

PSALMS OF EARTH

*from Job 12, Psalm 121,
Genesis 3, and Luke 19*

for the National Philharmonic Chamber Singers, April 2017

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The musical score consists of three staves of music for two voices: Soprano (S) and Bass (B). The music is in common time (indicated by '4'). The first staff begins with a dynamic of ***p***, followed by a fermata over the first note. The soprano part has a vocal line with sustained notes and vocalises 'Ooo'. The bass part provides harmonic support with sustained notes. The lyrics begin with 'The animals will teach you,' followed by 'Birds in the sky will tell you,' and then 'The sigh-ing Earth will beg you,' and 'Fish in the sea in-form'. The music includes dynamics such as ***pp***, ***mfp***, and ***mf***. Measure numbers 1 through 10 are indicated above the staves.

Soprano: aetherial
Bass: ***p*** Ooo ————— Ooo —————

Soprano: Solo: The an - i - mals will teach you,

Bass: ***p***

Soprano: Birds in the sky will tell you,

Bass: ***p***

Soprano: The sigh-ing Earth will ***mf*** beg you,

Bass: ***p***

Soprano: Fish ***mfp*** in the sea in - form

Bass: ***p***

Soprano: Ah, —————

Bass: ***p***

Soprano: Oh, —————

Bass: ***p***

16 All:In *mf* God's great hand ____ is held the life of ev - ry ____

S:

B:

22 be - ing and liv - ing ____ thing, *pp* *f*

S:

B:

Free chant:
"The Earth groans, the sky
fades to grey"

Chant together:
The Earth groans,
the sky fades to grey,

27 *ff* Rocks! The Earth

S:

B:

Even the rocks will cry out! Rocks! cry out, the rocks cry out, ev'n the rocks cry

Rocks! The Earth

31 groans,

S:

B:

out, the rocks cry out, Earth groans, the Earth groans, the

groans,