

# Hosanna to the highest

Anonymous

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)  
ed. Raymond Nagem

The musical score consists of two staves: Bass (bottom) and Continuo (top). The Continuo staff uses a bass clef and a bass staff, while the Bass staff also uses a bass clef. Both staves are in common time and key signature of B-flat major (two flats). The score includes lyrics in a mix of English and Latin, with some words written in small print. Measure numbers 5, 8, and 11 are indicated above the staves.

Bass      Continuo

5  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na to the highest. Joy be - tide, Ho - san - na, ho -

8  
-san - na to the high-est. Joy be-tide the heav'n-ly bridegroom and his ho - ly

11  
bride. Let heav'n a - bove, let heav'n a - bove be fill'd, be fill'd with

13  
songs, let earth triumph be-low, let earth triumph be-low; for ev - er si - -

The only surviving source for this song is a copy made after Purcell's death. The extraordinary dissonances in m. 6 are present in this copy; a more conventional composer might have written:



Time signature original; barring, beaming, slurring, spelling, and punctuation standardized and regularized. Editorial accidentals in small print. Continuo realization editorial.

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16

- lent be those tongues that can, that can be si-lent now.

You rocks and stones, I charge you all to break, I charge,

I charge you all to break your flint -

y si-lence, your flint -

y si-lence if men cease to speak, if men cease to speak, to speak, to speak, to speak;

you that possess the sa-cred art, you that possess

35

— the sa - cred art \_\_\_\_\_ or now or nev - er, nev-er show it, nev-er,

nev - - - er show it, plead, plead,

— not your Muse is out of heart, plead, plead.

— not your Muse is out of heart: here's that cre - ates, cre -

Be ravish'd, earth, to  
- ates, here's that cre - ates, cre - ates a po - et. Be ravish'd, earth,

see this con - tract driv - en 'twixt sin - ful

to see this con - tract driv'n 'twixt sin - ful men and re - con -

50

men and re - con - cil - ed heav'n. Dismount, you quire,  
dismount, you  
-cil'd, and re - con - cil - ed heav'n. Dismount, you quire\_\_\_\_\_

quire\_\_\_\_\_ of an - - gels, come, with men, come, with  
\_\_\_\_ of an - - gels, come, with men, you quire of an - gels, come, with

54

men your joys divide; heav'n nev - er show'd, heav'n nev - er show'd\_\_\_\_  
men your joys di-vide; heav'n nev - er show'd, heav'n nev - er

56

so sweet a bride - groom, nor earth so fair, so fair a  
show'd so sweet a bridegroom, nor earth so fair, so fair a

59

bride, nor earth so fair a bride, so fair a bride.  
bride, nor earth so fair a bride, so fair a bride.