## IZ FOR ARTHANA!

(POLYELEOS) Psalms 135-136

Stepan Vasil'evich Smolensky's (1848-1909) greatest contribution to Orthodox church music lay in the field of musicology. As Director of the Moscow Synodal Choir School from 1889 to 1901, he inspired an entire generation of Russian composers to discover the vast heritage of ancient chants and to make use of them in their works. His own small compositional output is based on chant melodies as well.

Praise the Name of the Lord is a harmonization of an old chant melody Smolensky heard in a Novgorod monastery. Originally conceived for male choir, it was later published in a setting for large mixed choir. In the present edition the work has been transposed from C major to G major and arranged for a small mixed choir. Tempo and dynamic prarkings are the composer's; the metronome marking has been suggested by the editor.



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