

Ein Keloheinu

92a

Version 3

Julius Freudenthal
Arr. Stuart Izon

Ein Keloheinu (There is none like our God) is a prayer added to the end of the Shabbat morning service so that everybody can say at least 100 blessings a day, even on days when the Amida is shorter. There is some evidence that the verses were originally in a different order, starting with the second verse Mi Keloheinu – indeed it is puzzling that we ask a question that we have already answered!

Ein Keloheinu has several musical settings, but its most popular melody was written by Julius Freudenthal in 1841 and originally printed in Hirsch Goldberg's "Gesänge für Synagogen". There is an urban legend that Freudenthal derived this melody from a German drinking song, though this seems to be based on a misunderstanding of Idelsohn's comment comparing this melody to the Lutheran hymn "Grosser Gott wir loben dich" due to their similar usages of secondary dominant chords.

Many recordings have a variant melody over the words "mi ch'malkeinu / baruch malkeinu". It's worth noting that not only is this divergent from the tune as written by Freudenthal, but it is also impossible to sing alongside the original line given the incompatible harmony.

Allegretto

Melody Alto

Ein ke - lo - hei - nu ein ka - do - nei - nu

Tenor Bass

Detailed description: This system shows the first two lines of the musical score. The top staff is for the Alto voice, and the bottom staff is for the Tenor and Bass voices. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked 'Allegretto'. The lyrics are 'Ein ke - lo - hei - nu ein ka - do - nei - nu'. The alto part has a melodic line with some slurs, while the tenor and bass parts provide a harmonic accompaniment.

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Melody Alto

ein k' - mal - kei - nu ein k' - mo - shi - ei - nu

Tenor Bass

Detailed description: This system shows the second two lines of the musical score. The top staff is for the Alto voice, and the bottom staff is for the Tenor and Bass voices. The lyrics are 'ein k' - mal - kei - nu ein k' - mo - shi - ei - nu'. The alto part continues the melodic line, and the tenor and bass parts provide harmonic support.

9

Melody Alto

Mi che - lo - hei - nu mi cha - do - nei - nu

Tenor Bass

Detailed description: This system shows the final two lines of the musical score. The top staff is for the Alto voice, and the bottom staff is for the Tenor and Bass voices. The lyrics are 'Mi che - lo - hei - nu mi cha - do - nei - nu'. The alto part concludes the melodic phrase, and the tenor and bass parts provide a final harmonic accompaniment.

13
M A
8
mi ch' - mal - kei - nu mi ch'-mo - shi - ei - nu No -
T B

17
M A
8
-de lei - lo - hei - nu no - de la - do - nei - nu no -
T B

21
M A
8
-de l' - mal - kei - nu no - de l' - mo - shi - ei - nu Ba -
T B

25
M A
8
-ruch ei - lo - hei - nu ba - ruch a - do - nei - nu
T B

29
M A
8
ba - ruch mal - kei - nu ba - ruch mo - shi - ei - nu A -
T B

33

M
A

-ta hu ei - lo - hei - nu a - ta hu a - do - nei - nu a -

T
B

37

M
A

-ta hu mal - kei - nu a ta hu mo - shi - ei - nu

T
B

rit.