² PRAISE GOD! SING ALL YE HEAVENS

for S.A.B. voices, accompanied

PSALM 148 Adapted by HAL H. HOPSON from MISSA BREVIS IN F, K. 192 WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791) Edited and Arranged by HAL H. HOPSON















Praise God! Sing All Ye Heavens is an anthem of general praise that may be appropriate throughout the liturgical year as well as for Christ the King Sunday, Christmastide, Eastertide, and services of thanksgiving. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Psalms 111 and 148, Isaiah 61: 10 - 62: 3, Matthew 25: 31-46, and 1 John 5: 1-5. Basic homilitical themes include the messages of the good news of deliverance for humankind, of praise of God's universal glory, and that faith can conquer the world.

In rehearsal, strive for fluid, well-shaped phrases. Be careful to effect a slight decrescendo at the end of each of the phrases that conclude in two quarter notes (m. 11, 18, etc.), proper text declamation will produce the desired result! A rather dance-like tempo with one pulse per measure is recommended.

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) is revered as one of the greatest musical genines of all times. Born in Salzburg of an ambitious and musically-gifted father (Leopold), young Wolfgang travelled extensively, visiting the great courts of Europe. During his lifetime he studied with such remarkable masters as Johann Christian Bach, Johann Sepastian's youngest son, and Franz Joseph Haydn, and attended performances of an extraordinary range of works by the greatest masters of the day. The result is a style that is universal in appeal and a remarkably comprehensive musical output, encompassing with equal artistry many different genres.

Praise God! Sing All Ye Heavens is an arrangement of the *Dona nabis pacem* section of Mozart's *Missa brevis in F, K. 129*. Composed in Salzburg in 1774, the mass was originally scored for S.A.T.B. soloists and choir, strings, and organ. To this chorus the editor has added a new English text, an 8-measure introduction, and a final "alleluia," freely adapting the chorus for S.A.B. voices and transposing it down a third

Hal H. Hopson is Director of Music at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church in Dallas. He earned music degrees from Baylor University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and has served on the church music faculties of Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, and Scarritt Graduate School in Nashville, Especially celebrated for his arrangements and editions of sacred masterworks, Hopson has over 700 publications to his credit.

