

PSALM 24: WHO IS THE KING OF GLORY

Ephrem Feeley

With energy (♩ = 60)

Trumpet in B♭

Organ

f

Musical notation for Trumpet in B♭ and Organ. The Trumpet part is in the treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a 6/8 time signature. The Organ part is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with the same key signature and time signature. The organ part begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

REFRAIN:

B♭ Tpt.

(*tacet until after verse 1*)

Musical notation for B♭ Trumpet. The part begins with a 4-measure rest, indicated by a '4' above the staff. The notation is in the treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a 6/8 time signature.

Descant:

Who is the king of glo - ry? It is the Lord of Hosts!

Musical notation for the Descant. It is in the treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are written below the staff.

Assembly/ Choir:

Who is the king of glo - ry? It is the Lord of Hosts!

Musical notation for the Assembly/Choir. It is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of two flats and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are written below the staff.

Org.

Musical notation for the Organ. It is in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of two flats and a 6/8 time signature.

To Verses,
last time to Coda

VERSE 1:

8 **Cantor:**

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; grow high - er, an - cient

8 **Org.** *mf*

11 **B \flat Tpt.**

doors. Let him en - ter, the king of glo - ry!

11 **Org.**

To Refrain

VERSE 2:

15 **Cantor:**

Who is the king of glo - - - ry? The Lord, the migh - ty, the

15 **Org.** *mf*

18

B \flat Tpt.

18

Org.

val - iant, the Lord, the va - liant in war.

To Refrain

VERSE 3:

Cantor:

22

Org.

mf

Who is the king of glo - - - ry? He, the Lord of

25

B \flat Tpt.

25

Org.

ar - mies. He is the king of glo - ry!

To Refrain

CODA:

The musical score for the CODA section consists of two staves. The top staff is for the B♭ Trumpet (B♭ Tpt.) and the bottom staff is for the Organ (Org.). Both staves begin at measure 29. The B♭ Trumpet part features a melodic line with a dotted quarter note followed by eighth notes, and a final measure with a dotted half note. The Organ part is in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and features a *ff* dynamic marking. It includes a crescendo leading to a *fff* dynamic marking in the final measure. The organ part consists of block chords and moving lines in both hands.

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Composer's Notes:

Psalm 24 is a good example of an enthronement psalm, where God was acclaimed as king of Israel in the temple of Jerusalem. The cry to open the gates to let the King of Glory enter demonstrates that the Ark of the Covenant was carried in procession around the temple for all to see. The link between the earthly king and the heavenly king was clear: God was the heavenly king, who favoured his people Israel, who caused their king to be victorious in battle, and so was the Lord of armies who fought in the cause of right.

The militaristic nature of this psalm does not preclude its use in Christian liturgy today: it is used for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, and is a good common psalm for the Feast of Christ the King and throughout season of Advent. The psalm should be understood in the context of spiritual warfare: in the struggle against evil and injustice, both personally and in the world, God's goodness will prevail.

The tempo marking is for a broad *Andante*, but with clear diction and crisp articulation in the accompaniment, there should still be plenty of energy. The trumpet part is optional, but adds a sense of occasion to the piece.