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For as the Rain and Snow Come Down

SSATP a cappella

Hal H. Hopson

Hal H. Hopson

Composer, Lyricist, Church Musician, Theologian

Hal H. Hopson is the most prolific composer of church music of his generation. With more than 1,800 published works for 30 publishers, Mr. Hopson's music is heard weekly in congregations throughout our country.

A church musician throughout his professional life, Mr. Hopson has also been conductor-clinician for workshops and choral festivals in the United States, Europe, and Asia, and professor of church music at Westminster Choir College and Scarritt Graduate School. He is also a hymn writer whose texts appear in major denominational hymnals.

Hal Hopson was born in Mound, Texas, in a family of thirteen children where music making figured prominently. His first piano teacher was his older sister, Merle, whom he holds in deep regard for her enormous musical and personal influences on his life. Hopson's well-known hymn tune, MERLE'S TUNE, is named in her honor. He first accompanied worship services at age thirteen and later graduated from Baylor University and Southern Baptist Seminary with B.A. and M.S.M. degrees, respectively. He completed additional study at universities and conservatories in the United States and Germany.

A recipient of many honors for his distinguished service to music, Mr. Hopson is listed in the *International Who's Who in Music*, Cambridge, England. He has served on the national boards of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, Choristers Guild, the Church Music Institute, and has received annual awards from ASCAP for many consecutive years. Expertise in psalmody and liturgy led to appointments on the Symposium for Church Composers sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Milwaukee and the Task Force on Psalmody sponsored by the Presbyterian Church, USA, which resulted in the official Psalter for the denomination.

In the summer of 2013, Austin, Texas, became the home of Hopson and his wife, Martha Smith Hopson, also a church musician. They have three children, six grandchildren, and enjoy living in the beautiful Texas hill country.

For as the Rain and Snow Come Down

SSATB a cappella

Isaiah 55: 10, 11

Hal H. Hopson (b. 1933)

Unhurried and expressive ♩ = ca. 72

Soprano *p* For as the rain and snow come down from

Alto *p* For as the rain and snow come down from

Tenor *p* For as the rain and snow come down from

Bass *p* For as the rain and snow come down from

For rehearsal only

Unhurried and expressive ♩ = ca. 72

4

heav - en, and re - turn not, but wa - ter the earth,

heav - en, and re - turn not, but wa - ter the earth,

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heav - en, and re - turn not, but wa - ter the earth,

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2 7

cresc.

mak - ing it break forth and sprout,

cresc.

mak - ing it break forth and sprout, break forth and

cresc.

mak - ing it break forth, mak - ing it break forth and

cresc.

mak - ing it break forth, mak - ing break forth

cresc.

9

f, *mf*

mak - ing it break forth and sprout, giv - ing seed to the

mf

sprout, break forth and sprout, giv - ing seed to the

f, *mf*

sprout, break forth and sprout, giv - ing seed to the

f, *mf*

mak - ing it break forth and sprout, giv - ing seed to the

f, *mf*

mak - ing it break forth and sprout, giv - ing seed to the

12 *mp* *rit.* *p* *a tempo* *mp cresc.*
sow - er and food to the hun - gry, So shall be my word, my

mp *p* *mp cresc.*
sow - er and food to the hun - gry, So shall be my word, my

mp *p* *mp cresc.*
sow - er and food to the hun - gry, So shall be my word, my

mp *p* *a tempo*
sow - er and food to the hun - gry, So shall be my word, my

16 cresc. , *div.*

word, cresc. *f* word that goes forth from my

my word that goes forth from my

word, *mf* cresc. *f* word that goes forth from my

So shall be my word, my word that goes forth from my

f

19 *mf* *unis.*

mouth, It shall not re - turn to me

mouth, It shall not re - turn to me

mouth, It shall not re - turn to me

mouth, It shall not re - turn to me

mouth, It shall not re - turn to me

mf

22 *cresc.*

emp - ty, but it shall ac - comp - lish

emp - ty, but it shall ac - comp - lish

emp - ty, but it shall ac - comp - lish

emp - ty, but it shall ac - comp - lish

emp - ty, but it shall ac - comp - lish

cresc.

24 *f* *div.* 5

that which I pur - pose, and pros - per in the

that which I pur - pose, and pros - per in the

that which I pur - pose, and pros - per, in the

that which I pur - pose, and pros - per in the

f

3

26 *rit.* *ff* *ten.* *a tempo*

thing for which I sent

ff *ten.*

thing I sent it. *mp*

ff *ten.* *mp*

thing for which I sent it. For as the

ff *ten.*

thing for which I sent it. *rit.* *a tempo*

ff *ten.* *mp*

29 **rit.** **a tempo**

p unis.

For as the rain and snow come

p

For as the rain and snow come

p

rain comes down, as the rain and snow come

p

For as the rain and snow come

rit. **a tempo**

32

down from heav - en, and re - turn not, but

down from heav - en, and re - turn not, but

down from heav - en, and re - turn not, but

down from heav - en, and re - turn not, but

DRAFT

35 *Slower* *pp*

wa - ter the earth, So shall

wa - ter the earth, So shall

wa - ter the earth, So shall

wa - ter the earth, So shall

wa - ter the earth, *Slower*

37 *rit.* *ppp*

be my word.

be my word.

be my word.

be my word.

mp *div.* *ppp*

be my word.

rit. *ppp*

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