

Blessed Are They That Hearken

for SATB choir & soloist

by

Michael Knopf

**Text from the
Holy Writings
of
Baha'u'llah**

c.1996

BLESSED ARE THEY THAT HEARKEN

SLOWLY

Text: Baha'u'llah

Music: Michael Knopf 1996

Tenor solo - Like a recitative (i.e. at will)

The musical score is written for a SATB choir and a Tenor Soloist (TS). It begins with a Tenor solo line in treble clef, marked *mp*, with the lyrics "Blessed is he who di-rec-teth his steps". Below this are staves for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The Tenor staff has a box labeled "Always Stagger-breathing" and the vocalization "Ah". The Bass staff also has "Ah". The Tenor Soloist (TS) staff continues with the lyrics "towards the Mash-ri-qul Adh-kar at the hour of dawn." Below this is a section for the SATB choir, with a box containing the instruction "All div.to 2 groups and repeat randomly" and the lyrics "of dawn of dawn" repeated for each voice part. The Tenor Soloist (TS) staff then has the lyrics "com-mu-ning with Him, at-tuned to His re-mem-brance". The SATB choir staves are marked with a slash, indicating they are silent during this section.



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In Time/slowly

3

TS im- ploring His for- give- ness And ha- ving en- tered there- in,

S Ah

A Ah

T Ah

B Ah

Boxes - 2 voices from each part repeating notes together

TS let him sit in si- lence to hear- ken un- to the

S

A

T

B

A Little Faster

TS ver- ses of God, the Sove- reign,

S hear- ken hear- ken ...Sove- reign ...hear- ken

A hear- ken hear- ken ...Sove- reign ...hear- ken

T hear- ken hear- ken ...Sove- reign

B hear- ken

2 ...Sove- reign

Andante

17 Soprano solo

TS the Al- migh-ty the All- Praised. And

S the Al- (Ah)

A the Al- (Ah)

T the Al- (Ah)

B the Al- (Ah) (Ah)

SS *mp* those who chant... ..who chant ...who chant... And

S *p* ...those who chant...

A *p* ...those who chant...

T *p* ...those who chant...

B *p* ...those who chant...

SS those who chant the ver- ses of the Mer- ci- ful Ah ...the ver- ses in

S who chant who chant who chant who chant

A who chant who chant who chant who chant

T ...who chant... who chant who chant who chant who chant

B ...who chant... who chant who chant who chant who chant

Accelerando poco a poco e Crescendo.....

27

SS most mel- o-di-ous of tones will at- tain there- by unto

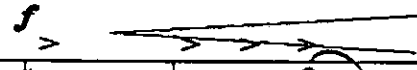
S who chant who chant who chant who chant who chant who chant

A who chant who chant who chant who chant who chant who chant

T who chant who chant who chant who chant who chant who chant

B

Crescendo.....



Rallentando

SS that which the king- doms of earth and hea- ven **MOLTO DIMINUENDO**

S who chant king- doms of earth and hea- ven can never com- pare.

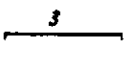
A who chant king- doms of earth and hea- ven can ne- ver compare.

T who chant king- doms of earth and hea- ven can never com- pare.

B

chant... ..king- doms of earth and hea- ven can ne- ver *ppp*

30



TS *pp* And they will in- hale there- from the fra- grance of my realms which none dis-

S Ah *p*

A Ah

TS
-cer-neth in this day save those who have been granted vi-sion

S

A

T

B

cresc.

38

TS
by this sub-lime Beau-ty

S
cresc. Say,

A
(Ah)

T
mp (Ah)

B
(Ah)

42 Soprano solo

SS
A few voices sing
"Say," on pitch and
prolong and repeat

S
Say, Say, *mp* Ah

A
Say Say, *mp* Ah

T
mp Ah

B
mp Ah

5

Ah

AT WILL

SS verses of the Mer-ci-ful up-lift the stain-less hearts un-to those realms of the spi-rit which

S (AH)----

A (AH)----

T (AH)----

B (AH)----

A Tempo

SS can-not be des-cribed in words or ex-pressed in symbols.

S

A

T

B

2-3 Voices in unison/8ves ON ₃ CUE & REPEAT (as desired) **HOLD VERY LONG & FADE OUT**

mp Bles-sed are they that hear-ken. *pppp*

S *mp* Ah

A *mp* Ah

T *mp* Ah

B *mp* Ah

After breathing, each singer is to sing "Blessed" on pitch and change the vowel gradually to "Ah".

1 or 2 Tenors sing harmonic overtones up and down on designated pitches in succession.