CALVARY

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied, with optional C-Instrument*

Arranged by MICHAEL LARKIN



- * Part for C-Instrument may be found on pages 11-12.
- ** Were You There When They Crucified My Lord. Traditional spiritual.

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* Hamburg. Music by Lowell Mason (1792-1872); words by Isaac Watts (1674-1748).

















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C-INSTRUMENT

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Calvary is a Lenten anthem that skillfully blends the traditional spiritual Were You There When They Crucified My Lord with the beloved hymn tone Hamburg (When I Survey the Wondrous Cross). It may also be appropriate for ervices during Holy Week. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Psalm 31, Isaiah 52: 13-53: 12, Luke 23: 32-49, John 19: 16-37, and Galatians 6: I 18. One basic homilitical theme is the call for all believers to humble themselves before the cross, the symbol of their salvation.

The descending four-note motive in m. I signals the prevailing mood of quiet introspection and is repeated and varied throughout the texture (m. 6, C-instrument; m. 22, keyboard ostinato; m. 50, tenors; etc.). In rehearsal, be careful to highlight this motive to increase the ensemble's sensitivity to its formal and dramatic importance. This highlighting may be achieved by instructing the choir to sing the anthem softly on a neutral syllable such as "oo" except for any of the four-note patterns, which should be sung with the text. The choir will enjoy "discovering" the "hidden treasures!" Carefully inflect the text and shape the phrases dynamically in places such as m. 12-13 ("Oh!"), 16-18 ("tremble")

Michael Larkin is Faculty Coordinator of Vocal Studies at the Wilmington (De.) Music School, Organist and Choir Director at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Northeast, Maryland, and Jounder and Music Director of the New Ark Chorale. With music degrees from the University of Delaware, the Catholic University of America, and Temple University, Dr. Larkin is active as guest conductor and choral clinician. He currently serves on the Commission of Liturgy and Worship for the Episcopal Diocese of Easton, Maryland, and as Delaware Music in Worship Chairperson for the American Choral Director's Association.