

Rorate Coeli

for unaccompanied SATB choir

* One possible translation:
Drop down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down justice.
(or: "...pour down the Just One.")


Advent plainchant, arr. Philip Le Bas


At a slow speaking pace, rubato


Tenor or bass solo: *mf*  *p* //

*Ro - ra - te coe - li de su - per et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum,

3 *mp* *f* *mf* *pp* //

Sopranos: 

Altos: 

Tenors: 

Basses:

Ro - ra - te coe - li de su - per et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum.


Faster, but still rubato

5 All tenors and basses: *mf* 

1. Turn your fierce an-ger from us, O Lord, and re-mem-ber not our sins for e - ver.

7 


Your ho-ly ci-ties have be-come a de-sert, Zi - on a wil-der-ness, Je - ru - sa - lem a de - so - la - tion;

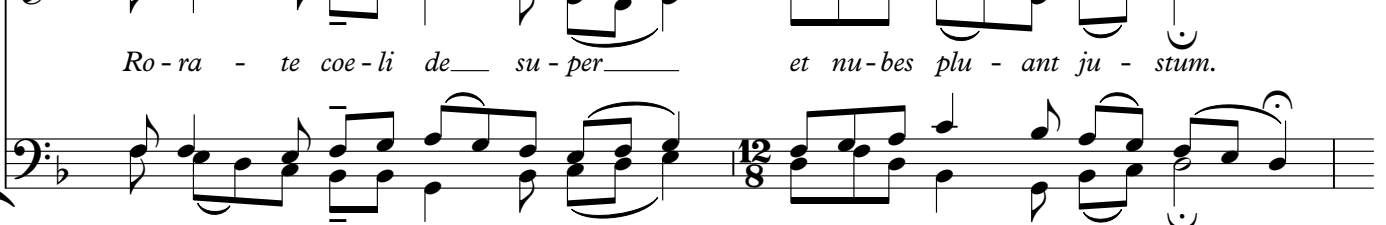
10 

our ho - ly and beau - ti - ful house, where our fa - thers praised you.

Tempo I

12 *mp* *f* *mf* *pp* //





Ro - ra - te coe - li de su - per et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum.

Faster, but still rubato

14 All sopranos and altos: *mf* 

2. We have sinned and be-come like one who is un - clean; we have all wi - thered like a leaf;

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The English words of the "Advent Prose" are from the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, *Common Worship*:
www.churchofengland.org/media/41152/tandsadvent.pdf

2 16

and our in - i - qui - ties like the wind have swept us a - way.

You have hid-den your face from us, and a-ban-doned us to our in - i - qui - ties.

Tempo I

pp *p* *pp* *ppp*

Ro - ra - te coe - li de - su - per et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum.

21 Slightly faster, but still rubato

mp

3. You are my wit - nes - ses, says the Lord, and my ser - vants whom I have cho - sen,

that you may know me and be - lieve me. I my - self am the Lord,

and none but me can de - li - ver; what my hand holds, none can snatch a - way.

Tempo I
mp *f* *mf* *pp* //

27 *Ro - ra - te coe - li de - su - per et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum.*

Slightly slower, with growing intensity
pp

29 4. Com - fort, O com - fort my peo - ple; my sal - va - tion shall not be de - layed.

31 *p* *mp*

I have swept your of - fen - ces a - way like a cloud; fear not for I will save you;

33 *mf* *f* //

I am the Lord your God, the Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el, your re - dee - mer.

Tempo I
p *mp* *rit.* *f*

35 *Ro - ra - te coe - li de - su - per et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum, et nu - bes plu - ant ju - stum.*