

The *Kyrie* or *Kyrie eleison* (Lord have mercy) is a prayer sung immediately following the Introit during the opening Entrance rite of the Roman Catholic Mass. It is the first section of the Ordinary of the Mass, those sections of the Mass which remain mostly unchanged throughout the Liturgical year.

The words of the *Kyrie*, which are similar to Psalm 6:3 and Psalm 40:5, 11, are found as far back as the 4th century. In the 5th century, a litany replaced the common Prayer of the Church and Pope Gelasius I (492-496) retained the Greek form as the people's response and moved it to the beginning of the Mass. It was Pope Gregory I who added the second portion *Christe eleison*. The complete three-part (ABA) form of the *Kyrie*, as we know it today, was first used in the 8th century.

In Latin, all vowel sounds should be pure and unchanging. Below is a pronunciation and translation guide for use with this piece.

*Kyrie eleison*  
Keé-ree-eh eh-léh-ee-sawn  
(Lord have mercy.)

*Christe eleison*  
Kreé-steh eh-léh-ee-sawn  
(Christ have mercy.)

*Kyrie eleison*  
Keé-ree-eh eh-léh-ee-sawn  
(Lord have mercy.)

Sherri Porterfield currently teaches junior high vocal music at Frontier Trail Junior High in Olathe, Kansas. She received the B.S.E. in music education from Memphis State University and is completing the Master's in Choral Conducting from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Her choirs have won many awards and she is in demand as a guest conductor, clinician and adjudicator. She has been composing music since 1987 and to date has 14 published choral compositions.

For further information on Latin pronunciations, translation, and usage, see *Translations and Annotations of Choral Repertoire, Volume 1: Sacred Latin Texts* by Ron Jeffers (1988, Earthsongs).

# KYRIE

for SATB voices, accompanied \*

by SHERRI PORTERFIELD  
(ASCAP)

Moderato (♩ = 116)

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TENOR  
BASS

PIANO

*mp* legato

5 *mp*

Ky ri - e e - le - i -

5

\* Also available for 3-part mixed voices (7725).

*mp*

son, \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

*mp*

13 Ky - ri - e \_\_\_\_\_

Ky - ri - e e - le - i -

13 Ky - ri - e \_\_\_\_\_

17 *mp* \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* *slight rit.*

son, \_\_\_\_\_ Ky - ri - e e - le - i -

*mp* *mf*

*mp* *mf* *slight rit.*

21 *mp a tempo*

son. \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

*mp a tempo*

25

*mf*

bass div.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son, \_\_\_\_\_

25

*mf*

29

*mf*

soprano div.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son, \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

33

Chri - ste, Chri -

33

36

*slight rit.*

*a tempo*

*rit.*

ste e - le - i - son,

alto div.

*slight rit.*

*a tempo*

*rit.*

40

41

*a tempo*

*mp*

Ky - ri - e -

*mp*

41

*a tempo*

*mp*

44

*mp*

le - i - son,

*mp*

This system contains the vocal line and piano accompaniment for measures 44 through 47. The vocal line begins with the lyrics 'le - i - son,' and features a long note on 'son' that spans across the measure. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

48

Ky - ri - e

49

Ky - ri - e e -

*mp*

This system contains the vocal line and piano accompaniment for measures 48 through 51. The vocal line starts with 'Ky - ri - e' and continues with 'Ky - ri - e e -'. A red box highlights measure 49. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines.

Ky - ri - e

49

*mp*

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 48 through 51. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

52

*mp*

le - i - son, Ky - ri -

*mp*

This system contains the vocal line and piano accompaniment for measures 52 through 55. The vocal line begins with 'le - i - son,' and then continues with 'Ky - ri -'. A red box highlights measure 52. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines.

*mp*

*mp*

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 52 through 55. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

56

*slight rit.* *mp*

e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e

*slight rit.* *mp*

60

*rit.* *a tempo grad. decresc.*

e - le - i - son.

*grad. decresc.*

*rit.* *a tempo*

64

*rit.*

*rit.* *pp*