TO GOD SING PRAISES

A General or Easter Anthem*

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied**



^{*}Sing verse 1 for general occasions, verse 2 for Easter.

^{**}Also available in G Major for S.A.B. voices, No. 11415.

















To God Sing Praises is a masterwork anthem with texts for both the Easter season (Easter, Eastertide, and Ascension) and more general occasions. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings for the Easter season include Psalm 30, John 21: 1-19, Acts 9: 1-20 and Revelation 5: 11-14; one basic homiletical theme is praising the Redeemer to whom all wisdom, honor, power, glory, riches and strength belong. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings for general occasions include 2 Maccabees 7: 1-14, Psalm 9:11-20, Luke 20:27-38, and 2 Thessalonians 2: 16-3:5; one basic homiletical theme is praising God through lives dedicated to Christian witness.

In rehearsal, strive for rhythmic precision, clearly articulated counterpoint, a rather brightly focused choral tone, and well-balanced harmonies. Practice the anthem singing staccate on the neutral syllable "doo" until the vocal parts are perfectly aligned, listening for and highlighting dynamically the voices that have the "call" (sopranos, m. 4-8 and 17-20; tenors, m. 21-24; sopranos, m. 30-33 and 38-42; altos, m. 51-54; basses, m. 55-57). Add the text while continuing this technique. Finally, add a fluid legato while continuing to sing with precision and clarity especially in the eighth note passages.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was one of the most notable composers of the Viennese Classical style and is revered today for his genius in composing many of the important musical forms of that era. Mozart's sacred choral works include masses, a requiem, and miscellaneous works for various performance occasions. Completed in May, 1771, in Salzburg, Austria, To God Sing Praises was originally set to the antiphon text Regina coeli. This exuberant work includes a tuneful melody with predominantly chordal writing.

To God Sing Praises has been transposed down a major second from the original. Scored originally for S.A.T.B. voices with an accompaniment of oboes, horns, trumpets, timpani, strings and continuo, this new edition includes a keyboard reduction of the instrumental parts as the accompaniment. In this edition, the keyboard introduction, interlude beginning at measure 28, and concluding measures are shortened versions of the originals. The metronome marking, modern clefs, dynamics, and English words have also been added by the editor. An arrangement of this chorus for S.A.B. mixed voices in G major is also available, No. 11415.

Patrick M. Liebergen is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin (Stout) and Director of the Chancel Choir at United Methodist Church, Menomonie, Wisconsin. With music degrees from St. Norbert College in Defere, Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin (Madison), and the University of Colorado (Boulder), Dr. Liebergen frequently appears throughout the country as an adjudicator and clinician. His choral editions, arrangements and original works are widely published. Dr. Liebergen was the 1988 winner of the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association Composition Competition and the 1990 Winner of the Anthem Contest spontored by the Twin Cities Church Musicians Association.











Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. 16320 Roscoe Blvd., Suite 100 P.O. Box 10003 Van Nuys, CA 91410-0003 alfred.com