



Mark W. Lawson,
President

FROM THE PRESIDENT

On a recent trip I read an article in the International Herald Tribune about some research conducted by Terry F. Pettijohn II, a professor of psychology at Coastal Carolina University. Dr. Pettijohn's research focuses on how economic and social factors shape preferences in popular music. In summary, he found that during uncertain times, people tend to prefer songs that are longer, slower, and have more meaningful themes.

It made me wonder if the greatest gift that the church might be able to give during these stressful economic days is one of meaningful songs. Entering the church in a time of instability and hearing "All My Hope on God is Founded" or "If You but Trust in God to Guide You" might be just the kind of thing that can ease a worried mind. As someone in one of the conferences I recently attended said, "in these days when we may be working with the least, the people may be expecting the most." Printing anthem lyrics in the worship service folder, giving background on why certain hymns and pieces were written, and calling attention to the biblical basis of the music used are all ways to provide windows into more meaningful experiences with worship music.

The People's Psalter

Hal Hopson's new publication [The People's Psalter](#) is getting a lot of attention and the sales are brisk. Small churches are finding out that they can copy the settings for their choirs and that it provides instant anthem material. Worship leaders are discovering that many of the psalm settings are built on tunes that the congregation already sings, which creates a comfortable environment for introducing the new material. I hope that you will take time to look at this very useful new worship tool.

Downloadable Music

MorningStar has recently added several new brass pieces to our growing list of downloadable pieces. Downloading is a great way to save on shipping and also allows you to get things instantaneously. We hope you will take time to explore this feature. Below is a list of some of our newer brass settings, along with some seasonal favorites.

[All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name - Hobby](#)

[All My Hope on God Is Founded - Burkhardt](#)

[All People That on Earth Do Dwell - Burkhardt](#)

[Angels from the Realms of Glory - Biery](#)

[Angels from the Realms of Glory - Burkhardt](#)

[Angels We Have Heard on High - Burkhardt](#)

[For All the Saints - Burkhardt](#)

[For the Beauty of the Earth - Burkhardt](#)

[God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven - Burkhardt](#)

[Hark! The Herald Angels Sing - Biery](#)

[Hark! The Herald Angels Sing - Burkhardt](#)

[Joy to the World - Burkhardt](#)

[Let All Things Now Living - Burkhardt](#)

[Nimrod - Elgar/Hyslop](#)

[Now Thank We All Our God - Burkhardt](#)

[O Come, All Ye Faithful - Biery](#)

[O God, Our Help in Ages Past - Burkhardt](#)

[O Little Town of Bethlehem - Biery](#)

[Of the Father's Love Begotten - Burkhardt](#)

[On this Day Earth Shall Ring - Haan](#)

[Overture from Water Music, Suite 2 - Handel/Burkhardt](#)

[Silent Night - Biery](#)

New CD from the National Lutheran Choir

A new National Lutheran Choir CD has just been released, just in time for the Christmas season. This is a great idea for gift giving or for your own listening pleasure. [Click here](#) for a complete contents listing.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

– Mark Lawson

