

The Beatitudes: A Song of the Blessed

A RESPONSORIAL SETTING BY ALAN WILSON

This setting of the Beatitudes (in the version from Matthew 5 as provided in *Common Worship*) might form part of a congregation's preparation for Holy Communion, particularly during Lent (see the *Common Worship* main volume, pages 161-165). During a Service of the Word it could function as a canticle. In *Common Worship: Daily Prayer*, for example, 'A Song of the Blessed' is the suggested canticle between Old and New Testament readings during Evening Prayer on

Wednesdays, but it would also be suitable for other services, including those attended by candidates preparing for baptism.

In performing the canticle, the congregation is invited to join the choral group or cantor in singing the refrain, which starts the piece and returns after each verse in turn. Note that Section B contains both verse 1 and 3, so the running order should be as follows: A - B (v.1) - A - C - A - B (v.3) - A - D - A - E - A.

Alan Wilson

A
With positive energy

Optional descant for last time

REFRAIN *f*
Re - joice and be glad! Re - joice!

Choir and Congregation
Re - joice and be glad for you are the light of the world, and

A *f*
With positive energy

Organ or piano *f*
Small notes only on repeats of Refrain

and be glad! Great is your re - ward in heaven.

great is your re - ward in heaven, your re - ward in heaven.

Fine

Fine

B

VERSE 1 (Cantor or choral group)

p Gently

Bless-ed are the poor in spi - rit, for theirs is the king - dom of heaven.

VERSE 3 (Cantor or choral group)

mf

Bless-ed are the mer - ci - ful, for they shall ob - tain mer - cy.

B Gently

p (mf)

(VERSE 1)

Bless-ed are those who mourn, for they shall be com - for - ted.

Repeat Refrain

(VERSE 3)

Bless-ed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Repeat Refrain

Repeat Refrain

C

VERSE 2 (SATB unaccompanied or doubled by organ/piano)

mf

Bless - ed are the meek, for they shall in - he - rit the

earth. Bless - ed are those who hun - ger and thirst af - ter

Repeat Refrain

right - eous - ness, for they shall be sa - tis - fied.

D

VERSE 4 (SATB unaccompanied or doubled by organ/piano)

Bless - ed are the peace - ma - kers, for they shall be called
 child - ren of God. Bless - ed are those who suf - fer per - se - cu - tion for
 right - eous - ness' sake, for theirs is the king - dom of hea - ven.

p *cresc.* *f* *Repeat Refrain*

E GLORIA

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit; as it

mf *cresc.* *f*

E GLORIA

was in the be - gin - ning is now and shall be for e - ver. A - men.

mf *cresc.* *f* *Repeat Refrain to finish*

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