

## PROGRAM NOTES

"After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, " 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'"

Revelation 7:9–10

The Magnificat antiphon *O quam gloriosum est regnum* provides an earthly impression of the great heavenly gathering where all are united, having shed the human boundaries imposed upon one another in the former world. Intoned by a chord cluster on bells or keyboard, a soloist or several voices chant, "O how glorious is the kingdom", as if in awe of John's description of the angelic scene. The intensity grows each time this text reappears. The 4-part sections aim to convey a sense of earthly longing for a time when true unity will be realized. The anthem concludes with a final quiet statement of the text, "O how glorious is the kingdom."

—Fred Gramann

Bells Used: 4 (1 octave)



TEXT

O how glorious is the kingdom in which all the saints rejoice with Christ.  
(*O quam gloriosum est regnum.*)  
Arrayed in white robes, they follow the Lamb.

Magnificat antiphon  
2nd vespers  
All Saints

### AVAILABLE EDITIONS

- Score 8862  
Handbell Part 8862A

**Fred Gramann (b. 1950)**

For biographical information visit:  
[www.ecspublishing.com/composers.html](http://www.ecspublishing.com/composers.html)

Dedicated to my friend and colleague, Vernon Williams

# O How Glorious Is the Kingdom

*(O quam gloriosum est regnum)*

for SATB Chorus, with optional Handbells or Keyboard

Magnificat antiphon

2nd vespers

All Saints

Fred Gramann

**Free** ♩ = ca. 60**mf** Soprano Solo or SectionSoprano  
Alto

\* O how glo - ri - ous\_ is the king - dom, O how  
\* O quam glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum, O quam

Tenor  
Bass

Handbells  
or  
Keyboard  
(optional)

**mf**

rit.

glo - ri - ous is the king - dom.  
glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum.

S **mp** *a tempo*

A O how glo - rious is the

O how glo - rious is the

king - dom in which all the saints re - joice, O how

king - dom in which all the saints re - joice, O how

**mf**

\* English lyrics may replace the Latin lyrics throughout.

10

rit.

glo - rious is the king - dom in which all the saints re - joice with  
glo - rious is the king - dom in which all the saints re - joice with

13

*a tempo*

*f*

Christ. O how glo - ri - ous is the king - dom, O how  
O quam glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum, O quam  
Christ. O how glo - ri - ous is the king - dom, O how  
O quam glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum, O quam

16

*rit.*

*a tempo*

*mp*

glo - ri - ous is the king - dom. Ar - rayed in  
glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum.  
glo - ri - ous is the king - dom. Ar - rayed in  
glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum.

*mp*

19

white robes, they fol - low the Lamb. Ar - rayed in  
white robes, they fol - low the Lamb. Ar - rayed in

23

white robes they fol - low the Lamb. O how  
white robes they fol - low the Lamb. O how

*rit.* *a tempo*

26

glo - ri - ous is the king - dom, O how glo - ri - ous is the king -  
glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum, O quam glo - ri - o - sum est re -

glo - ri - ous is the king - dom, O how glo - ri - ous is the king -  
glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum, O quam glo - ri - o - sum est re -

*rit.* *3*

*mp*

6

**Slightly slower**

*29 Soprano Solo or Soli*

A musical score in G major with a key signature of one sharp. The time signature changes between common time (4/4) and three-quarter time (3/4). The lyrics "O how glorious is the kingdom in which" are written below the notes. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth note patterns.

Slightly slower

*p*

dom.  
gnum.

dom.  
gnum.

dom.  
gnum.

3

Musical notation for the lyrics "all the saints rejoice, O how glorious is the". The notation consists of two staves of music. The first staff starts with a dotted half note followed by eighth notes. The second staff begins with a quarter note. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Musical score page 10, measures 100-101. The top staff is in treble clef, 3/4 time, and G major (indicated by a sharp sign). The bottom staff is in bass clef, 3/4 time, and G major. Measure 100 starts with a dotted half note followed by a sixteenth-note pattern. Measure 101 begins with a sixteenth-note pattern followed by eighth notes.

35

rit.

*a tempo*  
end Solo

king - dom in which all the saints\_ re-joice with Christ.

*a tempo*  
*unis. mp*

O how  
O quam

*unis. mp*

O how  
O quam

*mp*

38

*p*

glo - ri - ous is the king - dom, O how

glo - ri - o - sum est re gnum, O quam

glo - ri - ous is the king - dom, O how

glo - ri - o - sum est re gnum, O quam

*rit.*

40

glo - ri - ous is the king - dom, O how

glo - ri - o - sum est re gnum.

glo - ri - ous is the king - dom, O how

glo - ri - o - sum est re gnum.

*rit.*