

Drew Morton

MUSIC



Music for schools

'Hallel Halleluya' – a song for Holy Week / Easter

Primary KS 2 / Lower Secondary KS 3

This is a longer song than some of the others, with multiple verses which can be sung either as solos or by a series of small groups. If considered too long, the chorus doesn't have to be sung at the end of each verse.

The chorus is based on a fragment of an ancient Jewish melody (a 'hallel'), which was often sung at Pesach / Passover or other festivals. The lyrics tell the story of the Passion as a conversation during the Last Supper with a final verse full of hope for the future.

Scored for upper voices (though easily sung an octave lower), optional harmony and piano; backing track(s) available separately.

Lyrics:

*Chorus: Hallel, Halleluya, Hallel, Halleluya,
Halleluya, Halleluya, Hallel, Halleluya.*

*The meal was in the Upper Room, a simple table laid;
They'd gathered here at his request, uncertain and afraid.
He blessed and gave the bread and wine as custom had decreed.
And said "Before we leave tonight there will be one misdeed"*

Chorus

*He told them how he'd be betrayed, tried, sentenced and abused;
How all his friends would run away and he'd be cut and bruised.
He'd stand before the Roman Lord without a word to say
The soldiers would man-handle him and force him to obey.*

Chorus (quietly)

*At twelve o'clock the foll'wing day, he'd come to Calvary
And there they'd lay him down and nail him roughly to a tree
His friends would weep, his en'mies gloat, as his last words forgave;
They'd take him down and place his body quietly in a cave.*

Chorus (quietly)

*They listened unbelievably. He didn't have to die;
They'd fight for him and crack some heads and make his en'mies fly.
He told them that was not the way, the only way was peace
And love would only conquer hate when war and violence ceased.*

Chorus

*He asked them all to wait for him and not to fret or mourn
He would return to comfort them and make them feel reborn.
If all his life and sacrifice was not to be in vain
Their lives would have to change for Love to win and Peace to reign.*

Chorus (loudly)