

How Excellent Thy Name is an outstanding masterwork chorus that is edited and arranged from Handel's oratorio *Saul* by Dr. Patrick M. Liebergen. Available in three voicings for both mixed and treble choirs, it is appropriate for school concerts and festivals and for worship throughout the year.

George F. Handel was a renowned international composer of instrumental and vocal works at the end of the Baroque era. Born in Germany, he composed works in that country as well as in Italy and England. His large-scale English oratorios included many exuberant choruses for the people, which made him especially popular in England. Handel's **How Excellent Thy Name** is a very joyous chorus of exaltation which he composed in London in 1738. The text by Newburgh Hamilton celebrates the victory over Goliath and the Philistines.

The source for this edition is *George Friedrich Handel's Werke*, Volume 13, published by Breitkopf and Härtel (1862). The original has been transposed down one step. Scored originally for S.A.T.B. voices with an accompaniment of trumpets, trombones, oboes, bassoon, timpani, strings and continuo, **How Excellent Thy Name** in this edition for S.A.B., 2-part or S.S.A. voices includes a keyboard reduction of the instrumental parts as the accompaniment. Modern clefs, fermatas and tempo and dynamic indications have also been added to this publication. In addition, this arrangement is considerably shorter than Handel's original version.

For worship performances, this chorus may be especially appropriate for Christmastide, Eastertide, Ascension and Christ the King. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include John 18:33–37 and Revelation 1:4b–8. One basic homiletical theme is praising God's greatness above all earthly kings.

Patrick M. Liebergen is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin (Stout). With music degrees from St. Norbert College in DePere, Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin (Madison) and the University of Colorado (Boulder), he frequently appears throughout the country as an adjudicator and clinician. Dr. Liebergen has received choral composition awards from the Twin Cities Church Musicians' Association and the Wisconsin Choral Directors' Association, and his works are widely published and performed.

HOW EXCELLENT THY NAME

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied*

from the oratorio SAUL
GEORGE F. HANDEL (1685-1759)
Edited and arranged by
PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN

Words by
NEWBURGH HAMILTON
Adapted by P.M.L.

Joyous and rhythmic (♩ = ca. 100)

ACCOMP.

7 SOPRANO *f*
How ex - cel - lent!

ALTO *f*
How ex - cel - lent!

TENOR *f*
How ex - cel - lent!

BASS *f*
How ex - cel - lent!

7

*Also available for S.A.B. voices (#18958) and 2-part or S.S.A. voices (#18959).

© Copyright MCMXC by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.
All rights reserved. Printed in USA.

10

How ex - cel - lent thy name, O Lord,

How ex - cel - lent thy name, O Lord,

How ex - cel - lent thy name, O Lord,

How ex - cel - lent thy name, O Lord,

10

Legal Use Requires Purchase

13

in all the

in all the

in all the

in all the

13

Legal Use Requires Purchase

15 16

world is known! A-bove all

world is known! *mp* A-bove all heav'ns, O King a-dored,

world is known!

world is known!

15 16

mp

18 *cresc.*

heav'ns, O King a-dored, how you have set thy glo-rious

cresc.

how you have set thy glo-rious throne, thy glo-rious

18 *cresc.*

20 *mf*

throne, thy glo - rious throne.

mf

throne, a - bove all heav'ns, O King a - dored, O

mf

A - bove all heav'ns, O King a - dored, O King,

mf

A - bove all

20

mf

22

A - bove all heav'ns, O King a -

King a - dored.

8

how you have set thy glo - rious throne, thy glo - rious

heav'ns, O King a - dored, how you have set thy glo - rious

22

24

dored, how you have set thy glo - rious

A - bove all heav'ns, O King a - dored,

throne.

throne.

A - bove all heav'ns, O King a -

24

throne, how you have set thy glo -

how you have set thy

heav'ns, O King a - dored, how you have set thy

dored, how you have set thy

26

26

The musical score is written for a hymn. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The tempo and dynamics are not explicitly marked, but a forte (f) dynamic is indicated in several places. The lyrics are: 'dored, how you have set thy glorious A - bove all heav'ns, O King a - dored, throne. A - bove all heav'ns, O King a - throne, how you have set thy glo - how you have set thy heav'ns, O King a - dored, how you have set thy dored, how you have set thy'. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 24 and 26 indicated. A large red watermark is overlaid on the score, reading 'Preview Only' and 'Legal Use Requires Purchase'.

28 30

- rious throne!

glo - rious throne!

glo - rious throne! Hal - le -

glo - rious throne! Hal - le

28 30

lu jah,

lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

31

7810

33 *mf* Hal - le - lu -

mf Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,

mf hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,

jah, *mf* hal - le - lu -

33 *mf*

36 jah, hal - le - lu - jah, *f* hal - le - lu - jah,

f hal - le - lu - jah,

f hal - le - lu - jah,

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, *f* hal - le - lu - jah,

36 *f*

38 39

hal-le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

hal-le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

hal-le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

hal-le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

38 39

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

41

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

41

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

43

f

jah, hal - le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu-jah,

jah, hal - le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu-jah,

8 *f*

jah, hal - le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu-jah,

f

jah, hal - le - lu-jah, hal - le - lu-jah,

43

f

45

hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu -

hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu -

8 hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu -

hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu -

45

45

hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, _____

48

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

8 jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

48

51

ff jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

ff jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

ff jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

ff jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

51

7810

