

Georg Philipp
TELEMANN

PSALM 117
AUF, LOBET DEN HERRN, ALLE HEIDEN

for Chorus, two Violins and Basso Continuo
with Latin and German text

CHORAL SCORE

K 06454



PREFACE

Georg Philipp Telemann (b. 14th March 1681 in Magdeburg, d. 25th June 1767 in Hamburg) wrote the 117th Psalm in 1758; it thus belongs to his last period, of which the chief works are the "Tageszeiten" (1754), the setting of some excerpts from Klopstock's "Messias" (1759), "Der Tag des Gerichts" (1762) and the cantata "Ino" (1765).

The following Psalm is one of those compositions in which Telemann deliberately avails himself of a simple style of writing. As his last large-scale compositions show, he did not always observe his own aspiration to an uncomplicated, almost popular style, which he proclaims as early as 1741 in the subtitle to his Odes, with the words "with melodies that are simple and comfortable for almost every throat." But the 117th Psalm, written as a piece of "utility music" for church use, shows Telemann from a side which is characteristic of him, in so far as he here gives expression to his wish to be in advance of his time—that is, of his own generation. In this respect he is the "pathfinder of the Classical period," as I point out in my biography of Telemann (Verlag Hopfer, Burg bei Magdeburg, 1931, p. 48).

The simplicity of the instrumentation, which to some extent still exhibits elements of the Baroque (2 violins and continuo), is supplemented by a quite effortless manner of choral writing. These particulars make the little work especially suitable for practical use in church and in school.

117. Psalm

für vierstimmigen gemischten Chor,
zwei Violinen und Basso continuo

G. Ph. Telemann

Violino I

Violino II

Basso continuo

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