

“Save us O lord” op 80

For SATB unaccompanied choir

Alun Grafton



Composer's note

This short anthem composed in 2013 for the service of compline or Evensong uses the words found in the former service. It is scored for unaccompanied SATB choir and is just under two minutes in duration. This anthem was first performed at the London Festival of Contemporary Church Music in 2014 by the choir of St Pancras Church, London.

Text

Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.

About the Composer

Born in 1961, Alun is a composer, pianist and experienced singer. Early lessons in singing and piano were followed by five years as a chorister at Rochester Cathedral. Further study at the King's School Rochester was followed by three years at Nottingham University studying Latin and Archaeology with private music lessons continuing with Brenda May. Just less than three years were then spent working at the Tate Gallery in London followed by a further year of teacher training back in Nottingham University. The next 30 years were spent teaching at Eagle House Wellington College before he took early retirement to concentrate on the composing.

Alun has sung in choirs ranging from symphonic choruses to chamber choirs throughout his life, first as a treble, then a countertenor followed by tenor. In addition he has been known to take up the conductor's baton when required to conduct a choir or orchestra and not only in his own works.

From the age of 14 onwards Alun has composed music of every genre except stage works. Whether it be for professionals, amateurs, children or friends he has written accessible but challenging works pushing the boundaries of modern tonalism as far as possible, not being afraid to use all the contemporary techniques available to today's composers. Over the years his composing style has subtly changed but the influence of composers such as Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Tippett and Hoddinott is easily identified.

For further details and full information about the composer please visit the website

www.alungrifton.org

"Save us, O Lord, while waking" op 80

3

Words: The service of Compline

Music: Alun Grafton

Duration: 2 minutes

♩ = 96

p *con molto rubato* **p**

Soprano
Save us while wak - - ing,

Alto
Save us while wak - - ing,

Tenor
Save us while wak - - ing,

Bass
Save us while wak - - ing, Lord,

p *con molto rubato* **mf**

(For Rehearsal only)

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4

pp **p** **mf**

S
Guard us while sleep - - ing, That a - wake we may watch

A
Guard us while sleep - - ing, That a - wake we may watch

T
Guard us while sleep - - ing, That a wake we may watch

B
Guard us while sleep - - ing, That a - wake we may watch

pp **p** **mf**

8

S *f* *p* *pp*
 with Christ, and as - leep we may rest in peace, _____

A *f* *p* *pp*
 with _____ Christ, and as - leep _____ we may rest _____ in peace. _____

T *f* *p* *pp*
 _____ with christ, and as - leep _____ we may rest in peace,

B *f* *p* *pp*
 with _____ Christ, and as - leep, _____ we may rest in _____ peace, we may

3 3 3 3 3 3

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12 *poco rall.....* *a tempo* *p* *pp*
 S _____ Save us wak - ing, _____ Guard

A *p* *pp*
 Save us wak - ing, _____ Guard

T *pp* *p*
 Save us while wak - ing, Guard us sleep -

B *mf* *pp* *p*
 rest in peace, _____ Save us while wak - ing, Guard us sleep -

poco rall..... *a tempo*

16

S *mf* us while sleep - ing, that a - wake we may watch with Christ, *f*

A *mf* us while sleep - ing, that a - wake we may watch with Christ, *f*

T *mf* - ing, a - wake, we may watch with Christ, *f*

B *mf* - ing, a - wake, we may watch with Christ, *f*

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20

S *mf* and as - leep we may rest in peace. *p*

A *mf* and as - leep we may rest in peace. *p*

T *mf* as - leep we may rest in peace. *p*

B *mf* and as - leep we may rest in peace. *p*

24 **a tempo** *p* *mf* *pp*

S Save us while wak - - ing, Lord, Guard us while

A Save us while wak - - ing, Guard us while

T Save us while wak - - ing, Guard us while

B Save us while wak - - ing, Guard us while

a tempo

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28 *p* *mf* *f*

S sleep - - ing, that a - wake we may watch with Christ,

A sleep - - ing, - that a - wake we may watch with Christ,

T sleep - - ing, that a - wake we may watch with Christ,

B sleep - - ing, that a - wake we may watch with Christ,