

My song is love unknown

J.B. Calkin, 1827-1905

St. John
66.66.88

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a brace on the left. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody in the treble clef begins with a half note chord (F4, A-flat4, C5) and continues with quarter notes. The bass clef accompaniment consists of chords and single notes. A measure rest of 5 measures is indicated above the treble staff in the fifth measure.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It features the same two-staff format. The melody in the treble clef continues with quarter notes and half notes. The bass clef accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece. It starts with a measure rest of 10 measures indicated above the treble staff. The melody in the treble clef ends with a half note chord (F4, A-flat4, C5). The bass clef accompaniment ends with a final chord.

My song is love unknown,
My Savior's love to me;
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
The longed for Christ would know:
But O! my friend, my friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend.

Sometimes they strew His way,
And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King:
Then Crucify! is all their breath,
And for His death they thirst and cry.

They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they saved,
The Prince of Life they slay,
Yet cheerful He to suffering goes,
That He His foes from thence might free.

In life, no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was His home;
But mine the tomb wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King!
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.

Samuel Crossman