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Oratorio: Esther - "For Such a Time As This"

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Oratorio: Esther - “For Such a Time As This”

A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
University of New Orleans
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Music
in
Composition

by

William R. Memmott

B. A. The University of New Orleans, 2013

May 2016
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Abstract

This oratorio tells the story of Queen Esther as presented in the Old Testament Book of Esther. Its format includes choruses and solos with an orchestral accompaniment. The main characters in the story are Esther, King Xerxes, Esther’s uncle Mordecai and their antagonist Haman, with occasional insertions by a narrator. In addition to the primary scripture used, there are several inclusions from the Psalms, Song of Songs, and a commentary poem by Wayne Watson highlighting the oratorio’s sub-title, “For Such a Time as This,” which is the overriding textural theme.

The orchestration focuses on reed woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion, including consistent use of the Persian tanbak (bongo type drum). Rhythms are regularly freely used to support the text. Dissonant melodic construction and its resulting harmonic dissonance present a panoply of sound beyond the traditional classical approach of dominant/tonic tonality.

Keywords: oratorio; orchestra and chorus; life of Esther; Memmott
Narrator: Five centuries before the Christian era, King Xerxes ruled over the kingdom of the Medes and Persians. To celebrate his wealth, power, and rulership he called a great feast.

Solo from house left

Call together the people of the kingdom.
Solo from house right

Solo from house left

Come together people!

Come together people!

Call together the people of the kingdom.

Call together the people of the kingdom.

CHORUS

Come,

Come,

Come together people!

Come together people!

Come together people!

Come together people!
Come together people!

Come together people!

Come together people!

Come together people!

O come, come together people!

O come, come together people!

O come, come together people!

O come, come together people!
O come, come together people!

Sing glory to the king, sing
Lu - jah to the king, to the king of kings.

Hal - le - lu - jah to the king, to the king of kings.

Glo - ry to the king, the king of kings. Sing

King, to the king, the king of kings. Sing

Lu - jah to the king, to the king of kings. Sing
glory, glory, glory, glory, glory, glory.

Gloria to the king,
Gloria to the king.
Gloria to the king.

Gloria to the king.

Gloria to the king.

Gloria to the king.
2 - Xerxes' Call

For a full one hundred and eighty days you've seen the vast wealth of my kingdom. And you've seen the splendor and the glory of my kingly majesty.
Now you've feast-ed for an-oth-er sev-en days at this ban-quet in the pal-ace gar-den.

My ste-wards have been in-struct-ed to serve each man what he want-ed.

Oh!

Now as you can see, Oh! I am in high__
spir· its. Oh! ______ from the wine, ______ I com-

c______ the sev· en______ eu· nuchs to bring______ be-

fore me______ Queen____ Vash· ti,____ Oh!____ Queen____

Vash· ti____ dressed in her roy· al crown____ To dis· play her
Come, and behold, come, and behold Queen Vashti! Oh! Oh!

beauty to the people and the nobles
3 - The Eunuch's Call

Queen Vashti Altos

Tenor Eunuchs

Bass Eunuchs

T

B

Repetto

We hum-bly come be-fore you____

The

We hum-bly come be-fore you____

The

16
king has sent us here To share his invitation.

king has sent us here To appear before the nobles at his feast of feasts.

I will not go! Am I the latest jewel?
in his imperial crown? No! I will not go! No!

I will not go! How long has it been since he invited me to his chamber? Me just for him. He just for me.
No! I will not go! No!

I will not go! No! No! No!

ff

ff
4 - The Council of Nobles

Herald

Men's Chorus

At your command, great Xerxes, I present your experts in the law. Catherine, Shehar, Ad-

Chorus

Catherine, Shehar.

Her.

Ma-tha, Tar-shish, Me-res, Ma-

Chorus

Ad-ma-tha, Tar-shish, Me-res.
peoples of all the provinces of King Xerxes. For the queen's conduct will become

known to all the women, and so they will despise their husbands and say,

King Xerxes commanded Queen Vashti to be brought before him, but she

would not come! This very day the Persian and Median women of the no-

bility who have heard about the queen's conduct will respond to all the king's
noble in the same way, There will be no end of disrespect and
discord. Therefore if it
pleases the king, let him issue a royal decree and let it be
written in the laws of Persia and Media, which cannot be repealed
HeCHO that Vash - ti

Her.

is nev - er a - gain to en - ter

the pre - sence of King Xer - xes.

Also: let the king give her
Her.

royal position to someone else who is better than she. Then

Her.

when the king's edict is proclaimed throughout his realm,

Her.

all the women will respect their husbands from the least to the greatest

Her.
Narrator: Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai who had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. Hadassah (Esther), won the favor of everyone who saw her. She was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence.

T

Come with me.

f

Tenor Solo

ff
beautiful Esther. You will surely please the king, you will surely please the king.

Come with me to the royal residence.

I'll present you to the king, I'll present you to the king.

Narrator: Esther won his favor and approval more than any other virgin. The king set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.
And the king gave a great banquet, the
S

king gave a great banquet for Esther.

A

king gave a great banquet for Esther.

T

king gave a great banquet for Esther.

B

king gave a great banquet for Esther.
6 - The Wedding

Soprano: We rejoice, we rejoice
Alto: We rejoice, we rejoice
Tenor: We rejoice, we rejoice
Bass: We rejoice, we rejoice

joice,
joice,
joice,
and delight in you;

we will praise your love,
we will praise your love more than wine.

we will praise your love more than wine.

we will praise your love more than wine.

we will praise your love more than wine.

We rejoice and we de-light in...

We rejoice and we de-light in...

We rejoice and we de-light in you; we rejoice and we de-light in...
We rejoice and we delight, and delight in you.

We rejoice and we delight in you.

We rejoice and we delight in you.

We will praise your love more than wine.
The rains are over and gone.
Flowers appear upon the earth
The season of singing has come,
The cooing of doves is heard in the land.
Arise! My
darling, my beautiful one, come, come with me.

Place me like a seal

over your heart like a seal on your arm.
like a seal on your arm; for

love is as strong as death, its jealousy unyielding as the grave:

It burns like a...
many rivers cannot sweep it away

If

one were to give all the wealth of one's house for love

If

one were to give all the wealth of one's house for love

If

one were to give all the wealth of one's house for love
come away with me, with me, come away with me, with me, come away with me, with me, come away with me, with me, come away with me, with me, come away with me, with me,
Ah, da-dah-da! 

Ah, da-dah-da! 

Ah, da-dah-da! 

Ah, da-dah-da!
8 - Mordecai Uncovers the Assassination Plot

Mordecai

\[ J = 92 \]

Es-ther, Queen Es-ther I come to you, I come to you to re-port that the king is in great danger. I over-heard Big-tha-na and Ter-esh plot-ting in an-ger to as-sas-si-nate the king. You must re-port this treach-er-y to the king.

\[ f \]
Narrator: When Esther reported this to the king, it was investigated and found to be true. [pause]
THE TWO OFFICIALS WERE HANGED ON THE GALLOWS!

Who-er is preg-nant, preg-nant with e-vil con-ceivestrouble and gives birth to dis-il-lu-sion-ment,
who-ever-digs a hole and scoops it out, falls in-to the pit they have made. The
trouble they cause re-coils on them. Their vio-lence comes down on their own heads!
Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Wor-ship the Lord with glad-ness, and come be-fore Him with joy-ful songs. For the Lord is good; His love en-dures for-ev-er!

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Wor-ship the Lord with glad-ness, and come be-fore Him with joy-ful songs. For the Lord is good; His love en-dures for-ev-er!

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Wor-ship the Lord with glad-ness, and come be-fore Him with joy-ful songs. For the Lord is good; His love en-dures for-ev-er!

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Wor-ship the Lord with glad-ness, and come be-fore Him with joy-ful songs. For the Lord is good; His love en-dures for-ev-er!

— senza rit. —
Haman: Mor-de-cai, O Mor-de-cai, why do you dis-o-bey the king's com-mand to
kneel down and pay hon-or, kneel down and pay hon-or to Ham-an?

I serve King X-e-ri-xes, but...
I bow down only to the King, to the King,

to the King of kings, the God of Israel. Although I was carried,

carried into exile, into exile by King

Nebuchadnezzar,

my allegiance remains, my allegiance remains
Narrator: When Haman (stomp feet) saw that Mordecai would not kneel down

Mor.

to the king, the king of the Jews, Jehovah.

and pay honor, he was enraged. He scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai.

Instead, Haman (stomp feet) looked for a way to destroy ALL the Jews.

The lot was cast in the presence of Haman (stomp feet) to select the day and month for the execution of the Jews.
Ham.

King Xerxes, King

Ham.

Xerxes, there is a people in the kingdom who keep themselves

Ham.

sep’ rate. They don’t obey the

Ham.

king’s laws, a tempo

Ham.

Let a decree be issued to destroy them, and

p simile
Ham.

64
I will give____ ten thousand talents of silver___ to the king's royal treasury.___

Xer.

67
I give you the signet ring____ from my finger.___

Xer.

70
Keep the money____ and do with the people____

73
as you please____

rit.
Narrator: When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he put on sackcloth and ashes and went out into the city, wailing bitterly.
Ba - by - lon, we sat down and wept when we re - mem - bered

Zi - on, There up - on the pop - lar trees we hung our harps.__

For there our cap - tors asked for songs, our tor - ment - ers demand - ed songs of joy:
S

How can we sing the songs of the Lord

A

while in a distant land?

T

while in a distant land?

2.

How can we sing the songs of the Lord

S

A

T


Poem by Wayne Watson

11 - "For Such a Time as This"
Now, all I have is now to be faithful to be holy And to shine Lighting up the darkness Right now I really have no choice But to
voice the truth to the nations A generation

looking for God

SOLO (white tone)

For such a time as this,

for such a time as this,

ff SOLO (white tone)

For such a time as this,
(full voice)

For, such a time, such a time as

this I was placed upon the earth,

To hear the voice, To hear the voice of God And do His
will,

Whatever, whatever it is, For

such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives

I am here And I am His

I am here And I am His

64
such a time as this,

such a time as this,

such a time as this,

For such a
time as this, for such a

For such a

this, for such a time as this,

For such a time as this,
"time, for such a time as
this, this, this, this, this, this, this, this, this,}

68
12 - Esther's Banquet

Xerxes

What is your petition? Queen Esther, what is your petition?

Xerxes

It will be given you, it will be given you. What is your request?

Xerxes

What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom.

Xerxes

Even up to half the kingdom, it will be.
Xer.

grant - ed you. It will be grant - ed, it will be grant - ed.

even up to half the king-dom, even up to half the king-dom will be grant-ed you.

Queen_ Esther._

what is your pe-ti-tion?_ Queen_ Esther_ what is your pe-ti-tion?

Queen_ Esther!_
13- If I Have Found

Esther

If I have found favor with you, your majesty,

and if it pleases you, grant me my life,

this is my petition, spare my people, spare my people, this is my request,

For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed, and annihilated.
If we had merely been sold, if we had merely been sold,
as male and female slaves, as male and female slaves, as
I would have kept quiet, I would have kept quiet, merely been sold as male and female
slaves, I would have kept quiet, kept quiet,
14 - Who Is He?

Who is he?

Where is he?

Where is he? the man who has dared, dared do such a thing?

Esther

An adversary and enemy! This
vile Ha-man! Ha-man! Ha-man! Tenor Solo 

The king got up in a rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden.

But Haman, realizing the king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.
Just as the king returned from the palace
garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where
Esther was reclining, Xerxes
Will he even move
lest the queen, most the queen while she is with me in the
house?

gal lows reaching to a height of fifty cubits, stands by

Hamans, Hamans house, He had it made

for Mordecai,
for Mor-de-cai who spoke up to help the king.

Hanging

Hang him! Hang him! Hang him on it!

15 - The Hanging

TACET
16- Esther's Request and Xerxes Edict

Esther

Xerxes

Esth.

gain, I plead with the king again, I beg you to put an end to the
civil plan, the civil plan of

Esth.

Haman which he de-
the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them

and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies.

I now see that the God of the

Jews has brought Esther, has brought Esther to the court for such a

time as this.
Poem by Wayne Watson

17 - "For Such a Time as This" - finale

For Such a Time as This,

Now, now,
For such a time as this,  

For such a time as this,  

For such a time as this.  

For such a time as this.  

For such a time as this.  

For such a time as this.
for such a time as this,

This,

As this,

Solo

For such a time,

For such a time as this,
I am here And I am His For
such a time as this,

For
such a time as this,
For such a time as this, for such a time as this, for such a time as this.
For such a time as this,
for such a time as this,
for such a time as this,
for such a time as this,
for such a time as this,
for such a time as this,
time, for such a time as

time, for such a time as

time, for such a time as

time, for such a time as

this,

this,

this,

this,

Accented

\frac{76}{\text{Accented}}
here, right here for this time and place you can live a mirror of His mercy A forgiven image of grace

For such a time as this.

Accented

CHORUS

For such a
this as this, for such a time as this,

for such a time as this,

for such a time as this,

Solo

For, such a time, such a time as

this I was placed upon the earth,

this I was placed upon the earth,
To hear the voice, To hear the voice of God And do His will. What-ever it is, For such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives... I am here And I am His...
For such a time as this,
this, for such a time, for such a time as this, such a time,
this, such a time as this, such a time, for such a time,

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as

for such a time, for such a time as
Oratorio: Esther - “For Such a Time as This”
Full Score

by

William R. Memmott

Duration: 50 minutes

Flute
Two Oboes
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Tuba
Percussion One: Tambourine Triangle, Gong
Percussion Two: Tanbak
Timpani
Piano (harp)
Soloists: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass
Chorus
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Contrabass
Narrator:

Five centuries before the Christian era, King Xerxes ruled over the kingdom of the Medes and Persians. To celebrate his wealth, power, and rulership he called a great feast.
Call together the people of the kingdom.

Solo from house left
Call together the people of the kingdom.
Obs.  
S  
A  
T  
B  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Cb.  

Come together people!  
Come together people!

Come,  
Come,  

CHORUS
O come, come together people!
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Tanb.

Tamb.

Pno.

S

A

T

B

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Sing

Sing

Sing

Sing

glo\-ry to the king of kings.

glo\-ry to the king of kings.

glo\-ry to the king of kings.

glo\-ry to the king of kings.
glory to the king of kings.

Halle-

...
lu - jah to the king_____ to the king_____ of kings.

Hal - le - lu - jah to the king_____ to the king_____ of
glory to the king, the king of kings. Sing

king of kings, the king of kings. Sing

king, to the king, the king of kings. Sing

lujah to the king, to the king of kings. Sing
Fl.
Obs.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tamb.
Timp.
Pno.

S
A
T
B
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

Glo - ri - a to the king, Glo - ri - a to the king.
Glo - ri - a to the king, Glo - ri - a to the king.
Glo - ri - a to the king, to the king.
Glo - ri - a to the king, to the king.
Glo - ri - a to the king, Glo - ri - a to the king.
Glo - ri - a to the king, Glo - ri - a to the king.
Glo - ri - a to the king, Glo - ri - a to the king.
Glo - ri - a to the king, Glo - ri - a to the king.
2 - Xerxes' Call

For a full one hundred and eighty days you've
seen the vast wealth of my king-dom. And you've
seen the splen-dor and the glo-ry of my king-ly maj-es-ty.
Now you've feasted for another seven days at this banquet in the palace garden.

My stewards have been instructed to serve each man what he
Now as you can see, Oh! I am in high
spir-its. Oh! from the wine, I com-

139
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

B

beau - ty
to the peo - ple

and the no - bles

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
Come, and behold, come, and behold Queen Vash-ti! Oh! Oh!
3 - The Eunuch's Call

Flute

Oboe 1 & 2

Bassoon

Trombone

Tambourine

Timpani

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Contrabass
Bn Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba.

Tamb.

Timp.

T

B

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

king has sent us here

To share his invitation

king has sent us here

To share his invitation

149
I will not go! Am I the latest jwewel?
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

Br. Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

Tamb.

Timp.

A

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

I will not go! How long has it

153
been since he invited me to his
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Tamb.

Timp.

A

No! I will not go! No!

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
I will not go!  No!  No!  No!
At your command, great Xeras... I present your experts in the
se\nt\nven\nprin\nces\nof\nPer\nsia\nand\nMed-i-a,\nwho\nsaw\nthe\nkings\n
peoples of all the provinces of King Xerxes

For the queen's conduct will be come

known to all the women, and so they will despise their husbands and say:

For the queen's conduct will be come.
King Xerxes commanded Queen Vashti to be brought before him, but she...
would not come! This very day the Persian and Medo-Chaldaean of the no-

bility who have heard about the queen's conduct will respond to all the king's
There will be no end of disrespect and nobles in the same way.
Hn.

Her.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Hn.  

Her.

Men.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

be

in

of

not

re-

Pe-


the presence of King Xerxes

The presence of King

enter
when the king’s edicts is proclaimed through out his realm,

all the women will respect their husbands from the least to the
Narrator: Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai who had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. Hadassah (Esther) won the favor of everyone who saw her. She was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence.
"Come with me to the royal residence."
I'll present you to the king, I'll present you to the king.
Narrator: Esther won his favor and approval more than any other virgins. The king set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Tnbk.

Pno.

S

A

T

B

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

king gave a great banquet, the
king gave a great banquet, the
king gave a great banquet, the
king gave a great banquet, the
Fl.
Obs.
Bsn.
Tnbk.
Pno.
S
A
T
B
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

king gave a great banquet for Esther.
6 - The Wedding

Flute
Oboe 1 & 2
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in B+
Trombone
Tuba
Tanbuk
Timpani
Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

We rejoice, we rejoice,
We rejoice, we rejoice,
We rejoice, we rejoice,
We rejoice, we rejoice,

191
We rejoice and we delight in
you, we rejoice and we delight in
We re-joice and we de-light, and de-light in you.

We re-joice and we de-light in you.

We re-joice and we de-light in you.
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

B♭ Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

S

A

T

B

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Ch.

you, we will praise your love more than wine.
See, the winter is past, the
Obs.  

Bsn.  

Hn.  

Tbn.  

Tanb.  

B  

Vln. 1  

Vln. 2  

Vla.  

Vc.  

Ch.  

rains over and gone  Flowers appear upon the
Earth the season of singing has come.
the cooing of doves is heard in the land.
many rivers can not sweep it away

many rivers can not sweep it away

many rivers can not sweep it away

many rivers can not sweep it away

man - y

man - y

man - y

man - y

many rivers can not sweep it away

many rivers can not sweep it away

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many rivers can not sweep it away

many rivers can not sweep it away
way come away with me come away with me come away with me
Fl.
Obs.
Bsn.
Hn.
B-Tpt.
Tbn.
Tuba
Tanb.
Timp.
S
A
T
B
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

with me, come away with me

with me, come away with me

with me, come away with me

with me, come away with me

with me, come away with me
Ah, da-duh-da!
225
No. 8 - Mordecai Uncovers the Assassination Plot
danger. I overheard Big-thana and Teresh plotting in
Narrator: When Esther reported this to the king, it was investigated and found to be true. **THE TWO OFFICIALS WERE HANGED ON THE GALLOWS!**
\[ \sum_\alpha \sum_\beta \sum_\gamma \sum_\delta \sum_\varepsilon \sum_\zeta \]
pregnant with evil conceives trouble and gives birth to disil...
falls in to the pit they have made. The trouble they cause recons on them, their violence comes down on their own heads.
love endures forever
Mordacai, O Mordacai, why do you disobey the king's command to
kneel down and pay honor, kneel down and pay honor to
\( \forall \), \( F \), \( \text{Obs.} \), \( \text{Bsn.} \), \( \text{Hn.} \), \( \text{Tbn.} \), \( \text{Tuba} \), \( \text{Timp.} \), \( \text{Ham.} \)

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Fl.} & \quad - \\
\text{Obs.} & \quad - \\
\text{Bsn.} & \quad - \\
\text{Hn.} & \quad - \\
\text{Tbn.} & \quad - \\
\text{Tuba} & \quad - \\
\text{Timp.} & \quad - \\
\text{Ham.} & \quad \text{Ha - - - man?} \\
\end{align*} \]
Fl. 13

Tanb.

Mor.

Vln. 1 13

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Obs. 15

Tanb.

Mor.

Vln. 1 15

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

I serve King X -

er - xes, but I bow down only
Fl.

Tanb.

Mor.

Vln. I

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Fl.

Obs.

Tanb.

Mor.

Vln. I

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

243
though I was carried, carried into exile, into exile by King
Fl.

Obs.

Tanb.

Mor.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

my allegiance remains,
my allegiance remains

my allegiance remains

to the king, the king of the Jews, Jehovah.

my allegiance remains

to the king, the king of the Jews, Jehovah.

my allegiance remains

to the king, the king of the Jews, Jehovah.
obs.
bsn.
tamb.
timp.
vl. 1
vl. 2
vla.
vla.
vc.
cb.
Tanb. 51

Mor.

Vln. 1

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Vln. 2

Cb.

Tanb. 54

Mor.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Xerxes, King Xerxes, there is a people in the kingdom who keep themselves separate. They don't o

51

54

253
Let a decree be issued to destroy them, and
I will give ten thousand talents of silver to the king's royal treasury.

I give you the signet ring from my finger.
Keep the money, and do with the people as you please.
10 - Mordecai’s Pleas to Esther
Narrator:
When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he put on sackcoth and ashes and went out into the city, wailing bitterly.
Fl.

Ob. 1 & 2

Bsn.

Tan. 1

Pno.

SOLO  mf

S

Zion.  There up on the pop - lar trees we hung our harps.

A

Zion.

T

Zion.

B

Zion.

Vln. 1

mf

Vln. II

Vla.

mf

Vc.

D.B.

\[
\sum \sum \sum \sum = \sum \sum \sum \sum
\]

\[
\sum \sum \sum \sum = \sum \sum \sum \sum
\]

\[
\sum \sum \sum \sum = \sum \sum \sum \sum
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\[
\sum \sum \sum \sum = \sum \sum \sum \sum
\]
they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

CHORUS

"Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

"Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

"Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"
Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!
How can we sing the songs of the Lord
Poem by Wayne Watson

"For Such a Time as This"

Tanbak

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

Bsn.

Tanb.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
Tanb. 

S

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

all I have is now to be faithful

to be holy And to shine Lighting up the
16
Tanb.

16
S

16
dark-ness

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

18
Tanb.

18
S

voice the truth to the na-tions

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

271
for such a time as this,
For such a time as this,
for such a time as this

For such a time as
Ob.

Bsn.

Tamb.

Timp.

Pno.

S

A

T

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

for such a time as this,

as

for such a time as this,

as

this,

for such a time as
such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives___

I am here And I am His___ For

such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives___

B-Tpt.
Obs.

Tamb.

Timp.

Pno.

S

A

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

time as this, for such a time as
Fl.
Obs.
Bsn.
Hn.
Tamb.
Timp.
Pno.
S
A
T
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.

For such a time as this,

for such a time as

this.

this

for such a time as

\( \forall \, \exists \)
12 - Esther's Banquet

what is your petition?

Queen  Esther, what is your petition?
It will be given you, it will be given you. What is your request?


13
even up to half the kingdom, it will be

grant ed you, it will be grant ed,

16

293
even up to half the kingdom, even up to half the kingdom will be granted you.

Queen Esther,
what is your petition?  Queen: Esther, what is your petition?
13 - "If I Have Found"

Flute
Obre 1 & 2
Bassoon
Timpanti
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Double Bass
Timp.
Euh.

If I have found favor with you, your majesty.

296
and if it pleases you, grant me my life.
quest. For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated.
male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet merely been sold as male and female slaves, would have kept quiet
slaves, I would have kept quiet, kept quiet,

because no distress, would justify

disturbing the king, disturbing the king. This is my
Fl.

Ob. 1 & 2

Bsn.

Timp.

Estd.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.
Where is he? the man who has dared do such a thing.
rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden.
king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.
garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where
Es-ther was re-clin-ing:_______ Will he ev-en mo-

\[ 38 \]
\[ b\] \[ 38 \]
\[ b\] 

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

30

\[ 30 \]
\[ b\] 30

Hn.

B♭ Tpt.

le-st the queen, mo-lest the queen_______ while she is with me in the

\[ 314 \]
Hn.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

gallows reaching to a height of fifty cubits stands by
Fl.
Obs.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Tuba
Tan.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

317
for Mor-de-cai who spoke up to help the king.
15 - The Hanging

\[ \text{Tempo: } \frac{\text{M}}{\text{N}} = 100 \]

\[ \text{Simile} \]
gain, I plead with the king again. I beg you to put an end to the
Grant the Jews in every city the right to assemble

and protect themselves; to destroy, kill and annihilate

the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them

and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies.
I now see that the God of the Jews has brought Esther to the court for such a time as this.
17. "For Such a Time as This" - finale
all I have is now to be faithful

to be holy And to shine Lighting up the
darkness Right now I really have no choice But to
voice the truth to the nations A generation
for such a time as this,
for such a time as this

for such a time as this,

For such a time as
for such a time as this,

for such a time as this,

for such a time as this,

for such a time as this,
For such a time as this, I was placed upon the earth.
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S: time, for such a time as
A: time, for such a time as
T: time, for such a time as
B: time, for such a time as
Bsn.

Hn.

Tanb.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Hn.

Tanb.

T

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

367
do you ever wonder why it seems like the grass is always greener under everybody else's sky. But right
For such a time as this.
To hear the voice. To hear the voice of God. And do His will, whatever it is, For

378
such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives

I am here And I am His For
For such a time as this,
for such a time as this, for such a time as

For such a time as this, for such a time as

for such a time as this, for such a time as

For such a time as this, for such a time as

for such a time as this, for such a time as

Vln. 1

Vln. 2
F. Ob.
Bn.
Hn.
Bs Tpt.
Tanb.
Tamb.
Timp.
Pno.
S
A
T
B
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
this, such a time, for such a time, for such a
this, such a time, for such a time, for such a
this, such a time, for such a time, for such a
this, such a time, for such a time, for such a
Vita

The author was born in Plainfield, New Jersey. He obtained his Bachelor’s degree in music composition from The University of New Orleans in 2013. He entered The University of New Orleans music graduate program to pursue a Master’s degree in composition in 2013 under Dr. Yotam Haber.