## "...along a sunlit path..."



Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas (Photo by Stephen Hill)

String Orchestra (Grade 3-4)

Stephen Hill (ASCAP)

SARAHTIM Music Publishing



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## Instrumentation

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
String Bass

Duration - ca. 4:35



www.stephenhillcomposer.com stephenhillmusic@icloud.com (562) 412-0906 <u>About the Work...</u> "...along a sunlit path" was composed June 26-27, 2021, as a gift for the Omaha Conservatory of Music. "...along a sunlit path" is an impression of a picture I have of a path with rays of sunlight breaking through the trees.

The gently flowing music opens with Violins 2 and Violas pulsing back and forth between a bi-tonal passage of C major and D major. The Cellos and Basses enter with a simple outline of C major followed by a lightly chirping Violin 1.

The music is intentionally gentle, optimistic, and punctuated with lyrical melodic lines. The composition passes the themes back and forth between each section of the orchestra and reaches a full tutti at measure 82. The work returns to the gentleness of the opening passage of Violin 2 and Viola and grows in energy to its final cadence on a G major chord.

About the Composer... Stephen Hill (b.1958) was born and raised in Southern California. He studied composition with Philip Westin at Cerritos College (CA), W. Francis McBeth at Ouachita Baptist University (Arkansas), and Byong Kon Kim at California State University, Los Angeles. Stephen's studies with these composers connect him to a lineage that includes their teachers, Roy Harris, Ingolf Dahl, Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, Bernhard Heiden, and Howard Hanson. Stephen composes for the simple joy of it.

For over 40 years, Stephen taught K-12 instrumental music in the Private Christian School (Whittier Christian) and Public School (California High School) settings. Although semi-retired, Stephen continues to work with students by teaching parttime 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 in La Habra, CA., where Stephen attends. When teaching full-time, he was primarily a "summer" composer. No longer teaching full-time, Stephen has the privilege of composing beyond just the summer months and publishes through his company, SARAHTIM — a title that comes from simply combining the names of his daughter, Sarah, and son, Timothy. (Notes by Dr. John Burdett, Azusa Pacific University)

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"Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with His gracious presence."

J.S.Bach

from the original String Quartet version written for The Omaha Conservatory of Music



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