

Psalm 4

Henry Lawes (1596–1662)  
edited by Richard Shakeshaft

Soprano  
Cantus  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass  
Bassus

*please license this copy at  
imprimis.uk  
to remove this watermark*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Thou guardian of my truth and me,<br/>That from these straits hast set me free<br/>    O hear my prayer!<br/>    Be I thy care;<br/>For mercy lives in thee.</p> <p>2 You sons of men, how long will you<br/>Eclipse my glory, and pursue<br/>    Loved vanities,<br/>    Delight in lies,<br/>To man, to God untrue.</p> <p>3 Know, God my innocence hast blessed,<br/>And will with sovereignty invest:<br/>    His gentle care<br/>    Prepared to hear<br/>My never vain request.</p> | <p>4 Sin not, but fear, surcease and try<br/>Your heart, as on your beds you lie:<br/>    Pure gifts present<br/>    With pure intent,<br/>And place your hopes on high.</p> <p>5 But earthly minds false wealth admire,<br/>And toil with uncontrolled desire.<br/>    With clear aspect<br/>    Thy beams reflect,<br/>And heavenly thoughts inspire.</p> <p>6 O let my joys, exempt from fears,<br/>Their joys transcend, when autumn bears<br/>    His pleasant wines<br/>    On clustered vines,<br/>And grain-replenished ears.</p> |
| <p>7 Now shall the peaceful hand of sleep<br/>In heavenly dew my senses steep;<br/>    Whom thy large wings,<br/>    O king of kings,<br/>In shades of safety keep.</p>  |   |

George Sandys (1578–1644)