

Stephen Hill

*“Before the mountains
Were born...”*

Concert Band

(Grade 4)


SARAHTIM Music Publishing


Instrumentation

Piccolo

Flute 1-2

Oboe

Bb Clarinet 1-3

Bb Bass Clarinet

Bassoon

Eb Alto Saxophone 1-2

Bb Tenor Saxophone

Eb Baritone Saxophone

Bb Trumpet 1-3

French Horn 1-4

Trombone 1-3

Euphonium

Tuba

String Bass

Timpani

Percussion

(Snare Drum, Bass Drum, 3 Toms, High-Hat, Triangle,
Tambourine, Shaker, Rain Stick, Wind Chimes, Cymbals, Gong)

Mallets

(Chimes, Vibraphone, Marimba, Glockenspiel)

Piano

Duration - ca. 7:20



SARAHTIM Music Publishing



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About the Work...

“Before the mountains were born...” (Grade 4) is a two-movement work reflecting two Old Testament passages.

1. Chorale - Psalm 90:2 *“Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity, you are God.”*

Lyrical and Polytonal. The Chorale begins the work with gentleness and returns after the Toccata to conclude in triumph.

2. Toccata - Psalm 98:8,9 *“Let the rivers clap their hands; let the mountains shout together for joy before the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world righteously and the peoples fairly.”*

The Toccata begins with a rhythmic timpani solo that remains upbeat and joyful as each section enters, culminating in a jubilant and rapturous tutti. The timpani solo returns and sets up the closing section. The brass section enters, joined with accompanying woodwind flourishes that build to a triumphant restatement of the Chorale.

About the Composer...

Stephen Hill (b.1958) was born and raised in Southern California. His compositional lineage includes the likes of Roy Harris, Ingolf Dahl, Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, and Howard Hanson through study with Philip Westin (Cerritos College, 1976-1978) and most notably with W. Francis McBeth at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas (1978-1980). Stephen continued with graduate work at California State University, Los Angeles (1980-83) with composers Dr. Byong Kon Kim and William Hill. He composes for the simple joy of it.

For over 40 years, Stephen taught K-12 instrumental music concurrently in both the Private Christian School (Whittier Christian) and Public School (California High School) settings. Though semi-retired, Stephen still works with students by continuing to teach part-time at California High School and maintaining his private music studio, where he plays and teaches Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, and Piano. Stephen also plays with the church orchestra at Calvary Chapel, La Habra, CA. where he attends. When teaching full-time, he was primarily a "summer" composer. No longer teaching full-time, Stephen has the privilege to compose beyond just the summer months and publishes through his company, SARAHTIM—a title which comes from simply combining the name of his daughter Sarah and son Timothy.

(Notes by Dr. John Burdett, Azusa Pacific University)

Permission to Copy Parts...

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“Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with His gracious presence.” J.S. Bach

“The Lord is my shepherd...” (Psalm 23)

*“Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world,
from eternity to eternity, you are God” (Psalm 90:2)*

"Before the mountains were born..."

(1. Chorale - Psalm 90:2 / 2. Toccata - Psalm 98:8,9)

1. Chorale

Stephen Hill (ASCAP)

Reflectively ♩=56

Piccolo

Flute 1,2

Oboe

Clarinet in B \flat 1

Clarinet in B \flat 2,3

Bass Clarinet in B \flat

Bassoon

Alto Saxophone 1,2

Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

Trumpet in B \flat 1

Trumpet in B \flat 2,3

Horn in F 1,2

Horn in F 3,4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2,3

Euphonium

Tuba

String Bass

Timpani

Snare Drum

Bass Drum

3 Tom-toms

High Hat

Cym./Tri./Tamb
Shaker/W. Chimes
Gong/Rain Stick

Mallet 1

Mallet 2

Piano

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Clarinets 1, 2 & 3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophones 1 & 2, Tenor Saxophone, and Bass Saxophone. The brass section includes Trumpets 1, 2 & 3, Horns 1, 2, 3 & 4, Trombones 1, 2 & 3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The string section includes String Bass, Timpani, Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Tom-tom, and Hi-Hat. The percussion section includes Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine/Shaker/Wood Chimes/Gong/Rain Stick, Mallets 1 and 2, and Piano. The score features various dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, *ppp*, and *arco*. Performance instructions include "Solo muted" for the first trumpet and "1." for the first flute. The score is divided into measures 17 through 23, with a 4/4 time signature.

"Before the mountains were born..."

B

rit. **A Tempo**

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Clarinets 1, 2 & 3, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophones 1 & 2, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes Trumpets 1, 2 & 3, Horns 1, 2, 3 & 4, Trombones 1, 2 & 3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The string section includes String Bass and Timpani. Percussion includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Tom-tom, Hi-Hat, Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine/Wood Chimes, Gong/Rain Stick, Mallets 1, Vibraphone, and Piano. The score is in 4/4 time and features dynamic markings such as *p*, *pp*, and *a2*. A large 'PERUSAL SCORE' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

"Before the mountains were born..."

rit.

"Before the mountains were born..."

D A Tempo rit.

42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51

2. Toccata

"Before the mountains were born..."

8

E Joyful $\text{♩} = 146$

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The instruments listed on the left are: Picc., Fl. 1,2, Ob., Cl. 1, Cl. 2,3, B. Cl., Bsn., Alto Sax. 1,2, Ten. Sax., Bari. Sax., Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2,3, Hn. 1,2, Hn. 3,4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2,3, Euph., Tba., S. Bass, Timp., S. D., B.D., Tom-t., Hi-Hat, Cym./Tri./Tamb Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick, Mlt., and Pno. The score includes dynamic markings such as *p*, *mp*, and *f*. A large, diagonal watermark reading "PERUSALS COPY" is overlaid across the entire page.

"Before the mountains were born..."

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts from top to bottom:

- Picc.
- Fl. 1,2
- Ob.
- Cl. 1
- Cl. 2,3
- B. Cl.
- Bsn.
- Alto Sax. 1,2
- Ten. Sax.
- Bari. Sax.
- Tpt. 1
- Tpt. 2,3
- Hn. 1,2
- Hn. 3,4
- Tbn. 1
- Tbn. 2,3
- Euph.
- Tba.
- S. Bass
- Timp.
- S. D. / B. D.
- Tom-t. / Hi-Hat
- Cym./Tri./Tamb Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick
- Mlt.
- Pno.

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (e.g., *f*, *mf*), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions like *arco* and *a2*. The percussion section includes specific notation for S.D., B.D., Tom-t., Hi-Hat, and various shakers.

"Before the mountains were born..."

F

Picc.

Fl. 1,2

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2,3

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax. 1,2

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2,3

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2,3

Euph.

Tba.

S. Bass

Timp.

S. D.

B. D.

Tom-t.

Hi-Hat

Cym./Tri./Tamb
Shaker/W. Chimes
Gong/Rain Stick

Mlt.

Pno.

PERUSALS SCORE

"Before the mountains were born..."

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Clarinets 1, 2 & 3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophones 1 & 2, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes Trumpets 1, 2 & 3, Horns 1, 2, 3 & 4, Trombones 1, 2 & 3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Tom-toms, Hi-Hat, Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine, Shaker/Wood Chimes, and Gong/Rain Stick. The string section includes Violins 1 & 2, Violins 3 & 4, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The piano part is at the bottom. The score is marked with dynamics such as *ff* and *Loco*. A large, diagonal watermark reading "PERUSAL SCORE" is overlaid across the entire page.

H

Picc. *fff*

Fl. 1,2 *fff*

Ob. *fff*

Cl. 1 *fff* *soli* *mf*

Cl. 2,3 *fff* *a2 soli* *mf*

B. Cl. *fff*

Bsn. *fff*

Alto Sax. 1,2 *fff*

Ten. Sax. *fff*

Bari. Sax. *fff*

Tpt. 1 *fff*

Tpt. 2,3 *fff*

Hn. 1,2 *fff*

Hn. 3,4 *fff*

Tbn. 1 *fff*

Tbn. 2,3 *fff*

Euph. *fff*

Tba. *fff*

S. Bass *fff*

Timp. *fff*

S. D. *fff*

B.D. *fff*

Tom-t. *f*

Hi-Hat *f*

Cym./Tri./Tamb Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick *fff*

Tri. *p*

Mlt. 1 *mp*

Mlt. 2 *mp* *p*

Pno. *mp* *p*

"Before the mountains were born..."

Musical score for orchestral instruments. The score is written for measures 88 through 94. The instruments listed on the left are: Picc., Fl. 1,2, Ob., Cl. 1, Cl. 2,3, B. Cl., Bsn., Alto Sax. 1,2, Ten. Sax., Bari. Sax., Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2,3, Hn. 1,2, Hn. 3,4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2,3, Euph., Tba., S. Bass, Timp., S. D., B.D., Tom-t., Hi-Hat, Cym./Tri./Tamb Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick, Mlt. 1, Mlt. 2, and Pno. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (mf, mp), articulation (accents), and performance instructions (e.g., 'a2' for alternate fingerings). A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PERUSALS ONLY' is overlaid across the entire page.

"Before the mountains were born..."

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flutes 1 and 2, Oboe, Clarinets 1 and 2/3, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Alto Saxophones 1 and 2, Tenor Saxophone, and Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes Trumpets 1 and 2/3, Horns 1, 2 and 3, 4, Trombones 1 and 2/3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Tom-toms, Hi-Hat, Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine/Shaker/Wood Chimes/Gong/Rain Stick, and Timpani. The piano part is written for two hands. The score spans measures 95 to 100. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PERUSAL SCORE' is overlaid across the entire page. The key signature is B-flat major, and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked *ff* (fortissimo) for the brass and piano parts in the final measures.

"Before the mountains were born..."

"Before the mountains were born..."

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Clarinets 1, 2 & 3, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, and Alto Saxophones 1 & 2. The brass section includes Trumpets 1, 2 & 3, Horns 1, 2, 3 & 4, Trombones 1, 2 & 3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The string section includes Soprano and Bass Violins, Violas, Celli, and Double Basses. The percussion ensemble includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Tom-toms, Hi-Hat, Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine/Shaker/Water Chimes/Gong/Rain Stick, and Gong. The score features various dynamics such as *f*, *mf*, *mf < f*, and *sfz*. There are also performance markings like *a2* and *Glk*. The score is divided into measures 107 through 112, with a 3/4 time signature and a 4/4 time signature indicated by large numbers.

"Before the mountains were born..."

K

The musical score is written for a large ensemble. It begins with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into several systems of staves. The woodwind section includes Piccolo (Picc.), Flutes 1 and 2 (Fl. 1,2), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinets 1 and 2,3 (Cl. 1, Cl. 2,3), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophones 1 and 2 (Alto Sax. 1,2), Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.). The brass section includes Trumpets 1 and 2,3 (Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2,3), Horns 1,2 and 3,4 (Hn. 1,2, Hn. 3,4), Trombones 1 and 2,3 (Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2,3), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba (Tba.). The percussion section includes Snare Drum (S. D.), Bass Drum (B.D.), Tom-tom (Tom-t.), Hi-Hat, and Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine/Shaker/Water Chimes/Gong/Rain Stick (Cym./Tri./Tamb Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick). The keyboard section includes Mallet 1 (Mlt. 1) and Mallet 2 (Mlt. 2), and Piano (Pno.). Dynamics such as *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte) are indicated throughout. Performance markings include *a2* (second ending) and *Glk* (glissando). A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PERUSAL COPY' is overlaid across the entire page.

"Before the mountains were born..."

Musical score for 'Before the mountains were born...'. The score is written for a large orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Picc.
- Fl. 1,2
- Ob.
- Cl. 1
- Cl. 2,3
- B. Cl.
- Bsn.
- Alto Sax. 1,2
- Ten. Sax.
- Bari. Sax.
- Tpt. 1
- Tpt. 2,3
- Hn. 1,2
- Hn. 3,4
- Tbn. 1
- Tbn. 2,3
- Euph.
- Tba.
- S. Bass
- Timp.
- S. D. B.D.
- Tom-t. Hi-Hat
- Cym./Tri./Tamb Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick
- Mlt. 1
- Mlt. 2
- Pno.

The score features various musical notations including dynamics (ff, f, f^{a2}), articulation (accents), and performance instructions (Choke). A large 'PERUSAL COPY' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Jubilant!

"Before the mountains were born..."

Picc.

Fl. 1,2

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2,3

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Alto Sax. 1,2

Ten. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2,3

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2,3

Euph.

Tba.

S. Bass

Timp.

S. D.
B. D.

Tom-t.
Hi-Hat

Cym./Tri./Tamb
Shaker/W. Chimes
Gong/Rain Stick

Mlt. 1

Marimba

Pno.

8^{va}

"Before the mountains were born..."

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The instruments listed on the left are: Picc., Fl. 1,2, Ob., Cl. 1, Cl. 2,3, B. Cl., Bsn., Alto Sax. 1,2, Ten. Sax., Bari. Sax., Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2,3, Hn. 1,2, Hn. 3,4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2,3, Euph., Tba., S. Bass, Timp., S. D., B.D., Tom-t., Hi-Hat, Cym./Tri./Tamb Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick, Mlt. 1, Mlt., and Pno. The score spans five measures, with measure numbers 136, 137, 138, 139, and 140 indicated at the bottom. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 and back to 4/4. The music features a prominent melody in the woodwinds and brass, with a steady bass line and rhythmic accompaniment. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PERUSAL SCORE' is overlaid across the entire page.