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I Will Extol Thee, O LORD (Psalm 30)
SATB (a cappella)

Darin Lewis

TRIN[✦]TAS
EXCELLENCE IN SACRED CHORAL MUSIC

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(Psalm 30)**

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Psalm 30:1-3, 12, King James Bible

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Adagio (♩ = ca. 66)

Soprano
for thou hast lift - ed me up,

Alto
ex - tol thee, O LORD; lift - ed me up,

Tenor Bass
I will ex - tol thee, O LORD; lift - ed me up,

4
for thou hast lift - ed me up, lift - ed me up,

lift - ed me up, lift - ed me up,

7
Bass *mp*
and hast not made my foes to re - joice o - ver me.

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10 *mp*

O LORD my God, I cried un - to thee, and thou hast

mp

13 *f*

healed me. Sing un - to the LORD, O ye saints of his,

f

17

and give thanks at the re - mem - brance of his ho - li - ness. To the

mp

20 *p*

end that my glo - ry may sing praise to thee, O LORD my

p

24 *mp*

God, I will give thanks un - to thee for ev - er.

mp

Composer Notes

I composed this setting of Psalm 30 for our Easter Vigil service, which moves from outdoors to indoors, from one space to another, eventually ending in the sanctuary and boldly ringing and singing in Easter. For this portion of the service, we were going to be in a small, very intimate space, lit by candlelight, where each Old Testament reading would be proclaimed, followed by a short choral anthem; I wrote the piece with all of that in mind. I wanted to compose a piece that started softly and slowly blossomed, juxtaposing choral textures in contemporary harmony with brief statements in the style of plainchant. The climax, "Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his," should be declamatory and yet full of exuberance. The piece then returns to a more intimate place.

One technical note: Though there is a rest in m. 26, the rest is meant as a breath, not a drop in musical thought; the musical idea should carry through from the pickup into m. 25 to the end.

—Darin Lewis

Preview