

Commissioned and first performed by the BBC Northern Singers, Manchester, 1989,
for Stephen Wilkinson on his 70th birthday

The spacious firmament

Joseph Addison (1672–1719)

ALAN BULLARD

With mystery but with clarity $\text{♩} = c.60$ ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}$ throughout) *p legato*

SOPRANO 1
With a...
p legato

SOPRANO 2
With all the blue
p legato

ALTO 1
e - the -
p legato

ALTO 2
e - the - real
p legato

TENOR 1
-ma - ment on high,
p legato

TENOR 2
-ma - me...
p legato

BASS 1
The spa - cious fir -
p legato

BASS 2
The spa -
p legato

for rehearsal only
p legato
Ped.

The vowels in all incomplete words or syllables should be pronounced in the same way as in the adjacent voice. For example, 'a...' in Soprano 1, b. 5 should be pronounced as in the word 'all', as sung by Soprano 2.

8 *mp*
 Their gre...

mp
 Their great O - ri-

mp
 Their great O - ri - gi - na...

mp
 sky, Their great O - ri - gi - nal pro - claim.

mp *p*
 And span-gled heav'ns, a shin - ing frame, Th'un -

mp *p*
 And span-gled heav'ns, a shi... Th'un -

mp *p*
 And span-gled hea... Th'un -

mp *p*
 And spa... Th'un -

mp *p*

15

S.1/2 *unis. p* *mp*
Th'un - wea - - - ried_ Sun from day_ to day Does

A.1/2 *unis. p* *mp*
Th'un - wea - - - ried_ Sun from day_ to day Does

T.1/2 *unis.*
- wea - - - ried_ Sun from day_ to day

B.1/2 *unis.*
- wea - - - ried_ Sun from day_ to day

22

mf *p* *lightly dancing*
his Cre - a - - - tor's pow'r_ dis - play; And pub - lish - es to ev - 'ry

mf *p* *lightly dancing*
his Cre - a - - - tor's pow'r_ dis - play; And pub - lish - es to ev - 'ry

mp *mf* *p* *lightly dancing*
Does his Cre - a - - - tor's pow'r dis-play; And pub - lish - es to ev - 'ry

mp *mf* *p* *lightly dancing*
Does his Cre - a - - - tor's pow'r dis-play; And pub - lish - es to ev - 'ry

28 *f* (♩ = ♩)

land The work of an Al - might - - - - - y

land The work of an Al - might - - - - - y

land The work of an Al - might - - - - - y

land The work of an Al - might - - - - - y

33 *p* *f* *p*

hand, an Al - might - - - - - y hand, an Al - might - -

hand, an Al - might - - - - - y hand, an Al - might - -

hand, an Al - might - - - - - y hand, an Al - might - -

hand, an Al - might - - - - - y hand, an Al - might - -

38 *ff*
 - - y, might - y Al - might - y hand, an Al - might - y
ff
 - - y, might - y Al - might - y hand, an Al - might - y
ff
 - - y, might - y Al - might - y hand, an Al - might - y
ff
 - - y, might - y Al - might - y hand, an Al - might - y

43 *sfz* *p*
 hand. Soon the shades
sfz *p*
 hand. as eve - ning pre - vail,
p *pp* *p*
 an Al - might - y hand. The
p *pp* *p*
 an Al - might - y hand.
 RH
 Ped. _____

49

p And night - ly

p And night - ly

mp Moon takes up the won - drous tale; *pp* the

pp Moon, *(pp)* the Moon, Moon

53

mf to the list - 'ning Earth Re - peats the sto - ry of her

mf to the list - 'ning Earth Re - peats the sto - ry of her

p Moon *mf* Re - peats the sto - ry, the sto - ry of her

p Re - peats the sto - ry, the sto - ry of her