

# Congregational Singing

## Lesson 7 – Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

March 19, 2017

15 minutes

**Participants:** Rob Rayburn, Ron Bechtel, Margaret Eby, Congregation

**Purpose:** Introduce new musical concepts: rhythm and note values

**Desired Outcome:** Foundational understand of musical notation. 4-part harmony for new hymn

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<b>3 minutes</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	Rob Rayburn
<b>4 minutes</b>	<b>Principles of Congregational Singing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Understand the mathematics of music</li><li>✓ Introduction to note duration and rhythm</li><li>✓ Understand what time signatures mean</li></ul>	Margaret Eby
<b>10 minutes</b>	<b>Exercise / Applying the Principles</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Identify and apply time signatures</li><li>✓ Learn Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven in 4-parts</li></ul>	Margaret Eby
<b>1 minute</b>	<b>Conclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Music Appreciation</li></ul>	Margaret Eby

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### Resources/Handout:

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

This Lord's Day evening, we are going to see and hear how important mathematics is in making music. Think what a challenge it was to figure out a way to put the music we hear down on paper, in such a way, that someone who had never heard the music before, could look at symbols on a page, and play the music perfectly.

The length of time a note is played is called its note duration and it determined by the type of note written on the page.

A whole note has the longest duration. A half note is half the duration of a whole note. In other words, two half notes equal a whole note. A quarter note is a fourth of the duration of a whole note. Four quarter notes have the same duration as a whole note. Notes with shorter duration than a quarter note have flags on them. A flag signals that the note is  $\frac{1}{2}$  the duration of a quarter. An eighth note has one flag. Two eighth notes have the same

duration as a quarter note. Two flags would be half the duration again. These are sixteenth notes and four sixteenth notes have the same duration as a quarter note.

There are examples printed on the handout you picked up before entering the sanctuary. Sometimes you'll see a note with the stem going down. That doesn't make a difference in the duration of the note. It's often an editor's technique to make the notes easier to read. Or in the case of our hymnal, to distinguish between the 2 voices in the treble line – alto with stems down and sopranos with stems going up. Take for example, the 4<sup>th</sup> measure of the hymn, Praise My Soul the King of Heaven. And to distinguish between the bass line and the tenor line in the bass cleff in that same measure.

The time signature at the start of nearly every piece or hymn, tells you what type of note gets a beat, and how many beats are in a measure. A measure is separated by a bar line. Most hymns are written in 4/4 time. The top number tells us that each measure will have 4 beats in it. The bottom number tells us that a quarter note will get one beat. If the time signature is 6/8 time, there are 6 beats in a measure, and the eighth note gets one beat.

One final lesson. A note that has a dot next to it, is  $\frac{1}{2}$  again the duration of the note. For example, the duration of a dotted quarter note is one and a half beats, assuming we are in a time signature where a quarter note gets one beat. A half note, again in 4/4 time, is two beats. Add a dot to that half note and the note is now 3 beats long.

OK, let's put this new information to work as we learn to sing, Praise My Soul the King of Heaven in 4 parts. The hymn tune is Lauda Anima (*Praise, My Soul*).

Conclusion: TBD

# Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

*Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD,  
O my soul. Ps. 103:22*

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en, to his feet your trib - ute bring;  
 2. Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fa - thers in dis - tress;  
 3. Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;  
 4. Frail as sum - mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;  
 5. An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him face to face;

ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, his praise should sing?  
 praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless;  
 • in his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes;  
 but while mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.  
 sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space,

Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the ev - er - last - ing King.  
 praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.  
 • praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, wide - ly as his mer - cy goes.  
 Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the High E - ter - nal One.  
 praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.

From Psalm 103  
Henry F. Lyfe, 1834; mod.

LAUDA ANIMA 8.7.8.7.8.7.  
John Goss, 1869

## Time Signatures:

Top number = number of beats in a measure

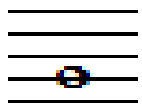
Bottom number – the type of note that gets 1 beat

4/4 = 4 beats in a measure; a quarter note gets one beat

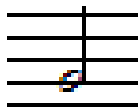
6/8 = 6 beats in a measure, an eighth note gets one beat.



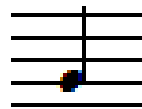
## Note Names:



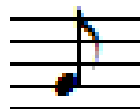
Whole note



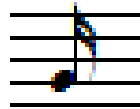
Half note



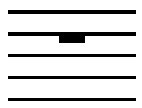
Quarter note



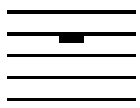
Eighth note



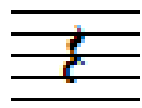
Sixteenth note



Whole rest



Half rest



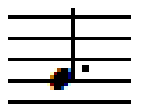
Quarter rest



Eighth rest



Sixteenth rest



Dotted quarter note



Dotted quarter rest