong services. For me it is often the most magical moment of the service. It is a text which connects deeply with me, and speaks of a quiet sense of hope and peace. This composition is created with those ideas in mind. The music should be sung with smooth, soft lines and gentle, peaceful phrases. It need never be rushed and can always have a sense of space and tranquility.

I am deeply grateful to VOCES8 for their uplifting and moving interpretation of this work.

Paul Smith

A recording of *Nunc Dimittis* is available on the VOCES8 album *Reflections* (VCM Records, VCM125)

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum verbum tuum in pace:  
Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum  
Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum:  
Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.  
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,  
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Luke 2:29–32

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Translation from the Book of Common Prayer, 1662

