

Gloria laus et honor (2nd setting)

Edited by Jason Smart

John Blitheman (c.1525-1591)

The musical score consists of four staves, each representing a voice part:

- Treble 1:** The top staff, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It begins with a short melodic line before the vocal entry.
- Treble 2:** The second staff from the top, also with a treble clef and one flat. It enters later than Treble 1.
- Mean:** The third staff from the top, with a bass clef and one flat. It enters later than Treble 1.
- Countertenor:** The bottom staff, with a bass clef and one flat. It enters later than Treble 1.

The music is in common time. The vocal entries begin with "Gloria - ri - a laus -" followed by a repeat sign. The lyrics continue through several stanzas, including "laus et ho - nor ti - bi -" and "sit, Rex Chri -". The score concludes with a final section starting at measure 9, featuring a change in key signature to one sharp (F#).

14

- dem - ptor, cu - i pu - e - ri - le
 - dem - - - - ptor, cu - i pu - e - ri - le
 cu - - i pu - e - - ri - - - le
 cu - - i pu - e - ri - - - le

19

de - - cus prom - psit
 de - cus prom - psit O - san - na pi -
 de - - - cus prom - - psit
 de - - - - cus prom - - psit

23

O - san - na pi - - - - um.
 - - - - - - - - um.
 O - san - - na pi - - um.
 psit - - - - - - - - um.

Chorus

Glo - ri - a____ laus____ et ho - nor____ ti - bi sit, Rex Chri - ste Re-dem - - -
- ptor, cu - i pu - e - ri - le____ de - cus____ prom-psit____ O - san - na____ pi - um.

27

Is - ra - el es____ tu____ Rex____ Da - .

Is - ra - el es____ tu____ Rex____ Da - .

8

32

- vi - dis____ et in - - - cli - ta

- vi - - - - - - - dis et in - cli -

8

et in - cli - ta pro -

pro - les. No - mi - ne qui in _____ Do - mi -
 - ta pro - les. No - mi-ne _____ qui in Do - mi-ni,
 8 - les. No - mi - ne _____ qui _____ in Do - mi - - ni, Rex be - ne -

Rex be - ne - di - cte _____
 - ni, _____ Rex _____ be - - - ne - - di -
 — Rex be - ne - di - - - - - - - - cte, _____
 8 - di - - cte, _____ Rex

ve - - - - - nis.
 - cte ve - - - - nis.
 Rex be - ne - di - - - - cte [ve - - nis.]
 8 be - ne - di - - - - cte ve - - - - nis.

Glo - ri - a____ laus____ et ho - nor____ ti - bi sit, Rex Chri - ste Re-dem -
- ptor, cu - i pu - e - ri - le____ de - cus____ prom-psit____ O - san - na____ pi - um.

51

Coe - tus in ex - cel - sis____ te____
Coe - tus in ex - cel - sis
Coe - tus in ex - cel - sis
8 Coe - tus in ex - cel - sis____ te lau - dat

56

lau - dat____ coe -
te lau - dat coe - li - tus [o -]
8 coe - li - tus o -

60

- li - - tus o - mnis, et mor - ta - - -
- mnis,] et mor - ta - lis ho - - -
et mor - ta - lis ho - mo,
8 mnis, et mor - ta - - -

64

- lis ho - - - mo, et - - -
mo, et cun - cta cre - a - - -
8 lis ho - - - mo, et cun - cta cre - a - - -

68

cun - cta cre - a - ta si - mul.
ta si - - - - - mul.
et cun - cta cre - a - ta si - - - - - mul.
8 ta si - - - - - mul.

Glo - ri - a laus et ho - nor ti - bi sit, Rex Chri - ste Re-dem -
 - ptor, cu - i pu - e - ri - le de - cus prom-psit O - san - na pi - um.

73

Plebs He - brae - a ti -
 Plebs He - brae - - a ti -
 Plebs He - brae - a ti - - bi - cum -
 Plebs He - brae - a ti -

78

- bi cum pal - mis ob - vi - a ve -
 - - - bi cum pal - mis ob -
 - pal - - mis ob - vi -
 - bi cum pal - - mis ob - vi - a

82

- nit. Cum pre - ce, vo -
 - vi - a ve - nit. Cum pre - ce, vo - to, hym -
 - a ve - nit. Cum pre - ce, vo - to,
 - ve - nit. Cum pre - ce, vo - to,

86

to, hym - - - nis as - su mus
- - - nis as - su - mus ec - ce ti -
— hym - - - nis as - - - su - - mus
hym - - - nis as - su - mus ec - ce ti -

91

ec - ce ti - - - bi.
- - - bi.
ec - - - ce ti - - - bi.
- - - bi.

Glo - ri - a laus et ho - nor ti - bi sit, Rex Chri - ste Re-dem -
- ptor, cu - i pu - e - ri - le de - cus prom-psit O - san - na pi - um.

Translation

- ℣ Glory, laud and honour be to you, King Christ the Redeemer, to whom children give due honour with ‘Hosanna’.
Glory, laud and honour ... ‘Hosanna’.
- ℣ You are the king of Israel and the glorious descendant of David. You come in the name of the Lord, O blessed King.
Glory, laud and honour ... ‘Hosanna’.
- ℣ All the heavenly company on high praises you; so does mortal man together with the whole of creation.
Glory, laud and honour ... ‘Hosanna’.
- ℣ The people of the Hebrews came to meet you with palms: behold, we receive you with prayer, anthems and hymns.
Glory, laud and honour ... ‘Hosanna’.

Liturgical Function and Form

In the pre-reformation Use of Salisbury, *Gloria laus et honor* was sung at the second station during the procession before Mass on Palm Sunday. The service books stipulated that the opening refrain and the verses should be sung by seven boys from a high place, with the choir repeating the refrain after every verse. Blitheman set only the sections allocated to the seven boys, but his polyphony cannot be sung by unbroken voices alone.

Blitheman incorporates the plainsong as a cantus firmus. It appears in the Mean register except in the verse *Coetus in excelsis* where it is placed an octave higher in the Treble.

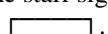
Editorial Conventions

The nomenclature of the voice-parts follows the Tudor convention.

The prefatory staves at the start of the piece show the original clef, staff signature, mensuration symbol and first note for each voice.

Editorial accidentals are placed above the notes concerned and remain operative throughout the bar.

All accidentals present in the source are retained in the score. Accidentals not explicit in the source, but required in the score through modernisation of the staff signatures are placed before the note and have a superscript dot.

Ligatures are denoted by the sign .

Underlay between square brackets is entirely editorial.

Sources

Polyphony: London, British Library Add. MSS 17802–5 (c.1570–c.1578).

17802	(Tr2)	f.132	at beginning: gloria laus m ^r blitheman
17803	(Tr1)	f.130	at beginning: gloria laus m ^r blitheman
17804	(M)	f.132	at beginning: gloria laus m ^r blitheman
17805	(Ct)	f.125	at beginning: gloria laus m ^r blitheman

Plainsong: Processionale ad usum Sarum (Antwerp, 1528), f.46^v.

Notes on the Readings of the Source

In the list of readings below, each reference to a bar or group of bars is separated by an oblique stroke, multiple references to the same voice by a comma and references to different voices by a semicolon. The order within each entry is: 1) bar number(s); 2) voice(s); 3) reading of the source. Pitches are given in capital letters, preceded by a number where necessary, e.g. ²G = 2nd note G in the bar (or group of bars). The symbol + denotes a tie.

Accidentals

The two-flat staff signatures in Tr1 and Ct are maintained throughout. In these voices only two Es are explicitly marked natural (Tr1, bars 9 and 64). All other Es in the top space of the staff are implied flat by the staff signature. However, only the first seven bars of Blitheman’s piece require E flats. All subsequent Es have been interpreted as natural.

78 Tr1 # for F /

Underlay

5–6 M *et honor* one note earlier / 8–9 Tr2 *Christe* undivided below DGC, (10) *Chri-* below G / 10–11 Tr1 *be-* below G+G, -nedic- corrected to -ste *Re-* below F²G / 17–18 Tr1 *decus* below DC (and in 20–21) / 19–20 Tr2 *decus prompsit* below CBA+AA / 21 Tr1 -cus *prompsit* ↗ below ¹CA²CF (no -psit in 22) / 25 Tr2 *pi-* below A (and in 22); T *pi-* below ²D / 31 Ct *Davidis* undivided below AGFE / 50 Tr2 -nit for -nis; M2 -cte below F / 55–58 Tr1 M1 Ct -dant for -dat / 60 M1 -tus below F / 63 M1 -mo below ²C, (65–67) *et cuncta creatu si-* below DECFDDA / 70 M1 extra *si-* below A / 74–75 Tr1 *Hebraea ti-* one note earlier / 80 Tr2 *tibi* below G¹A (and in 76–79) / 84 Tr1 *et* below A, *vo-* below C / 86 Tr2 *hy-* ambiguously aligned below CBA / 88–90 all parts *assimus* for *assumus* / 90 Tr1 *ecce* below GC / 93 Ct -bi below ²A /

Other Readings

1 M cantus firmus in strene notation throughout / 18 Tr1 crotchets DE erased before crotchet F / 26 M ‘Toⁿ Over the leffe’ after barline on penultimate staff of page, final staff is cancelled by the words ‘Gimell Israell’ written twice / 27 Tr1 ‘Israell es tu’ below staff; M1 M2 ‘gimell’ before start of bar / 51 Tr2 ‘Cetus in excell’ below staff; M1 M2 ‘gimell’ before start of bar; M2 mensuration symbol ♩ before rests / 51–71 Tr1 cantus firmus in strene notation / 70 Tr1 ¹C²C are white mensural minims / 87–88 Ct minim rest only for the two semibreve rests /