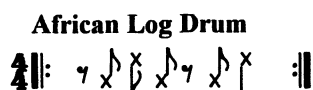
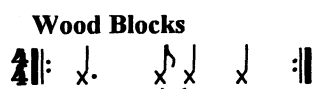


African Psalm is a free adaptation of a folk song from Kenya with a new text adapted from the Psalms by Patrick M. Liebergen. It is inspired by the African traditions of call and response and improvising layered textures. Call and response is evident in mm. 12-19, 20-28 and 44-51, in which the soloist or section sings a musical idea and the choir responds. The layering of the choral texture by section (baritone first, followed by soprano and alto respectively) occurs in mm. 60-71, creating an improvisational effect.

Additional layering effects are created by the addition of both flute and percussion instruments (optional). A flute part is included in the choral score (please see p. 12). One or more percussion instruments may be improvised freely. A full performance/accompaniment cassette (available separately, No. 11879) employs four percussion instruments, alternating full sections of percussion writing with solo sections that gradually thicken through the "layering in" of additional instruments. The rhythms played by each instrument are simple 1-measure repeated patterns, as follows:



The introduction (mm. 1-7) is intended to be sung unaccompanied, slowly and very freely. Directors may wish to assign this section to a solo voice or small vocal ensemble. It may also be performed by keyboard only, or omitted entirely, beginning the performance at m. 8. In mm. 60-78, the baritones should pronounce the traditional African syllable "Io" as "Yo."

In rehearsal, strive for precise diction and a light but intensive choral tone. Caution the choir against singing too loudly or heavily, which will result in sloppy rhythms and poor intonation. Beginning at m. 8, practice the anthem on staccato "doo" until rhythmic precision is achieved. In performance, sing with a legato articulation imbued with all of the energy of the staccato.

African Psalm is intended for performance by both school and church choirs. Appropriate for worship throughout the general church year, at Ascension, Eastertide and Christ the King Sunday, it may be coordinated with the following lectionary readings: Exodus 15: 1-2, Psalms 96, 98 and 100, Isaiah 12 and John 1: 1-14. One basic homiletical theme is singing joyful songs of praise to the God of all nations whose power and glory are boundless.

Patrick M. Liebergen is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin (Stout) and Director of the Chancel Choir at United Methodist Church, Menomonie, Wisconsin. With music degrees from St. Norbert College in DePere, Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin (Madison), and the University of Colorado (Boulder), Dr. Liebergen frequently appears throughout the country as an adjudicator and clinician. His choral editions, arrangements and original works are widely published. Dr. Liebergen was the 1988 winner of the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association Composition Competition and the 1990 winner of the Anthem Contest sponsored by the Twin Cities Church Musicians Association.

AFRICAN PSALM

for S.A.B. voices, accompanied,*
with optional flute and percussion**

Words adapted from the Psalms by
PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN

Arranged from a Kenyan folksong by
PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN

Slowly, freely (♩ = ca. 112 - 116)
f (opt. solo or small ensemble)

SOPRANO
ALTO

Lift your voices to God with sing - ing!

BARITONE

Slowly, freely (♩ = ca. 112 - 116)
f † (opt. accompaniment mm. 1 - 7)

ACCOMP.

5

poco rit.

8 Lightly and energetically
(♩ = ca. 126 - 138)

Praise the Lord with a joy - ful song!

Lightly and energetically
(♩ = ca. 126 - 138)

poco rit.

(play)
f (+ flute)

* Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 16024, and 2-Part (treble) voices, No. 16026.

A full performance/accompaniment CD is available separately, No. 11879.

** Flute part may be found on page 12. Percussion may be freely improvised (please see the performance notes).

† Mm. 1-7 may be performed very freely by either an accompanist alone or by an unaccompanied soloist or choir.

9

12 UNISON WOMEN OR SOLO

f

Lift your voic - es to God with sing - ing! Praise the Lord_ with a

(- flute)

15 (end solo) *f* S.

A. joy - ful song. Lift your voic - es to God with sing - ing!

B. *f*

(+ flute)

18 20 *mf* *unis.*

Praise the Lord— with a joy - ful song! Cel - e-brate!— He is

21

Lord for-ev - er! Glo - ry be— to the might - y King!

24 *mf* *cresc.*

Cel - e-brate!— He is Lord for-ev - er!

mf (- flute)

Ev - 'ry-bod - y re-
cresc.

cresc.

27

28 *f*

joice and sing! Lift your voices to God with sing - ing!

30

sub. mp

Praise the Lord — with a joy - ful song! Lift your voices to

sub. mp

mp

33

God with sing - ing! Praise the Lord — with a joy - ful song!

16025

36 *mf* (+flute)

39

42 UNISON WOMEN OR SOLO *mf* 44

Shout with joy — to the

45 (end solo)

Lord who made — us; God cre-at - ed the earth and sky!

48 S. (*mf*)
A. Shout with joy__ to the Lord who made__ us; Raise your hands__ to the
B. *mf*

51 Lord on high! Lift your voices to God with sing - ing!
52 *f*

54 Praise the Lord__ with a joy - ful song! Lift your voices to
sub. *mp*
sub. *mp*
mp

57



God with sing - ing! Praise the Lord with a joy - ful song!



60



mf

* Io, o, — al - le - lu - ia! Io, o, — sing

(- flute)

mf

SOPRANO ONLY

63



mf

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

al - le - lu! Io, o, — al - le - lu - ia!

66

SOPRANO *cresc.*

ALTO *mf cresc.*

Ev - 'ry-bod - y sing al - le - lu! Al - le - lu - ia,

Io, o, — sing al - le - lu! Io, o, —

69

al - le - lu - ia! Ev - 'ry-bod - y sing al - le - lu!

al - le - lu - ia! Io, o, — sing al - le - lu!

72

f Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ev - 'ry-bod - y sing

f Io, o, — al - le - lu - ia! Io, o, — sing

16025

75

sub. *mp* *cresc.*

al - le - lu! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

sub. *mp* *cresc.*

al - le - lu! Io, o, — al - le - lu - ia!

mp (+ flute) *cresc.*

78

Ev - 'ry - bod - y sing al - le - lu! Lift your voic - es to

80

Io, o, — sing al - le - lu!

(- flute)

81

God in song, for-ev-er in joy-ful song!

your voic-es to God

ff

ff (+ flute)

AFRICAN PSALM

FLUTE

Arranged from a Kenyan folksong by
PATRICK M. LIEBERGENSlowly and freely
(♩ = ca. 112-116)

Lightly and energetically (♩ = ca. 126-138)

* (see below)

8

poco rit. *f*

11

12

3

f

18

20

8

28

8

36

mf

37

41

44

45

49

52

f

54

sub. mp

60

16

mp

cresc.

79

80

3

ff

* Mm. 1-7 may be performed very freely and unaccompanied by choir, soloist or accompanist.

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