HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

for S.A.T.B. or S.A.B. voices, accompanied, with optional percussion*

Words by REGINALD HEBER (1783-1826) Adapted by ROBERT LAU Music by ROBERT LAU (ASCAP)



^{*} S.A.B. voices should omit the tenor part.

Percussion part may be found on page 8 and may be performed by tambourine or hand drum.













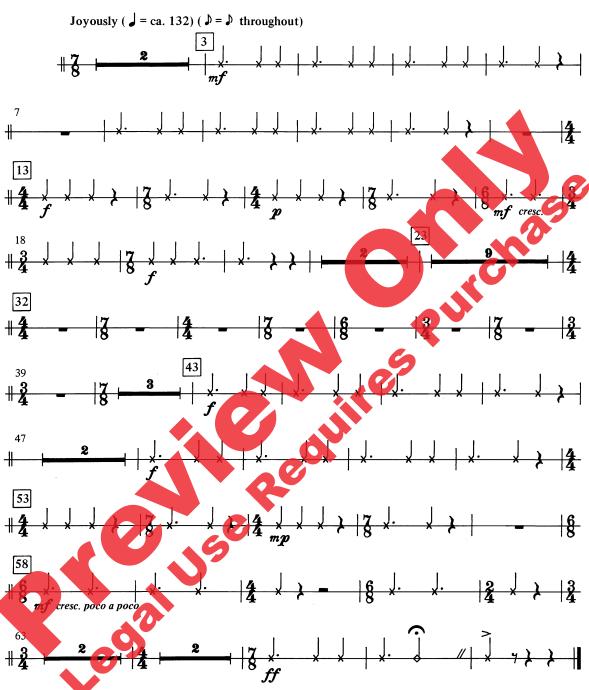
Hosanna in the Highest is an anthem for Palm Sunday that may also be useful for Ascension or Christ the King Sunday, Trinity Sunday, and general services. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings for Palm Sunday include Psalm 118: 1-2 & 19-29, Isaiah 50: 4-9a, Matthew 21: 1-11, and Philippians 2/5-11. One basic homiletical theme is the great chorus of angels and people joining together to sing "Hosanna!" to Christ, the King of heaven and earth.

The rhythm of this lively anthem springs quite naturally from the text. Introduce the anthem by asking the choir to speak the text as notated but slightly under tempo, as the keyboard plays along. Carefully inflect the natural word stresses and underscore the rhythms with crisp consonants. Next, sing verse 1 as written, repeating it until both rhythm and pitch are secure. Strive for a bright, "bouncy" choral sound within fluid legato phrases. While this free-flowing text is best presented in the non-metered fashion shown herein, choir directors may wish to take their conducting cues from the metric cues found in the percussion part (page 8).

Robert C. Lau is Organist/Choirmaster at Mt. Calvary Episcopal Church in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, Music Director of the Harrisburg (PA) Choral Society, and a private music teacher and free-lance composer. With music degrees from Lebanon Valley College, the Eastman School of Music, and Catholic University, Dr. Lau has served as Chairman of the Music Department at Lebanon Valley College and is currently an adjunct music professor at The Pennsylvania State University (Harrisburg).

HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

PERCUSSION (Tambourine or Hand Drum) Music by ROBERT LAU (ASCAP)



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