

London Gallery Quire 651

Day is passing, night is nigh

Thomas Toke Lynch (1818–71)

Vienna by Justin Heinrich Knecht (1752–1817)

Edited, and a symphony by Nicholas Markwell

[♩=100]

Soprano [Air]

1. Day is pass - ing, night is nigh ; Hast thou, spi - rit, done thy best ?
 2. **Hast thou been of flesh the thrall ? Now, a - while at sun - set free,**
 3. Dost thou breathe an an - xious prayer Dark - ly, like a cloud of sighs ?
 4. **Through the sky, a tem - ple dim, God is shin - ing from the west ;**
 5. Ris - ing through the tem - ple's height, Prayers shall bright - en as they meet

Alto

Tenor

1. Day is pass - ing, night is nigh ; Hast thou, spi - rit, done thy best ?
 2. **Hast thou been of flesh the thrall ? Now, a - while at sun - set free,**
 3. Dost thou breathe an an - xious prayer Dark - ly, like a cloud of sighs ?
 4. **Through the sky, a tem - ple dim, God is shin - ing from the west ;**
 5. Ris - ing through the tem - ple's height, Prayers shall bright - en as they meet

Bass

9

S

Qui - et breadths of eve - ning sky Tell thee there re - mains a rest.
Oh, re - solve, with morning's call, To as - sert thy li - ber - ty.
 Dark - est clouds in glo - ry share As they towards the zen - ith rise.
And like sha - dowing che - ru - bim, North and south his throne in - vest.
 Streams of sweet and so - lemn light Flow - ing from that mer - cy - seat.

A

T

Qui - et breadths of eve - ning sky Tell thee there re - mains a rest.
Oh, re - solve, with morning's call, To as - sert thy li - ber - ty.
 Dark - est clouds in glo - ry share As they towards the zen - ith rise.
And like sha - dowing che - ru - bim, North and south his throne in - vest.
 Streams of sweet and so - lemn light Flow - ing from that mer - cy - seat.

B

17 Symphony

S
A
T
B

Day is passing, night is nigh was published by Thomas Toke Lynch in his collection of hymns *The Rivulet : A Contribution to Sacred Song* in 1855. Lynch was pastor at Highgate Independent Church between 1847 and 1849, which was the predecessor of the Highgate Congregationalist Church in Pond Square, opened in 1859. *The Rivulet* proved controversial on doctrinal grounds—so much so that the Congregationalist Union of England and Wales, founded in 1831, almost split in two. Lynch’s hymns were accused by John Campbell of being “pantheistic, unchristian and unscriptural” and James Grant opined that they “might have been written by a Deist”. Some printings of *The Rivulet* were alternatively titled *Hymns for Heart and Voice*, and others commented that although his hymns were devoid of doctrine derived or quoted from Scripture, they were full of the personal and religious experiences that came from his heart.

Vienna was composed by Justin Heinrich Knecht in 1797, and published in his *Vollständige Sammlung theils ganz neu componirter, theils verbesserter, vierstimmiger Chormelodien für das neue Wirtembergische Landgesangbuch*, 1799. The tune was introduced to this country in the second edition of William Henry Havergal’s *Old Church Psalmody : a manual of good and useful tunes, either old or in old style*, 1850. Havergal rearranged the harmony, and chose to alter the F natural to an F sharp in the melody at bar 9. Knecht’s original melody and harmony has been restored for this edition, and the music has been transposed down a semitone. The tempo is marked as *Etwas eilfertig*, which literally means *A bit hurried*.