

These short meditations are based on Gregorian chants associated with the four Sundays in Advent. Each piece begins with a free, unmetred rendition of the chant, followed by a musical elaboration that uses the chant as a starting point. They are each roughly two minutes in duration, and were composed between 2013-2015.

I. Ad te levavi

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust;

do not let me be put to shame;

do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

(Psalm 25: 1-3, NRSV)

II. Ex Sion species decoris

[Hear this, all you peoples;

give ear, all inhabitants of the world,]

both low and high,

rich and poor together.

My mouth shall speak wisdom;

the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

(Psalm 49: 2-3, NRSV)

III. Qui sedes, Domine

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your might,

and come to save us!

(Psalm 80: 1-3, NRSV)

IV. Rorate Caeli

Shower, O heavens, from above,

and let the skies rain down righteousness;

let the earth open, that salvation may spring up,

and let it cause righteousness to sprout up also;

For the Lord have created it.

(Isaiah 45:8, NRSV)

Four Advent Meditations

I. Ad te levavi

Brooke Joyce (2013-15)

Senza Misura

p expressively and unevenly, like a chant

Musical notation for the first section, 'Senza Misura'. It consists of a single treble clef staff with a melodic line. The tempo is 'Senza Misura' (ad libitum). The dynamics are marked *p* (piano). The instruction is 'expressively and unevenly, like a chant'. The notation shows a series of notes with a long, sweeping slur over the entire phrase.

Wandering ♩ = 60

mp

Musical notation for the second section, 'Wandering'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The tempo is 'Wandering' with a quarter note equal to 60 (♩ = 60). The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The notation shows a melodic line in the treble and a more active accompaniment in the bass, both with long slurs.

Deliberate ♩ = 60

mf *f*

Musical notation for the third section, 'Deliberate'. It consists of three staves: a treble clef staff, a bass clef staff, and a separate bass clef staff at the bottom. The tempo is 'Deliberate' with a quarter note equal to 60 (♩ = 60). The dynamics are marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The notation shows a melodic line in the treble, a complex accompaniment in the middle bass staff, and a simple bass line in the bottom staff.

ff rall. al fine

II. Ex Sion species decoris

Senza Misura

p expressively and unevenly, like a chant

Dancing ♩. = 120

mf