

TEXTS BY HENRY L. LETTERMANN

Music by Richard Hillert

- 1960.05 So Shall Our Song Praise ✓
- 1962.01 Christ Is Our King
- 1962.03 Continually Triumphant Seraphim ✓
- 1962.08 What News This Bitter Night - see 1994.09
- 1963.06 God Of Our Fathers
- 1964.05 The Black of Night in Bethlehem - see 1994.09
- 1966.01 A White Lily Blows - see 1994.09
- 1967.04 The Children of the Faith
- 1975.06 Lead Us, Lord
- 1977.08 This Is the Cross of Christ
- 1984.10 In Little Bethlehem ✓ - see 1994.09
- 1986.04 The Christ Child King

SO SHALL OUR SONG OF PRAISE

Text by Henry L. Lettermann. Copyright © 1994, Henry L. Lettermann

Used as DOXOLOGY in *Cantata No. 2* (work in progress, 1960)
Music by Richard Hillert

**So shall our song of praise burst from
The prison of the earth.
Sweep away the stars,
Swell the chorus of the martyrs,
saints, and of the Holy Seraphim.**

**Cry out and shout
for great is He who dwells with us.
Cry out and shout
for great is our God.**

SO SHALL OUR SONG OF PRAISE

Doxology from Cantata No. 2

Henry L. Lettermann
1960

Doxology
Richard Hillert
1960

So shall our song of praise burst from The pri - son

of the earth. Sweep a - way the stars.

Swell the cho - rus of the mar - tyrs, saints, and of the

Ho - ly Ser - a - phim. Cry out and

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Doxology

shout for great is He who dwells with us.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Cry out and shout for great is our God.

The second system of music also consists of two staves in treble and bass clefs. The key signature remains two flats. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a fermata over the final note. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

CONTINUALLY TRIUMPHANT SERAPHIM

Text by Henry L. Lettermann, 1962. Copyright © 1994 Henry L. Lettermann

With music by Richard Hillert, selected for the National Convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Cleveland, Ohio, 1962

1. **Continually triumphant seraphim,
That countless throng before Thy brilliant throne,
With all created things Thy glory hymn!
We name Thee Lord,
Thou who art God alone!**

2. **Before Thy throne the martyr lays his sword,
Apostles, prophets see Thee face to face,
In Thee the faithful know their great reward!
We name Thee Lord,
Thou who art God alone!**

3. **The Father who forgives and justifies,
Who washed us in His Spirit's holy fire,
The Son who died our willing sacrifice!
We name Thee Lord,
Thou who art God alone!**

4. **Though here we struggle in a dark'ning land,
That sees no more Thy face nor finds Thy way,
Let faith outspoken and unshaken stand!
We name Thee Lord,
Thou who art God alone!**

5. **Thy church expectant, Lord, in penitence,
In labor and in longing hope awaits,
Thy promise coming, our deliverance!
We name Thee Lord,
Thou who art God alone!**

CONTINUALLY TRIUMPHANT SERAPHIM

Henry L. Lettermann
1962

Triumphant Seraphim
Richard Hillert
1962

Maestoso

1. Con - tin - ual - ly tri - um - phant ser - a -
phim, That count - less thron - e be - fore Thy bril - liant
throne, With all cre - a - ted things Thy

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The tempo is marked 'Maestoso'. The lyrics are: '1. Continually triumphant seraphim, That countless throne before Thy brilliant throne, With all created things Thy'. The piano accompaniment features a steady, rhythmic pattern of chords and single notes, providing a solid harmonic foundation for the vocal line.

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Triumphant Seraphim

glo - ry hymn! We name Thee Lord, — Thou who art

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the lower staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The vocal line begins with a half note 'g' (G4), followed by a half note 'l' (A4), a quarter note 'o' (B4), a quarter note 'r' (C5), and a quarter note 'y' (D5). This is followed by a half rest, then a half note 'h' (E5), a half note 'y' (F5), and a half note 'm' (G5). The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

God a - lone!

The second system of music also consists of two staves. The vocal line in the upper staff has a half note 'G' (G4), a half note 'o' (A4), a half note 'd' (B4), a half rest, a half note 'a' (C5), a half note 'l' (D5), a half note 'o' (E5), and a half note 'n' (F5). The piano accompaniment in the lower staff features a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes and a final note with a fermata.



IN LITTLE BETHLEHEM

Henry L. Lettermann

Richard Hillert

1. In lit- tle Beth- le- hem The Sav- ior
 2. With- out a maj- or stir The mir- a-
 3. And wise men stop, wide- eyed, To search the
 4. In lit- tle Beth- le- hem The Sav- ior

comes a- gain; The east- ern star drops down from heav'n a-
 cle oc- curs; The east- ern star drops down from heav'n a-
 sec- ret skies; The east- ern star drops down from heav'n a-
 comes a- gain; The east- ern star drops down from heav'n a-

IN LITTLE BETHLEHEM

Text by Henry L. Lettermann, 1984.

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1. **In little Bethlehem**
The Savior comes again;
The eastern star drops down from heav'n above!
Behind a stable door,
Within a manger poor,
Begins the reign of Jesus, Lord of love!

2. **Without a major stir**
The miracle occurs;
The eastern star drops down from heav'n above!
Here in a tiny form,
Here in a baby born,
Begins the reign of Jesus, Lord of love!

3. **And wise men stop, wide-eyed,**
To scan the secret skies;
The eastern star drops down from heav'n above!
A simple shepherd's faith
Awakes the world to truth,
Begins the reign of Jesus, Lord of love!

4. **In little Bethlehem**
The Savior comes again;
The eastern star drops down from heav'n above!
Behind a stable door,
Within a manger poor,
Begins the reign of Jesus, Lord of love!