Great Sacred Music
Sunday, November 27, 2022

Johannes Cruger: Now thank we all our God
Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, London; EnglishBrass Ensemble, John Scott
Christopher Dearnley, organ

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us, to keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, of this world in the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Psalter Hymnal (Gray), 1987

Mark Hayes: Psalm 150, Praise the Lord!
Turtle Creek Chorale, Timothy Seelig
Christopher Berry, organ

Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

King James Version

Felix Mendelssohn: Thanks be to God! from Elijah
Edinburgh Festival Chorus; Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Paul Daniel
Bryn Terfel, bass-baritone

Thanks be to God,
He laveth the thirsty land!
The waters gather, they rush along; they are lifting their voices!
The stormy billows are high; their fury is mighty.
But the Lord is above them, and Almighty! Adapted from the Lutheran Bible.

William Billings: Shiloh
His Majestie's Clerkes, Paul Hillier

First Shepherd
First Angel
Lay down your crooks and quit your flocks,
Methinks I see an heavenly Host Of angels on the wing;
Let all your fears be banished hence,
Methinks I hear their cheerful notes,
Glad tidings I proclaim;
So merrily they sing.
For there is a Savior born today
And Jesus is his name.
By yonder shining star.
Seek not in courts or palaces; 
Nor royal curtains draw; 
But search the stable, 
See your God extended on the straw.  

Narrative 
Then learn from hence, ye rural swains, 
The meekness of your God, 
Who left the boundless realms of joy, 
To ransom you with blood. 

The master of the inn refused 
A more commodious place; 
Ungenerous soul of savage mold 
And destitute of grace. 

First Angel 
Exult ye oxen, low for joy, 
Ye tenants of the stall; 
Pay your obeisance; on your knees 
Unanimously fall. 

Grand Chorus 
To God the Father, Christ the Son, 
And Holy Ghost accord 
The first and last, the last and first 
Eternal praise afford. 

Then suddenly a heavenly Host 
around the shepherds throng, 
exulting in the three-fold God, 
and thus addressed their song. 

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Traditional, arr. John Bertalot: Amazing Grace 
Choirs of St. John's Cathedral, Denver, Donald Pearson 
Eric Plutz, organ 

1 Amazing grace (how sweet the sound) that saved a wretch like me! 
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see. 

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed! 

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come: 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home. 

4 The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. 

5 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease: I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace. 

6 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine; but God, who called me here below, will be forever mine. 

Author: John Newton 

Alexandre Guilmant: March on Handel's "Lift up your heads", Op. 15 
Robert Delcamp, organ 
1961/2004 Casavant organ, Opus 2654 in All Saints' Chapel, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee 

Henry Purcell: Psalm 106, "O give thanks unto the Lord" 
Cantores in Ecclesia, Michael Howard 
Geoffrey Mitchell, countertenor; Peter Hall, tenor; David Thomas, bass 

1. Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endured for ever. 
2. Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? who can shew forth all his praise? 
4. Remember me, O Lord, with the favour that thou bearest unto thy people: O visit me with thy salvation;  

5. That I may see the good of thy chosen, that I may rejoice in the gladness of thy nation, that I may glory with thine inheritance. 
46. He made them also to be pitied of all those that carried them captives. 

King James Version 

Ben Zion Shenker, arr. Hankus Netsky: Mizmor L'Dovid (Psalm 23) 
a studio orchestra, Russell Ger 
Cantor Yitzchak Meir Helfgot, voice; Itzhak Perlman, violin 

Ado-n-oy ro-i lo echor.
Al mei m'nochos y'nahaleini.

Bin-os desheh yarbitzeini
Commentary: Jeremy Thompson

J.S. Bach: *Fantasia on Komm heiliger Geist, BWV 651*
Jeremy Thompson, organ
The 1995 Casavant Freres organ at First Presbyterian Church, Charlottesville, Virginia

J.S. Bach: *Cantata 62, "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland"*
Bach Collegium Japan, Masaaki Suzuki
Yukari Nonoshita, soprano; Robin Blaze, countertenor
Makoto Sakurada, tenor; Peter Kooy, bass-baritone

**Chorus**
Now come, the gentiles' Savior,
As the Virgin's child revealed,
At this marvels all the world,
God him such birth hath ordained.

**Aria**
Admire, all ye people, this mystery's grandeur:
The highest of rulers appears to the world.

**Recitative**
Now comes from God's great majesty and throne
His one begotten Son.
The man from Judah now appears
To run his course with gladness
And us the fallen bring redemption.
O splendid light,
O sign of grace most wonderful!

**Chorale**
Praise to God, the Father, be,
Praise to God, his only Son,
Praise to God, the Holy Ghost,
Always and eternally!
Jean-Baptiste Lully: Benedictus
Le Concert Spirituel, Herve Niquet

Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel; quia visitavit et fecit redemptionem plebis suae et erexit cornu salutis nobis, in domo David pueri sui, sicut locutus est per os sanctorum, qui a saeculo sunt, prophetarum eius, salutem ex inimicis nostris, et de manu omnium, qui oderunt nos; ad faciendam misericordiam cum patribus nostris, et memorari testamenti sui sancti, iusiurandum, quod iuravit ad Abraham patrem nostrum, datum se nobis, ut sine timore, de manu inimicorum nostrum liberati, serviamus illi in sanctitate et iustitia coram ipso omnibus diebus nostris.

Et tu, puer, propheta Altissimi vocaberis: praeibis enim ante faciem Domini parare vias eius, ad dandum scientiam salutis plebi eius in remissionem peccatorum eorum, per viscera misericordiae Dei nostri, in quibus visitabit nos oriens ex alto, illuminare his, qui in tenebris et in umbra mortis sedent, ad dirigendos pedes nostros in viam pacis.

Text: Luke 1:68–79
Johann Adolf Hasse: *Salve Regina in E flat*
Musica Antiqua of Cologne, Reinhard Goebel
Barbara Bonney, soprano; Bernarda Fink, mezzo-soprano

Latin Text of the *Salve Regina*

Regina, mater misericordiae:
Vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, exsules, filii Hevae.
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes
in hac lacrimarum valle.
Eia ergo, Advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes oculos
ad nos converte.
Et Iesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui,
nobis, post hoc exsilium ostende.
O clemens: O pia: O dulcis
Virgo Maria.

English Translation of the *Salve Regina*

Queen, mother of mercy:
our life, sweetness, and hope, hail.
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you we sigh, mourning and weeping
in this valley of tears.
Turn then, our advocate,
those merciful eyes
toward us.
And Jesus, the blessed fruit of thy womb,
after our exile, show us.
O clement, O loving, O sweet
Virgin Mary.