

Oh, How Wonderful Is the Lord is an anthem of general praise and thanksgiving. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Deuteronomy 18: 15-20, Psalm 111, Mark 1: 21-28, and 1 Corinthians 8: 1-13. One basic homiletical theme is praising the Lord, whose mercy and goodness are boundless.

This anthem is comprised of three basic ideas: the A theme (e.g., mm. 5-12), which is the opening statement of praise, the B theme (e.g., mm. 22-29), which is the chorus of overlapping "hallelujahs", and the C theme (e.g., mm. 30-38), in which the hallelujahs unite in vivid dynamic contrasts. The A theme should be performed with a light but energetic legato. By contrast, the B theme should be performed slightly more detached, with each of the vocal entrances clearly heard. The energetic legato returns for the C theme. Sing this section intensively with a straighter vocal tone. Accomplish the crescendo by brightening the tone and intensifying the sound rather than by adding weight to or forcing the sound. "Hallelujah" means "Praise the Lord!" The joyous feeling of that praise should pervade the entire anthem, which should be performed with an underlying feeling of two pulses per measure.

Jay Althouse has written choral music for all levels of school and church choirs. He has over 400 choral compositions and arrangements in print. Jay received a B.S. in Music Education and an M.Ed. in Music from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

OH, HOW WONDERFUL IS THE LORD

for S.A.B. voices, accompanied*

*Words and Music by
JAY ALTHOUSE*

With an underlying feel of
two pulses per measure ($\text{J} = \text{ca. } 128\text{-}138$)

ACCOMP.

5

S. *mp* unis.

A.

B. *mp*

Oh, how won - der - ful is the Lord. He is mer - ci - ful

and a - dored. Voic - es rais - ing, ev - er pris - ing,

* Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 11545.

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11

oh, how won - der-ful is the Lord.

15 *mp*
mel.

Oh, how mar - vel - ous is the Lord. Sing His glo - ries with *mp*

18 *mp*

one ac - cord. Voic - es rais - ing, ev - er prais - ing,

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[23]

21

oh, how mar - velous is the Lord.
Hal - le - lu, hal - le -
Hal - le - lu, hal - le -

, *mf*

Hal - le - lu,

hal - le -

mf

24

lu - jah! Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah!
lu - jah! Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le -

27

Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah! Sing prais - es to the Lord.
lu, hal - le - lu - jah!

6

30

sub. **p**

Hal - le - lu

jah! Hal - le - lu

sub. **p**

sub. **p**

sub. **p**

sub. **p**

34

f

jah! Sing hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu! — Sing

f

37

prais - es to the Lord.

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41

mf unis.

Oh, how won - der-ful is the Lord. He is mer - ci - ful

mf

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50

A musical score for three voices (Soprano, Alto, Bass) and piano. The score consists of six staves. The top two staves are soprano, the middle two are alto, and the bottom two are bass. The piano part is on the far left. The music is in common time, with a key signature of four flats. Measure 50 starts with the soprano and alto singing "lu - jah!". The piano accompaniment has eighth-note chords. Measures 51-52 show the voices repeating the phrase. Measure 53 begins with the piano accompaniment. Measures 54-55 continue the vocal parts. Measure 56 begins with the piano accompaniment again. The vocal parts sing "Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le -". The piano part ends with a forte dynamic. The score is marked with a large red diagonal watermark reading "Legal Preview Requires Purchase".

lu - jah!

lu - jah! Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le -

lu - jah! Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah! Sing prais - es to the Lord.

lu, hal - le - lu - jah!

56

sub. **p**

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le -

sub. **p**

sub. **p**

sub. **p**

sub. **p**

sub. **p**

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59

lu - jah! Sing hal - le - lu - jah,

f

62

hal - le - lu! Sing prais - es to the Lord.

65

unis.

Oh, how mar - vel-ous is the Lord. Sing His glo - ries with

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A musical score for three voices (Soprano, Alto, Bass) and piano. The music is in common time, key signature of G major (two sharps). The vocal parts are written in treble, alto, and bass clefs respectively. The piano part is in bass and treble clefs.

The score consists of four systems of music:

- System 1 (Measures 68-70):** The vocal parts sing "one ac - cord. Voic - es rais - ing, ev - er prais - ing," while the piano provides harmonic support.
- System 2 (Measures 71-72):** The vocal parts sing "oh, how mar - velous is the Lord." The piano accompaniment features eighth-note patterns.
- System 3 (Measures 73-74):** The vocal parts sing "Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu, hal - le -". The piano accompaniment includes sustained notes and eighth-note chords.
- System 4 (Measures 75-76):** The vocal parts sing "lu - jah! Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le -". The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note patterns and sustained notes.

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77

Hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah!__ Sing prais - es to the Lord.

lu, hal - le - lu - jah!__

80

sub. **p**

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu -

sub. **p**

sub. **p**

molto rit.

84

jah! Sing hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu -

f

molto rit.

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12

87 *ff* *a tempo*

jah! Sing prais - es to the Lord, _____ to the Lord..

unis.

ff *a tempo*

91 *p.*

— Oh, how won - der - ful is the Lord!

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