## JOYFUL, JOYFUL, SING PRAISE

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied, with optional brass and percussion\*

Words and Music by **JAY ALTHOUSE** 



<sup>\*</sup> Parts for 3 trumpets, trombone, tuba (or trombone II), snare drum, cymbals, timpani and full director's score (No. 16086) and a performance/accompaniment cassette (No. 16087) are available separately.

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Joyful, Joyful, Sing Praise is a triumphant praise anthem for the general church year that may be especially appropriate for Ascension, Christ the King and Eastertide. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include 2 Samuel 5: 1-12, Psalm 48, Mark 4: 35-41 and 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21. One basic homiletical theme is singing praise to the victorious God who rules in majesty over His sovereign people.

Perform this spirited anthem with an articulate legato in which every eighth note is energetically sounded within fluid, artfully shaped phrases. Apply dynamic shading as indicated by the music. For example, in mm. 9-12 and mm. 13-15, the music rises sequentially. Begin each of these passages with a slightly softer dynamic, then crescends with each sequence. Avoid the temptation to accent the phrase endings when the final pitches are sung on an unaccented syllable (e.g., m. 8, "gladness").

Similarly, avoid singing "note-for-note" when a long f text is sung in rapid succession. Rehearse mm. 33-40 by speaking the text in tempo with great energy and sensitivity to those words that naturally receive more stress. For example, the words of syllables with greatest stress in mm. 37-38 are "Great," "Lord," "-jes" of "majestic" and "-um" of "triumphant." DO NOT accent "and" on the downbeat of m. 38!

When performing this anthem with brass, carefully balance the singers and instrumentalists. If the room acoustic contains a pronounced degree of reverberation, the singers may need to sing with very little vibrato an almost staccato articulation with especially vigorous diction in order to balance the instruments. An instrumental packet is available separately (No. 16086) including individual parts for 3 B-flat trumpets, trombone, tuba (optional bass trombone), snare drum and cymbal, and timpani, with a full director's score (including keyboard and vocals). A performance/accompaniment cassette is also available (No. 16087).

**Jay Althouse** has written choral music for all levels of school and church choirs. He has over 450 choral compositions and arrangements in print. Jay received a B.S. in Music Education and an M.Ed. in Music from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



