

# "By the Rivers of Babylon" (Op.54)

(Paraphrase of Psalm 137)

Ralph S. Gardner II

**Moderate** ( $\text{♩} = 60$ )

Soprano

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and sang this song; there we

Alto

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and sang this song; there we wept, there

Tenor

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and sang this song; there we

Bass

**Moderate** ( $\text{♩} = 60$ ) Bab - y - lon - , there we sat down and sang this song; there we wept, we

S

wept -, there we wept -. By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and sang this song; we re-

A

we wept, there we wept -. By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and sang this song; we re-

T

wept -, there we wept -. By still riv - ers, by still riv - ers,

B

wept -, there we wept -. By still riv - ers, by still riv - ers,

**6**

## "By the Rivers of Babylon"

2

13

Music score for the first section of "By the Rivers of Babylon". The score consists of four staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by 'C'). The vocal parts sing in a call-and-response style, with the Soprano and Alto providing the main melody and the Tenor and Bass providing harmonic support. The lyrics are:

mem - ber'd Zi - on, we re - mem - ber'd Zi - on. By the riv - ers of Bab - y - lon, there we sat down and  
mem - ber'd Zi - on, we re - mem - ber'd Zi - on.  
there we wept -, there we wept - .  
there we wept -, there we wept -, By the

13

13

Music score for the second section of "By the Rivers of Babylon". The score consists of four staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is common time (indicated by 'C'). The vocal parts continue the call-and-response style. The lyrics are:

sang this song, and we wept -, there we wept -,  
By the riv - ers of Bab - y - lon, there we sat down and sang this song, and we  
By the riv - ers of Bab - y - lon, By the riv - ers of Bab - y - lon,  
riv - ers of Bab - y - lon, there we sat down and sang this song, there we wept -,  
20

## "By the Rivers of Babylon"

3

Soprano (S) vocal line:

33  
wept - . By the riv-ers of Bab-y-lon, there we hang-ed our harps on the

Alto (A) vocal line:

there we wept - . By the riv-ers of Bab-y-lon -, there we hang-ed our harps - on - the

Tenor (T) vocal line:

8 there we wept - . By the riv-ers of Bab-y-lon, there we hang-ed our harps on the

Bass (B) vocal line:

wept - . By the riv-ers of Bab-y-lon, there we hang-ed our harps on the

33  
33

# "By the Rivers of Babylon"

4

39

S wil - lows there -, on the wil - lows there -. By the riv - ers of Bab - y - lon,

A wil - lows there -, on the wil - lows there -. By the riv - ers of Bab - y - lon,

T 8 wil - lows there, on the wil - lows, wil - lows there, on the wil - lows. By the riv - ers of Bab - y - lon,

B wil - lows there, on the wil - lows, wil - lows there, on the wil - lows. By the riv - ers of Bab - y - lon,

{ 39

{ 39

S there we wept when we sang the songs of Zi - on, poor, lost Zi - on, poor, lost Zi - on, poor, lost

A there we wept when we sang the songs-of Zi - on, poor, lost Zi - on, poor, lost Zi - on, poor, lost

T 8 there - we wept when we sang - the songs-of Zi - on, poor, lost Zi - on, poor, lost Zi - on, poor, lost

B there - we wept when we sang - the songs-of Zi - on, poor, lost Zi - on, poor, lost Zi - on, poor, lost

{ 45

{ 45

"By the Rivers of Babylon"

5

The musical score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The bottom staff represents the piano/bass line. The vocal parts sing a three-line melody, while the piano/bass part provides harmonic support. The music is in common time, with a key signature of one flat. Measure numbers 53 and 55 are indicated above the staves. The lyrics "Zi - on, Zi - on, Zi - on - . There we wept - ." are repeated for each section of the vocal parts.

[In memory of my Father - d. 20 Apr 2016.]

Wed 11 May 2016.