Editorial note: Olaf C. Christiansen was the second conductor of the St. Olaf Choir, a position he held from 1941–1968. Like his father, St. Olaf Choir founder F. Melius Christiansen, Olaf wrote extensively for the college ensembles, including arrangements of hymns such as "Lift Up Your Heads."

This processional anthem was originally written for a St. Olaf Christmas Festival and remains a treasured work in the Christiansen repertoire, as Olaf included it in his final concert tour with the St. Olaf Choir in 1968. His focus with the ensemble was always rhythmic and tonal precision so that nothing would distract from the message of the text. In "Lift Up Your Heads," choirs should strive to sing with energy and vitality, allowing words such as "Fling" to spring from the page and propel the music forward.

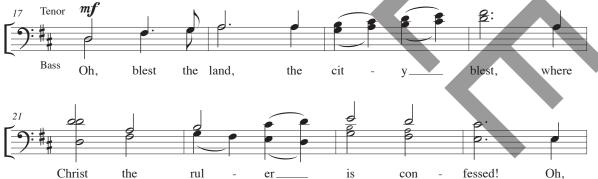
We are grateful for the chance to include this edition in the St. Olaf Choral Series as a way to introduce new singers to the spirit and creativity of Olaf C. Christiansen's compositional craft.

This anthem is recorded by the St. Olaf Choir on the CD *Great Hymns of Faith, Vol.* 2, available from St. Olaf Records.

Lift Up Your Heads

for SATB voices, a cappella

George Weissel, 1590-1635 Truro tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt. T. Williams, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789 arr. Olaf C. Christiansen, 1901-1984 Soprano Lift your heads, migh be up ye ty gates; King The hold, the waits! glo ry draw King of kings is the near; ing Sav of the world is ior here.



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