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The Didache Prayer, & Notes on the Score

Timothy Dusenbury

College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University, obsculta@csbsju.edu

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THE *DIDACHE* PRAYER, & NOTES
ON THE SCORE

Timothy Dusenbury

The *Didache* is an early church document dating from the late first or early second century. This version of the *Didache* premiered at the Thursday liturgy for Saint John's School of Theology-Seminary. It was decided that this ancient prayer be used in a new context. The idea was that it serve liturgically as both the closing prayer of the Thanksgiving liturgy and as the "*Maranatha*" gathering prayer. One of the most striking features of the text is its recurring use of two refrains: "to you be the glory forever" and "for yours is the glory and the power forever." In addition to serving as formal markers, these refrains offered a chance for the congregation to participate actively by singing the refrains in response to the choir.

Another formal consideration was the piece's ending. Generally, thanksgiving liturgies are more exultant than contemplative liturgies. This dramatic necessity initially seemed at cross-purposes with the text, which closes with a series of sporadic prayers, no longer united by a refrain. In order to achieve a fuller ending, the final phrase, "*Marana tha*" was used as a re-gathering point. Initially sung by a single, unac-

companied voice, the other singers enter at will, improvising repeatedly on the given melody. The hope was that, in addition to meeting a liturgical need, this setting would evoke some of the ecstatic associations of this early invocation.

O B S C V L T A

The Didache Prayer

from *The Didache*
trans. Br. Lewis Grobe, OSB

Timothy Dusenbury
November 2013

Freely

Solo



2



All w/Congregation

Musical notation for the congregation part of the Didache Prayer. The music is in common time, treble and bass clefs, and consists of four staves. The lyrics are repeated three times: "to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er." The final staff includes a dynamic marking "f".

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A

6

mf

We thank you, Our Fa - ther, for the life and know - ledge

mf

We thank you, Our Fa - ther, for the life and know - ledge



7

which you made known to us through your son Je - sus;

which you made known to us through your son Je - sus;



8

f

to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f

to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f

8 to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f

to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

O B S C V L T A

w/Congregation

A musical score for a congregation. It consists of four staves of music in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one flat. The vocal line is "to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er." The first three entries are in eighth-note patterns, and the fourth entry is in sixteenth-note patterns. The bass line provides harmonic support.

B

A musical score for section B, starting at measure 11. The vocal line is "As this bro - ken bread was scat - tered up-on the moun-tains and gath - ered in-to one," repeated twice. The music features eighth-note patterns and a bass line.

12

A continuation of section B, starting at measure 12. The vocal line is "may your Church be gath - ered from the ends of the earth in - to your king - dom;" repeated twice. The music features eighth-note patterns and a bass line.

13

f

for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er,
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er,
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er,
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er,



w/Congregation

for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

f

for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

O B S C V L T A

C

mf

We thank you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, for your ho - ly name,

We thank you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, for your ho - ly name,

We thank you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, for your ho - ly name,

We thank you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, for your ho - ly name,

which you have pre - pared in our hearts,

which you have pre - pared in our hearts,

which you have pre - pared in our hearts,

which you have pre - pared in our hearts,

and for the know - ledge and faith and im - mor - tal - i - ty,

and for the know - ledge and faith and im - mor - tal - i - ty,

and for the know - ledge and faith and im - mor - tal - i - ty,

and for the know - ledge and faith and im - mor - tal - i - ty,

DIDACHE & NOTES

24

which you have made known to us through your son Je - sus;
which you have made known to us through your son Je - sus;
which you have made known to us through your son Je - sus;
which you have made known to us through your son Je - sus;



25

f
to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er,
f
to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er,
f
to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er,
f
to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

O B S C V L T A

w/Congregation

A musical score for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano. The vocal parts are in 8/8 time, and the piano part is in 4/4 time. The vocal parts sing "to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er." three times. The piano part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

D

A musical score for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano. The vocal parts are in 8/8 time, and the piano part is in 4/4 time. The vocal parts sing "You, Al - might - y Mas - ter, cre - at - ed all things" twice. The piano part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

A musical score for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano. The vocal parts are in 8/8 time, and the piano part is in 4/4 time. The vocal parts sing "for the sake of your name, and you gave food and drink" twice. The piano part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

DIDACHE & NOTES

30

to the sons and daugh - ters of men for en - joy - ment,
to the sons and daugh - ters of men for en - joy - ment,

E

31

But to us you gave spi - ri - tual food and drink
But to us you gave spi - ri - tual food and drink

and e - ter - nal life through Je - sus your son.
and e - ter - nal life through Je - sus your son.

F

32

mf cresc.

A - bove all things we thank you, a - bove all things we thank you, a - bove
A - bove all things we thank you, a - bove all things we thank you, a - bove
A - bove all things we thank you, a - bove
A - bove all things we thank you, a - bove

O B S C V L T A

37

rit.

ff

all things we thank you be - cause you are

ff

all things we thank you be - cause you are

ff

all things we thank you be - cause you are

ff

all things we thank you be - cause you are



Maestoso

w/Congregation

40

pow - er - ful; to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er, to____

pow - er - ful; to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er, to____

pow - er - ful; to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er, to____

pow - er - ful; to____ you____ be the glo - ry for - ev - er, to____

ff

DIDACHE & NOTES

42

you be the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

you be the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

you be the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

you be the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

G

45

pp

Re - mem - ber, Lord, your church,

pp

Re - mem - ber, Lord, your church,

pp

Re - mem - ber, Lord, your church,

pp

Re - mem - ber, Lord, your church,

pp

to de - liv - er it from all e - vil

to de - liv - er it from all e - vil

to de - liv - er it from all e - vil

to de - liv - er it from all e - vil

O B S C V L T A

and to per - *b* - feit it in your love,
and to per - feit it in your love,
and to per - feit it in your love,
and to per - feit it in your love,
and to per - feit it in your love,

mp
and gath - er it from the four winds, hav - ing been sanc - ti - fied,
and gath - er it from the four winds, hav - ing been sanc - ti - fied,
and gath - er it from the four winds, hav - ing been sanc - ti - fied,
and gath - er it from the four winds, hav - ing been sanc - ti - fied,

mp
in - to your king - dom which you have pre - *b* - pared for it;
in - to your king - dom which you have pre - *b* - pared for it;
in - to your king - dom which you have pre - *b* - pared for it;
in - to your king - dom which you have pre - *b* - pared for it;

H

47 *ff* w/Congregation

for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er, for

ff

for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er, for

ff

for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er, for

ff

for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er, for

H

52

yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

O B S C V L T A

57 Solo

May grace come, and this world pass away.



58

A - men. Solo 1

All

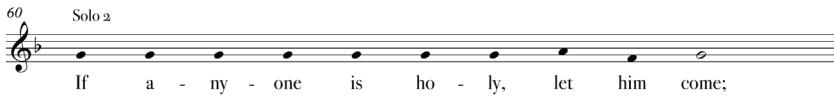
A - men.

A - men.

A - men.



60 Solo 2



If any one is holy, let him come;



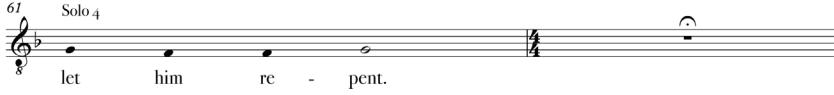
Solo 3



if any one is not, let him repent.



61 Solo 4



let him repent.

63

First entrance
Solo

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha, Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha,

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha, Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha,

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha, Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha,

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha, Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha,

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha, Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha,

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha, Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha,

1. singers should enter individually
2. they may repeat boxed text or alternate between them
3. singers should freely alter the note values given
4. they may also improvise freely in the mode
5. in general the improvisation should rise and quicken as it continues
6. the organ enters last and repeats its boxed measure three times
7. singers continue improvising through the organ's m. 63

Last entrance
On pedal alone, in successive repeats add staves

P

O B S C V L T A

65 **Maestoso**

w/Congregation

ff

A -

ff

A -

ff

A -

ff

A -

Maestoso

=

66

men.

men.

men.

men.

241