

I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry 799

(Psalm 116)

1 I love the Lord, who heard my cry
2 I love the Lord, who heard my cry

and pit - ied ev ery groan.
and chased my grief a - way.

Long as I live and trou-les rise,
O let my heart no more de - spair

I'll has - ten to God's throne.
while I have breath to pray.

This setting of stanzas from a metrical psalm draws on an African American singing tradition marked by a slow pace and individual improvisation. Vestiges of that practice appear here in the pattern of extended syllables occurring at regular intervals without regard to meaning.