

HALLELUJAH CHORUS

Music by GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL
Arranged by RUSSELL ROBINSON

Performance Notes

The “Hallelujah” chorus is from George Frideric Handel’s oratorio, the *Messiah*. (An oratorio is a sacred work, much like opera, that originally was not intended to be sung in a church.) The *Messiah* is considered one of the most popular examples of choral music from the Baroque period (1600–1750). Written by Handel in 1741 in Dublin, Ireland, it is still performed throughout the world, particularly during the Christmas and Easter seasons, although it can be performed anytime during the year. Handel’s name, like Bach’s, is synonymous with the Baroque era. Beethoven (1750–1820), one of the greatest composers of the Classical period, said: “Handel is the greatest composer who ever lived.”

Handel wrote the *Messiah* in the fall of 1741 when he was 56 years old, a mere 21 days after having suffered a stroke. The work received its premier performance in Dublin on April 13, 1742. It is said that King George II stood during the “Hallelujah” chorus when it was sung at its second London performance in 1743. Since then, it is a tradition that everyone stands when the “Hallelujah” chorus is sung. When you perform this work, it would be appropriate for the conductor to turn and motion for the audience to stand.

This arrangement has been written to make this timeless work accessible for younger or less-experienced voices. The original “Hallelujah” chorus was written for four voices—soprano, alto, tenor, and bass—and orchestra in the key of D major. In order to limit the ranges of the separate voice parts, the key was lowered in this arrangement to B-flat major, and some of the counterpoint (different moving voices) is assumed by the piano. The piano reduction was also written so that, with some practice, it will be relatively easy for most pianists to play while still capturing the flavor and majesty of this work.

I do hope you will enjoy singing this masterpiece by Handel.



HALLELUJAH CHORUS

Three-Part Mixed, accompanied

Music by GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL
 Arranged by RUSSELL ROBINSON (ASCAP)

Performance time: approx. 4:00

Maestoso (♩ = ca. 92)

PART I

PART II

PART III

ACCOMP.

Maestoso (♩ = ca. 92)

f

4

f

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

f

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

f

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

4

8

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

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

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

8

12

lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! For the Lord

lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! For the Lord

lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! For the Lord

12

God om - ni - po - tent reign - eth. Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

God om - ni - po - tent reign - eth. Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

God om - ni - po - tent reign - eth. Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! For the Lord God om - ni - po - tent

lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! For the Lord God om - ni - po - tent

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

reign - eth. Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

reign - eth. 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 - jah!

This system contains three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in a B-flat major key signature. The lyrics are: "reign - eth. Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!". The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line.

22 *(f)* For the Lord God om - ni - po - tent

mf Hal - le -

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

22 *f*

This system starts at measure 22. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "For the Lord God om - ni - po - tent" followed by "Hal - le -" and "Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal -". The piano accompaniment includes dynamic markings *f* and *mf*.

mf 25

reign - eth. Hal-le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu -

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

le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! *f* For the Lord

25 (*mf*) *f*

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

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

God om - ni - po - tent reign - eth. Hal-le - lu - jah! *mf*

mf

29

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

lu - jah! Hal-le-lu - jah! *f* For the Lord

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

29

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

God om - ni - po - tent reign - eth. Hal-le-lu - jah!

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

f

mp 34

le - lu - jah! The king - dom of this

mp

Hal - le - lu - jah! The king - dom of this

mp

lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! The king - dom of this

mp 34

f

world is be - come the

f

world is be - come the

f

world is be - come the

f

38

king - dom of our Lord and of his Christ, and of his
 king - dom of our Lord and of his Christ, and of his
 king - dom of our Lord and of his Christ, and of his

38

41

Christ; and
 Christ; and he shall reign for - ev - er and ev - er,
 Christ;

41

he shall reign for - ev - er and ev -

for - ev - er and ev - er, and he shall

This system contains two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in a soprano and alto register. The piano accompaniment is in the right and left hands. The lyrics are: "he shall reign for - ev - er and ev -" on the first line, and "for - ev - er and ev - er, and he shall" on the second line.

46 ver, and he shall reign for - ev - er and

reign, and he shall reign for - ev - er, for -

46 and he shall reign for - ev - er and

This system contains two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts continue from the previous system. The piano accompaniment continues. The lyrics are: "46 ver, and he shall reign for - ev - er and" on the first line, "reign, and he shall reign for - ev - er, for -" on the second line, and "46 and he shall reign for - ev - er and" on the third line.

ev - er, and he shall reign for -
 ev - er and ev - er, for - ev - er and ev - er, for -
 ev - er, and he shall

ev - er and ev - er, for - ev - er and
 ev - er and ev - er, King of kings
 reign for - ev - er and ev - er, for - ev - er and

52 *mf*
 52 *f*
mf
mf

55 *(mf)*
 ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and
(f)
 and Lord of lords,
(mf)
 ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and

55 *f* *mf*

58 *f*
 ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! King of kings
mf
 for - ev - er and
mf
 ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and

58 *f* *mf*

(*f*) 61

and Lord of lords,

(*mf*)

ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and

(*mf*)

ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and

f *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains the first three staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line starting with a whole note rest, followed by the lyrics 'and Lord of lords,'. The second and third staves are vocal lines with lyrics 'ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and'. The piano accompaniment is on the bottom two staves, featuring chords and a bass line. Dynamic markings include *f* and *mf*. A box containing the number 61 is located above the first measure of the piano accompaniment.

64

King of kings

ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and

ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and

f *mf*

64

Detailed description: This system contains the next three staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with a whole note rest, followed by the lyrics 'King of kings'. The second and third staves are vocal lines with lyrics 'ev - er, Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! for - ev - er and'. The piano accompaniment is on the bottom two staves, featuring chords and a bass line. Dynamic markings include *f* and *mf*. A box containing the number 64 is located above the first measure of the piano accompaniment, and another box with the number 64 is located above the final measure of the piano accompaniment.

67

and Lord of lords,

ev - er, Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! King of

ev - er, Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! King of

f

f

67

69

and Lord of lords, and he shall reign, and he shall reign for - ev -

kings and Lord of lords, and he shall

kings and Lord of lords, and he shall reign for - ev - er and

mf

mf

f

69

f 72

ver, and he shall reign for - ev - er and ev -

reign, and he shall reign for - ev - er and ev -

mf

ev - er, and he shall reign for - ev - er and ev -

72

75 *mf*

er, for - ev - er and ev - er,

f *mf* *f*

er, King of kings, for - ev - er and ev - er, and Lord of

er, King of kings and Lord of

75 *mf*

f

79

Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! and he shall reign for - ev - er, for -
 lords, Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! and he shall reign for -
 lords, _____ and he shall reign for - ev - er, for

79

82

ev - er and ev - er, King of _____ kings and Lord of _____
 ev - er and ev - er, King of _____ kings and Lord of _____
 ev - er and ev - er, King of _____ kings and Lord of _____

82

85

lords! King of kings and Lord of lords! and

lords! King of kings and Lord of lords! and

lords! King of kings and Lord of lords! and he shall

88

he shall reign for - ev - er and ev - er, King of

he shall reign for - ev - er and ev - er, for-ev-er and

reign for - ev - er and ev - er and ev - er, for-ev-er and

88

90

kings and Lord of lords! Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-
 ev-er, for-ev-er and ev-er, Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-
 ev-er, for-ev-er and ev-er, Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-

90

93

subito ritard. al fine

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

93

subito ritard. al fine

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