

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

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 Section

Soprano
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

4 *rit.* 3 *a tempo* **mp** S **mp** A

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

mp

O how glo - rious is the

mp

7 **mf**

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.

19

mf

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

mf

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

23

rit. *a tempo*

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

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

mf

26

mp *rit.* 3

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 -

mp 3

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 -

mp

Slightly slower

29 Soprano Solo or Soli

O how glo - rious is the king - dom in which

Slightly slower

dom.
gnum.

oo

dom.
gnum.

oo

p

32 all the saints re - joice, O how glo - rious is the

oo

oo

35 *rit.* *a tempo*
end Solo
 king - dom in which all the saints re-joice with Christ.

rit. *a tempo*
unis. mp
 oo O how

unis. mp
 O quam
 O how
 O quam

mp

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

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

40 *rit.*
 3
 glo - ri - ous is the king - dom.
 glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum.

3
 glo - ri - ous is the king - dom.
 glo - ri - o - sum est re - gnum.