

## Shepherd, Dancer, Poet, King - Telling and Singing the Stories of King David AUDIO AND VIDEO RESOURCES

### *Music resources for choral performance*

Arthur Honegger, **King David (Le Roi David)** - this would be a big, expensive project. Someone who knows the piece well might be able to select some manageable bits to use.

Googlebooks has available - free! - C. Hubert H. Parry's oratorio **King Saul**, scored for choir and piano.

The Choral Public Domain Library ([www.cpd.org](http://www.cpd.org)) has free editions of these works:

**Inveni David** - Palestrina (the text is from Psalm 89)

**Inveni David** - Bruckner

**David's Lament** - William Billings - a Sacred Harp classic!

**When David heard** - Thomas Weelkes (*fl.* 1600)

**When David heard**, Eric Whitacre, SSAATTBB a capella, contemporary

**Planxit autem David** - Josquin des Prez (the text is II Samuel 1:17-27)

### *Resources for congregational singing*

David makes an appearance in **Jerusalem, My Happy Home**, Hymnal 1982 #620

**Psalmody** - the summer RCL psalms are often tied to the King David lections.

John Newton (of Amazing Grace fame) wrote a hymn about King David - you can find it at

<http://hymntime.com/tch/htm/h/o/w/howdavid.htm>

To give you the flavor, here are the first 2 verses: *How David, when by sin deceived, from bad to worse went on! For when the Holy Spirit's grieved, our strength and guard are gone. His eye on Bathsheba once fixed, with poison filled his soul; he ventured on adultery next, and murder crowned the whole.*

This is (to P.G.S.) the best of the several hymns at [hymntime.com](http://hymntime.com) based on 1 and 2 Samuel. No one seems to have written a hymn from 1 and 2 Samuel since 1888 or so.

### *Music resources for paperless singing*

**Little David, play on your harp** - a good quieting-down song

*A meditation song, to be repeated with calm, reflective energy - m=120*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "Lit - tle Dav - id, play on your harp, al - le - lu, al - le -". The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "lu! Lit - tle Dav - id, play on your harp, al - le - lu."

### *Audio resources*

**King David's Lyre; Echoes of Ancient Israel** © 2008 Michael Levy (format: CD-R). Levy writes, "This album, & my second album, "Lyre of the Levites", are dedicated to restoring again, for the first time in almost 2000 years, the mystical, ancient sounds of the "Kinnor"; the Jewish Temple Lyre...the actual "Harp" of King David." Available from [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com)

**Tales from the Old Testament.** Told by Jim Weiss. Greathall Productions, 1989.

Designed to encourage children to read original stories on their own, or with the help of more experienced readers in their lives.; Abraham and the idols -- Noah and the ark -- The story of Ruth -- David and Goliath -- David's dance -- Wise King Solomon -- Queen Esther.

### ***Leonard Cohen -***

Leonard Cohen's song **Hallelujah** uses imagery from the King David story to explore a failed love affair. There's a good cover of it on Jeff Buckley's **Grace** album. Adult audiences only.

### ***Want a lyre?***

Should you want to get your hands on a lyre of your own, larkinthemorning.com has three at \$70 / \$120 / \$240 and there are various youtube videos showing how to play them - "Michael Levy" and "kinnor" are useful search terms.

### ***Video***

**Kingdom of David: The Saga of the Israelites** - this DVD is a PBS production and probably much less steamy than other video treatments of King David's - um - personal life.

You may well have to deal with questions about **Raiders of the Lost Ark!**

And - to our utter astonishment -

***KINGS, Sunday nights at 8 pm on NBC.***

Allesandra Stanley writes in the New York Times:

The handsome young soldier who faces down a Goliath tank on “Kings” is named David, so most viewers should realize pretty quickly that this new drama from [NBC](#) is a modern-day retelling of the Old Testament tale. . . King Saul is known here as Silas Benjamin and played by Ian McShane (“Deadwood”) as the slippery, self-made monarch of Gilboa, who presides over a costly war with Gath from a glass office tower in the restored capital of Shiloh. (It looks like a rebuilt Manhattan, post-Armageddon.) Silas is torn between peace-seeking aides and hawkish advisers, and they include the head of CrossGen, a Halliburtonish defense contractor propping up his regime. David Shepherd (Chris Egan) is an ordinary soldier, smoking cigarettes at the front until fate and the Goliath tank turn him into a national hero — and a press aide in King Silas’s court. The story of David works so well as a modern parable of power and corruption that it seems remarkable that there aren’t more biblical adaptations around.

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*This material was prepared by Pamela Grenfell Smith (with assistance from Jennie Kiffmeyer) for their workshop **Shepherd, Dancer, Poet, King - Telling and Singing the Stories of King David** offered at Under One Roof, a conference sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, in March 2009.*