

Psalm 139.1-11, 22-23

*Introduction. Cantor sings refrain. All repeat verses. Cantor sings verses
All repeat refrain after each group of verses. In the psalm-tone the singer
leaves the reciting note on the underlined word or syllable.*

George Black

Introduction

God, your hand will hold me fast.

1 2 3 4

- (1) God you have searched me out and known me;
- (1) you know my sitting down and my rising up;
- (2) you discern my thoughts from afar.
- (1) You trace my journeys and my resting-places
- (2) and are acquainted with all my ways.
- (3) Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
- (4) but you, O God, know it altogether. **R.**

- (1) You press upon me behind me and before
- (2) and lay your hand upon me.
- (3) Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
- (4) it is so high that I cannot attain to it. **R.**

- (1) Where can I go then from your Spirit?
- (2) where can I flee from your presence?
- (3) If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
- (4) if I make the grave my bed you are there also. **R.**

- (1) If I take the wings of the morning
- (2) and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- (3) Even there your hand will lead me
- (4) and your right hand hold me fast. **R.**

- (1) If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,
- (2) and the light around me turn to night,"
- (3) Darkness is not dark to you;
- (4) darkness and light to you are both alike. **R.**

- (1) Search me out, O god, and know my heart;
- (2) try me and know my restless thoughts.
- (3) Look well whether there be any wickedness in me
- (4) and lead me in the way that is everlasting. **R.**