

Alexander Massey

Yism'chu Hashamayim

Ps. 96:11

(voice & piano)

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Yism'chu Hashamayim

Psalm 96:11

“Let the heavens rejoice and the earth exult;
let the sea and all within it thunder.”

This is such a joyous text, it needs music that will get people clapping, stamping and raising the roof. This tune rolls around a lot. To get a feel for what the music is doing with the words, here is a literal translation: “Let there be rejoicing by the heavens, and exultation by the earth; let there be thundering by the sea, and everything in it.”

I’ve been told that my setting of it is something of an earworm. Is that a good thing? I hope so.

I wrote this setting on 2020 for our Musaf service at Yom Kippur in Oxford.

Yism'chu Hashamayim

Music: Alexander Massey

Text: Psalm 96:11

This is such a joyous text, it's just asking for musical setting that will get people clapping, stamping and raising the roof. The tune laughs, leaps and plunges – it's hard to stop it rolling around and around and around ...

Vigorously ♩ = 78

Capo 2: Am Bm Dm Em E7 F#7 Am Bm F G Dm Em G A C E7 F#7

Yis - m'-chu ha-sha - ma - yim, yis - m'-chu ha-sha - ma - yim,

Am Bm A7 B7 Dm Em G A C Dm/F Em/G Am/E Bm/F# NC E7 F#7 Am (A7) Bm (B7) **Fine**

yis - m' - chu ha-sha - ma - yim, v' - ta - geil ha - a - retz.

Dm Em C D

Yi - - - ram ha - - - yam,

13 Dm Em Am Bm Dm Em Am Bm E F# E7 F#7 D.C. al Fine

yi - ram ha - yam u - m' - lo' - o.

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth exult;
let the sea and all within it thunder.

יִשְׁמְחוּ הַשָּׁמַיִם, וְתִגַּל הָאָרֶץ;
יִרְעַם הַיָּם, וּמְלָאוּ.