

Heilig

Holy, holy, holy

Words from the Ordinary of the Lutheran Mass
English version by John Rutter

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809–47)
Edited by John Rutter

Con moto

SOPRANO *p* *cresc.*
Hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - - - lig, hei - - lig,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly, ho - - ly,

ALTO *p* *cresc.*
Hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - - - lig,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly,

Choir I

TENOR *p* *cresc.*
Hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - - - lig,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly,

BASS *p* *cresc.*
Hei - lig, hei - lig,
Ho - ly, ho - ly,

SOPRANO *p* *cresc.*
Hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - - - - - lig,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - - - ly,

ALTO *p* *cresc.*
Hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - - - lig,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly,

Choir II

TENOR *p* *cresc.*
Hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - -
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - -

BASS *mp* *cresc.*
Hei - lig,
Ho - ly,

Con moto

for rehearsal only *p* *cresc.*

This brief but resoundingly effective *a cappella* chorus—perfect for opening a choral concert—was one of three contributed by Mendelssohn to a book of music for the Lutheran liturgy, published in Berlin. The date is unknown. Its use of eight voice parts enabled the composer to begin the piece with a chain of voice entries descending by thirds through two octaves, probably the first time this simple but remarkable thing had ever been done.

9 *f*

S. *f* *f*

hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - lig ist Gott der Herr Ze - ba-oth! Al - le
 ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is God the Lord Sa - ba-oth! Al - le -

A. *f* *f*

hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - lig ist Gott der Herr Ze - ba-oth! Al - le
 ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is God the Lord Sa - ba-oth! Al - le -

T. *f* *f*

8 hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - lig ist Gott der Herr Ze - ba-oth! Al - le
 ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is God the Lord Sa - ba-oth! Al - le -

B. *f* *f*

hei - lig ist Gott der Herr Ze - ba-oth! Al - le
 ho - ly is God the Lord Sa - ba-oth! Al - le -

S. *f* *f*

hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - lig ist Gott der Herr Ze - ba-oth! Al - le
 ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is God the Lord Sa - ba-oth! Al - le -

A. *f* *f*

hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - lig ist Gott der Herr Ze - ba-oth! Al - le
 ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is God the Lord Sa - ba-oth! Al - le -

T. *f* *f*

8 - lig, hei - lig, hei - lig ist Gott der Herr Ze - ba-oth! Al - le
 - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is God the Lord Sa - ba-oth! Al - le -

B. *f* *f*

hei - lig, hei - lig ist Gott der Herr Ze - ba-oth! Al - le
 ho - ly, ho - ly is God the Lord Sa - ba-oth! Al - le -

f *f*

The piano accompaniment is written for a grand piano. It features a melody in the right hand and a harmonic accompaniment in the left hand. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The music is marked with a forte (f) dynamic. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. The accompaniment is primarily composed of chords and single notes, providing a steady harmonic foundation for the vocal parts.