## Editor's Note

George F. Handel was a renowned international composer of instrumental and vocal works at the end of the Baroque era. Born in Germany, he composed works in that country as well as in Italy and England. His large-scale oratorios in English included many exuberant choruses for the people which made him especially popular in England.

Handel's "Awake the Trumpet's Lofty Sound" is a very energetic and joyful chorus from his oratorio *Samson*. The work was composed immediately after completion of the *Messigh* in 1741 and was first performed in London in 1743. Newburgh Hamilton's libretto used in *Samson* is an adaptation and abridgment of John Milton's poem *Samson Agonistes* and some of Milton's other poems. In this edition, the original words "Awake the trumpet's lofty sound!" are followed by new words provided by the editor.

The source for this edition is *George Friedrich Händels Werke*, Volume 10, published by Breitkopf and Härtel (1861). The original has been transposed down a major third to provide more accessible ranges for the vocal and optional trumpet parts. Scored originally for S.A.T.B. voices with an accompaniment of trumpets, timpani, strings and continuo, this new edition includes a keyboard reduction of the instrumental parts and optional trumpet parts as the accompaniment. The optional trumpet parts are an adaptation of those found in Handel's original score. Modern clefs, and tempo and dynamic indications have also been added by the editor. An arrangement of this chorus for S.A.B. voices is also available (16208).

The very joyful message of the text should be conveyed in performance by a highly energetic and rhythmic presentation of the musical ideas. The normally stressed syllables and words should be heard by the listener as the various musical ideas are contrasted with the suggested dynamic changes.



## AWAKE THE TRUMPET'S LOFTY SOUND

from "Samson"

for S.A.T.B. voices and keyboard with optional trumpets \*

Words by JOHN MILTON and PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN Music by GEORGE F. HANDEL (1685-1759) Edited and arranged by PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN



<sup>\*</sup> Parts for two B trumpets are on page 16.





























## AWAKE THE TRUMPET'S LOFTY SOUND

from "Samson"

TRUMPETS I & II IN Bb

Music by GEORGE F. HANDEL (1685-1759) Edited and arranged by PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN

