

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE

Text based on a hymn by
Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Melchior Franck, ca. 1579-1639
from *Musikalischer Bergkreyen*, Nuremberg, 1602
Edited by Richard Proulx

f Solo Soprano or Tenor

1. This is the day the Lord
2. This is the day Christ rose
3. Ho - san - na in the high

3 *f*

has made; 1. all time and truth
from death; 2. e - vil's strong hold
- est strains 3. Chris - tians through - out

1. all time and truth
2. e - vil's strong hold
3. Chris - tians through - out

1. all time and truth, all
2. e - vil's strong hold for -
3. Chris - tians through - out the

1. all time and truth
2. e - vil's strong hold
3. Chris - tians through - out

3
for rehearsal only

NOTES: Melchior Franck was born in the German town of Zittau and became a student of Adam Gumpelzhaimer in Augsburg. Moving to Nuremberg for a time, Franck studied with Hans Leo Hassler, who passed on his knowledge of the Netherlands motet-style as well as Venetian antiphonal writing. From about 1603 he served as kapellmeister to the Prince of Coburg and, despite the ravages of the Thirty Years War, produced a vast output: more than forty collections of motets, thirteen secular vocal collections, and four sets of instrumental dances. In his motets, Franck took care to provide Latin texts with German translations; his goal was to take simple chorales and psalm-tunes and to “elaborate them for the glory of God.”

This Is the Day the Lord Has Made is taken from the collection *Musikalischer Bergkreyen*, published in Nuremberg in 1602. It is based on a sixteenth-century folk song “So wünsch ich ihr ein gute Nacht”; Franck’s setting (marked “in contrapuncto colorato”) is unusual in that each verse is introduced by solo soprano or tenor.

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5

is God's a - lone.
 for - ev - er fell.
 , the earth now raise.

time and truth is God's
 ev - il's hold for - ev
 the wide earth for - ev

time and truth is God's
 ev er fell, for - ev
 whole wide earth, for - ev

is God's
 for - ev
 the whole

7

Let heav'n re - joice, let
 This day the saints his
 The high - est heav'ns where

a - lone. Let heav'n re - joice, let
 er - fell. This day the saints his
 er - raise. The high - est heav'ns where

a - lone. Let heav'n re - joice, let
 er - fell. This day the saints his
 er - raise. The high - est heav'ns where

a - lone. Let heav'n re - joice, let
 er - fell. This day the saints his
 earth raise. The high - est heav'ns where