

TATEV AMIRYAN

Praise the LORD

For mezzo-soprano and piano

Text from Psalm 148

Approximate duration: 5 min.

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PROGRAM NOTES

The piece is a musical interpretation of the Psalm 148 “Praise the LORD” from a new perspective. In the piece, the text has a major importance and plays structurally essential role in the musical form. With its ascetic and restrained character and strictly metrical setting the vocal part resembles Armenian monophonic chants (Sharagans) used in the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Apostolic Church. The syllabic and somewhat recitational text setting is designed to emphasize the text and to highlight its meaning. The theme in the vocal part is based on a scale of diminished 4th and it incorporates the decoration style typical to vocal melodies of Armenian sacred music. The piano part, with its static nature, light texture, and simple melodic setting, is designed to provide a supporting background for the vocal line and to highlight the leading role of the text in the piece.

Psalm 148

King James Version (KJV)

Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights.

Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts.

Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light.

Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created.

He hath also stablished them for ever and ever: he hath made a decree which shall not pass.

{Praise the LORD from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps:

Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling his word:

Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars:

Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl:}

Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth:

{Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children:}

Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven.

He also exalteth the horn of his people, the praise of all his saints; even of the children of Israel, a people near unto him. Praise ye the LORD.

Text from Psalm 148
(King James Version)

Praise the LORD

For mezzo-soprano and piano

2019

Larghetto ♩ = 75

TATEV AMIRYAN

Maestoso

breathy tone, very little vibrato

rit.

Mezzo-Soprano

Mezzo-Soprano: Rests in measures 1-5.

Piano: *con pedale*, *p* in measure 1, *mp* in measure 3, *p* in measure 5.

Mezzo

6 *mp* *a tempo*

Mezzo: Praise-the - LORD. Praise-the - LORD from the hea - vens:

Pno.

Piano: *mp*

Mezzo

11 *mf*

Mezzo: — praise him in the heights. — Praise him, — praise him all his

Pno.

Piano: *mf*

Praise the LORD

2

16

Mezzo

an-gels: _____ praise him, all his hosts. _____ Praise him, _____

Pno.

21

Mezzo

_____ praise him sun and moon: _____ praise him, all ye stars of light. _____

Pno.

25

Mezzo

Praise him, ye hea - vens of hea - vens, _____ and wa - ters - that be a - bove the

Pno.

Praise the LORD

28 *f*

Mezzo
heavens _____ Let them praise the name of the LORD,

Pno.

31 *mf*

Mezzo
praise the name of the LORD: for he com-mand-ed, _____ and they were cre-

Pno.

35

Mezzo
a - ted. _____ He hath al - so stab-lished them for e - ver and e - ver: _____ he hath made

Pno.

Praise the LORD

4

poco piu mosso ♩ = 90

Mezzo

39 *f* *mp*

a de-cree which shall not pass.

Pno.

Mezzo

45 *accel.*

Pno.

Mezzo

51 *rit.* *mf*

Kings of the earth, and all peo - ple;

Pno.

56

Mezzo

prin-ces and all jud-ges of the earth: Let them praise the name of the LORD,

Pno.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 56 through 59. The Mezzo voice part begins with a series of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by a half note in the second measure, and continues with eighth notes in the third and fourth measures. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line with quarter and eighth notes in the left hand. A fermata is placed over the final note of the piano part in measure 59.

60

Mezzo

Praise the name of the LORD: _____ for his name a-lone is ex - ce-lent;

Pno.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 60 through 63. The Mezzo voice part starts with eighth notes in measure 60, followed by a half note in measure 61, and continues with eighth notes in measures 62 and 63. The piano accompaniment maintains the eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A fermata is placed over the final note of the piano part in measure 63.

64

Mezzo

his glo - ry _____ is _____ a - bove the earth and hea - ven. _____ He al - so ex - al - teth

Pno.

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 64 through 67. The Mezzo voice part begins with a half note in measure 64, followed by eighth notes in measure 65, and continues with eighth notes in measures 66 and 67. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A fermata is placed over the final note of the piano part in measure 67. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present at the beginning of the piano part in measure 64.

Praise the LORD

6

Mezzo

69

the horn of his peo - ple, the praise of all his saints;

Pno.

69

Detailed description: This system contains measures 69-72. The Mezzo part is in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat. It features a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, some with slurs. The Pno. part is in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and features a harmonic accompaniment with long, sweeping slurs across measures, primarily using half and quarter notes.

Mezzo

73

allargando
cresc.

e-ven of the chil-dren of Is-ra-el, a peo - ple ne-ar un-to him. Praise the LORD.

Pno.

73

Detailed description: This system contains measures 73-77. The Mezzo part continues the melodic line, ending with a phrase marked *allargando* and *cresc.* The Pno. part continues with a similar harmonic accompaniment style, featuring long slurs and a steady accompaniment.

Mezzo

78

ff *a tempo* *f*

Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD.

Pno.

78

f *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 78-81. The Mezzo part features a phrase marked *ff* and *a tempo*, followed by another phrase marked *f*. The Pno. part features a phrase marked *f* and another marked *mf*. The accompaniment continues with long slurs and a steady harmonic support.

Praise the LORD

84 *mf rit. dim. p*

Mezzo

the LORD.

84 *mp p pp*

Pno.