Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

1. Lo, He comes with clouds descending,
    Thou, thousand saints at attend ing,
    Swell the triumph of his
    Al-le-lu-ia!

2. Ev'ry eye shall now be
    Radi-culed and sold him,
    Pierced and nailed him to the
    Deep-ly wail ing,

3. Those dear to kens of his
    End-less ex-ulta tion
    To his ran-somed wor-ship
    With what won-der,

4. Yea, A-men, let all a-
    Knee shall bow be-fore you;
    Come and take your peo-ple;
    Al-le-lu-ia!

Scend ing, Once for ev'ry
    Held him Ro bed in glo ri ous
    Swell the tri umph of his
    Al-le-lu-ia!

Pasion Still his daz zling
    The tri umph of his
    To his ran-somed wor-ship
    Al-le-lu-ia!

dore you High on your e-
    And taken your peo-ple
    And taken your peo-ple
    Al-le-lu-ia!

Sinner slain. Thou sand,
    Those who
    Those who
    With what won-der,

Maj es ty; Maj es ty;
    Cause of
    Cause of
    Home!

Bod y bears,
    Ev'ry
    Ev'ry
    Al-le-lu-ia!
ADVENT

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Tune: HELMSLEY (87 87 12 7)
Setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, alt.
Descant: J. S. Bakken, b. 1981 © 2006 J. S. Bakken. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The text by Charles Wesley was originally titled “Thy Kingdom Come” and was designated for the second Sunday in Advent.

The tune, HELMSLEY, is named after a small village in Yorkshire where one of Wesley’s closest friends lived and served a parish. The English hymn tune is attributed to Thomas Olivers. Legend says that the tune was based on a snatch of melody Olivers heard someone whistle in the street. The harmonization is by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Singing the Hymn

This hymn should move forward in two beats per measure. The hymn might be sung in alternation, with the choir singing stanzas 1 and 3 and the congregation singing stanzas 2 and 4. Additional variety can be provided by using the instrumental descant found in this edition or by accompanying the hymn using the brass parts found on the Accompaniment CD-ROM.

Accompaniment CD-ROM Resources

Brass parts—Trumpets I & II, Trombones I (Horn) & II
Descant in C and B♭