

Sacred Ground

Thoughtfully ♩ = 108-116

1. A boy in far - mer's cloth - ing to the clear - ing made his way,
2. They ea - ger - ly as - sem - bled for the long a - wait - ed hour
6. With hum - ble hearts and will - ing hands, as Saints of Je - sus Christ,

The ear - ly sun - light pro - mis - ing a beau - ti - ful new day.
When all the faith - ful saints could be en - dowed with sa - cred power.
We gath - er now, re - joic - ing in their faith - ful sac - ri - fice.

A stur - dy axe lay wait - ing to be laid at root of tree,
They heard a noise of rush - ing wind, the Spir - it burned like fire,
May co - ven - ants es - tab - lished in the wood - lands of the east

But his young hands bent not to toil, but fold - ed rev - 'rent - ly.
And an - gel voic - es min - gled with the sing - ing of the choir.
Burn ev - er bright - er in our hearts and fill the world with peace.

And as he prayed a glor - ious heav'n - ly light shone all a - round,
 Then lat - er, at the pul - pit, when the veil was drawn a - round,
 From Kirt - land's rev - e - la - tions to Mis - sou - ri's dark re - nown,

And in his ears the voice of God the Fa - ther did re - sound.
 With eyes as flame of fire and voice like great Ni - ag - ra's sound,
 The pain and glo - ry of Nau - voo, the lone - some prai - rie mound,

Yes, Jo - seph Smith, the Pro - phet, made of New York sa - cred ground.
 The might - y Lord Je - ho - vah stood on Kirt - land's sa - cred ground.
 Our path as Saints has been, and ev - er will be,

sa - cred ground.

sa - cred ground!

sa - cred ground!

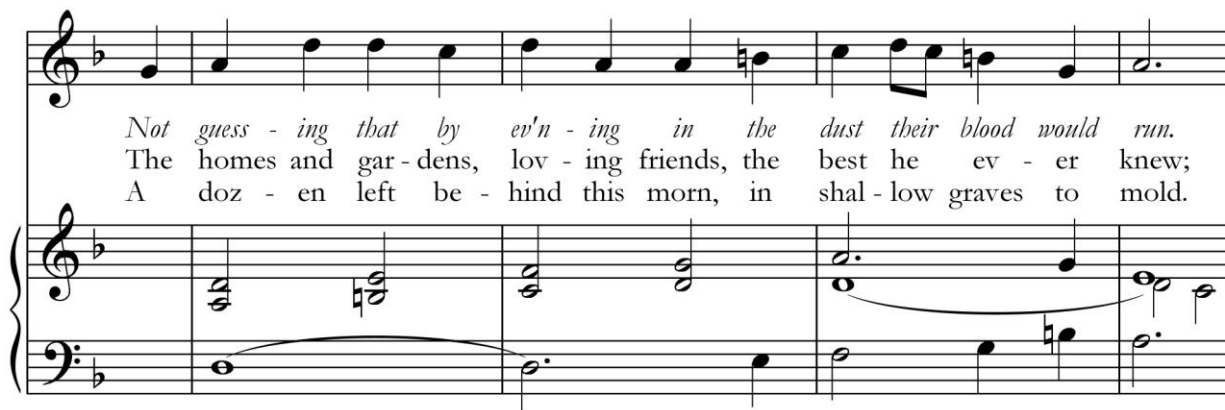
slightly slower ♩ = 96-104 *omit verse 3 ad lib.*

unison

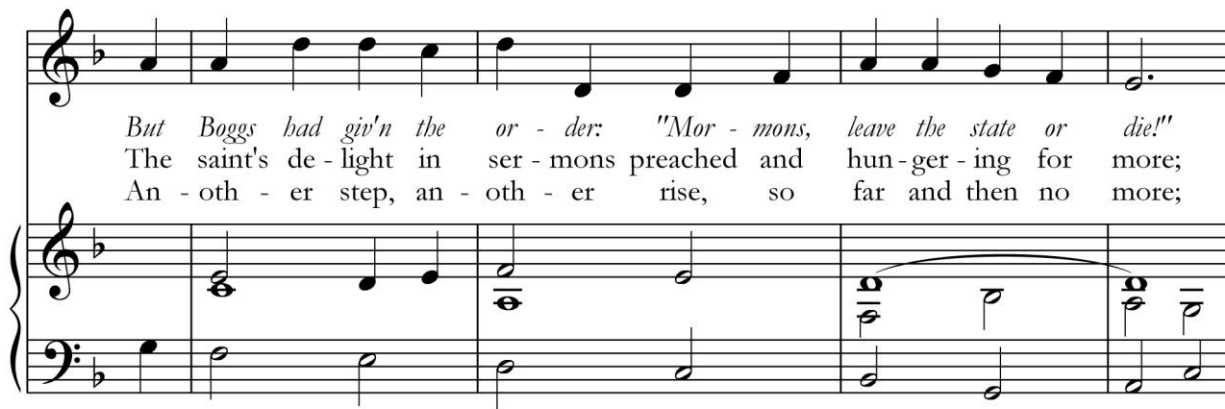
3. The peace - ful ham - let bust - led in the bright Oc - to - ber sun,
4. The proph - et stopped and turned to gaze once more up - on Nau - voo,
5. In tat - tered rags they strug - gled on, bone wea - ry, sick and cold,



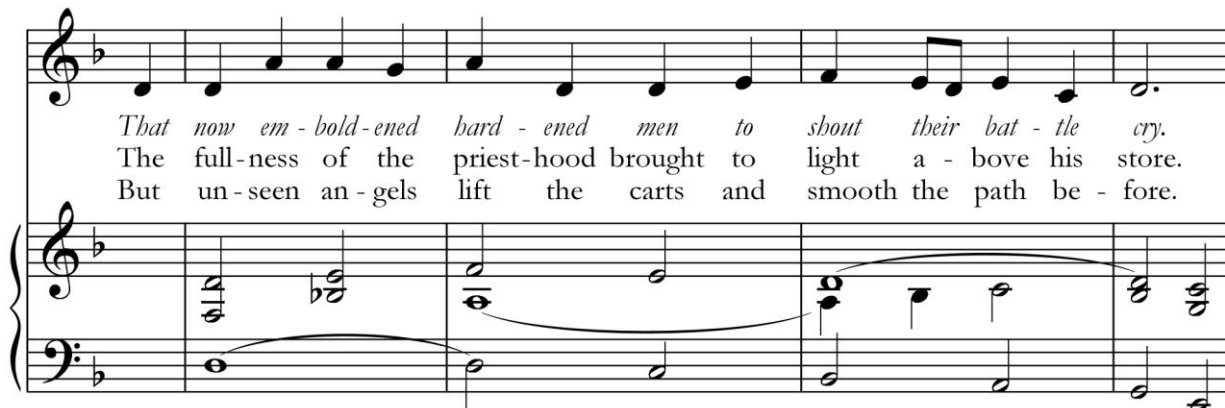
Not guess - ing that by ev'n - ing in the dust their blood would run.
The homes and gar - dens, lov - ing friends, the best he ev - er knew;
A doz - en left be - hind this morn, in shal - low graves to mold.



But Boggs had giv'n the or - der: "Mor - mons, leave the state or die!"
The saint's de - light in ser - mons preached and hun - ger - ing for more;
An - oth - er step, an - oth - er rise, so far and then no more;



That now em - bold - ened bard - ened men to shout their bat - tle cry.
The full - ness of the priest - hood brought to light a - bove his store.
But un - seen an - gels lift the carts and smooth the path be - fore.



The help - less wo - men hid in fields while gun - shots e - choed round,
 "Oh how I'll miss this love - ly place," he said, as turn - ing round
 The high - lands of Wy - om - ing now with wisps of snow are crowned.

Their sev - en - teen made mar - tyrs for the gos - pel they had found.
 He sad - ly looked a - way, for now he knew that he was bound
 We bow our heads and add our tears as cold winds weep a - round,

Their faith and cour - age made Hann's Mill Mis -
 To ride this wea - ry road and make of
 For Rock - y Ridge and Mar - tin's Cove are

sou - ri sa - cred ground.
 Car - thage sa - cred ground.
 hal - lowed, sa - cred ground.