

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...

With a licensed and branded Master Set of Parts, you will have permission to print as many copies of a part as needed for your specific school, ensemble, or organization. Permission to copy does not apply to the Score. Additional scores will need to be purchased separately.

“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

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with multiple staves for each instrument family. The woodwind section includes Piccolo, Flute 1,2, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb 1, Clarinet in Bb 2,3, Bass Clarinet in Bb, and Bassoon. The brass section includes Trumpet in Bb 1, Trumpet in Bb 2,3, Horn in F 1,2, Horn in F 3,4, Trombone 1, Trombone 2,3, Euphonium, and Tuba. The string section includes String Bass and Timpani. The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, 3 Tom-toms, High Hat, Cym./Tri./Tamb, Shaker/W. Chimes, Gong/Rain Stick, and Mallet 1 & 2. The piano part is also included. The score features dynamic markings such as *p* (piano), *pp* (pianissimo), and *a2* (second octave). The tempo is marked as 'Reflectively' with a metronome marking of ♩=56. The key signature is Bb major. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 2 through 9 indicated at the bottom.

"Before the mountains were born..."

Bs.Cl. / 1st Cl Cadenza (ms.10-13) **Freely** **A** Reflectively ♩=56

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.

PERUSAL SCORE

The musical score is arranged in systems for various instruments. The woodwind section includes Piccolo (Picc.), Flutes 1 & 2 (Fl. 1,2), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinets 1 (Cl. 1), Clarinets 2 & 3 (Cl. 2,3), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophones 1 & 2 (Alto Sax. 1,2), Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.), and Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.). The brass section includes Trumpets 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpets 2 & 3 (Tpt. 2,3), Horns 1 & 2 (Hn. 1,2), Horns 3 & 4 (Hn. 3,4), Trombones 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombones 2 & 3 (Tbn. 2,3), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba (Tba.). The string section includes String Bass (S. Bass) and Timpani (Timp.). The percussion section includes Snare Drum (S. D.), Bass Drum (B.D.), Tom-tom (Tom-t.), Hi-Hat, Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine/Shaker/Wood Chimes/Gong/Rain Stick (Cym./Tri./Tamb. Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick), and Mallets 1 (Mlt. 1) and Mallets 2 (Mlt. 2). The piano part (Pno.) is at the bottom. The score is in 4/4 time and features dynamic markings such as *p*, *pp*, *ppp*, and *arco*. A 'Solo muted' instruction is present for the first trumpet. The score is for measures 17 through 23, with measure numbers indicated in boxes at the bottom.

"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 percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Tom-tom, Hi-Hat, Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine, Shaker/Wood Chimes, Gong/Rain Stick, Mallets 1, Mallets, 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..."

The image shows a page of a musical score for a symphony orchestra and woodwinds. The score is written in 4/4 time and is in the key of B-flat major. The instruments listed on the left side of the score are: Piccolo (Picc.), Flutes 1 and 2 (Fl. 1,2), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1), Clarinets 2 and 3 (Cl. 2,3), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophones 1 and 2 (Alto Sax. 1,2), Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.), Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpets 2, 3, and 4 (Tpt. 2,3,4), Horns 1 and 2 (Hn. 1,2), Horns 3, 4, and 5 (Hn. 3,4,5), Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombones 2, 3, and 4 (Tbn. 2,3,4), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba (Tba.), and Double Bass (S. Bass). The percussion section includes Snare Drum (S. D.), Bass Drum (B. D.), Tom-tom (Tom-t.), Hi-Hat, Cymbal/Triple Tambourine/Tambourine Shaker/Wood Chimes/Gong/Rain Stick (Cym./Tri./Tamb Shaker/W. Chimes Gong/Rain Stick), and Mallets (Mlt.). The piano part (Pno.) is also included. The score is divided into measures 31 through 36. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PERUSAL' is overlaid across the entire page. A circled 'C' is present above the first measure of the Piccolo part. Dynamic markings such as *pp*, *mp*, and *mf* are used throughout the score. The woodwind parts feature melodic lines with various articulations and dynamics. The brass and string parts provide harmonic support with sustained notes and rhythmic patterns. The percussion parts include rain sticks and chimes, contributing to the atmospheric quality of the music.

"Before the mountains were born..."

rit.

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.

"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 $\text{♩} = 146$

Musical score for Toccata, measures 52-58. The score includes staves for 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 features various dynamics (p, mp, f) and articulation (pizz., Tri.).

"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 (e.g., *arco*, *a2*). The percussion section includes specific instructions for S.D. (Snare Drum) and Toms.

"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

The score is written for a full orchestra and a chamber ensemble. It begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or F minor) and a common time signature. The woodwinds and strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the brass instruments provide harmonic support. The percussion section includes snare drum, bass drum, tom-toms, hi-hat, and various auxiliary instruments like cymbals and rain sticks. The piano part features a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PERUSALS SCORE' is overlaid across the entire page.

"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, 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. The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Tom-tom, Hi-Hat, and Tambourine. The piano part is at the bottom. The score is marked with dynamics such as *f* (forte) and *arco*. A large watermark "PERUSAL SCORE" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

"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

Mlt. 2

Pno.

a2

a2

Tamb.

Gong

ff

Loco

The image displays a page of a musical score for a symphony orchestra and percussion ensemble. The score is written for measures 82 through 87. The instruments listed on the left include Piccolo (Picc.), Flutes 1 and 2 (Fl. 1,2), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1), Clarinets 2 and 3 (Cl. 2,3), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Alto Saxophones 1 and 2 (Alto Sax. 1,2), Tenor Saxophone (Ten. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.), Trumpets 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpets 2 and 3 (Tpt. 2,3), Horns 1 and 2 (Hn. 1,2), Horns 3 and 4 (Hn. 3,4), Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1), Trombones 2 and 3 (Tbn. 2,3), Euphonium (Euph.), Tuba (Tba.), Snare Bass (S. Bass), Timpani (Timp.), Snare Drum (S. D.), Bass Drum (B.D.), Tom-tom (Tom-t.), Hi-Hat, Cymbals/Triangles/Tambourine (Cym./Tri./Tamb), Shaker/Water Chimes (Shaker/W. Chimes), Gong/Rain Stick, and Mallets 1 and 2 (Mlt. 1, 2). The piano part is also included at the bottom. The score features various dynamics such as *fff*, *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. A large, diagonal watermark reading "PERUSAL SCORE" is overlaid across the entire page. A rehearsal mark "H" is present at the top left of the first staff. The title "Before the mountains were born..." is centered at the top, and the page number "13" is in the top right corner.

"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. 1
- Mlt. 2
- Pno.

Key features of the score include:

- Tempo markings: *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano).
- Dynamic markings: *a2* (second octave).
- Rehearsal mark **I** at the beginning of the section.
- Large section numbers **2** and **4** indicating structural divisions.
- A large diagonal watermark reading "PERUSALS SCORE" is overlaid on the page.

"Before the mountains were born..."

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts and staves:

- 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 includes various musical notations such as dynamics (*mf*, *f*, *ff*), articulation (*acc.*, *stacc.*), and performance instructions like *Bs. Cl Cue Play* and *Pizz*. It also features large section markers for **3** and **4** measures, and a section labeled **J**. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading "PERUSALS" is oriented vertically across the page, and another watermark reading "CORE" is oriented horizontally across the upper right portion of the score.

"Before the mountains were born..."

Musical score for orchestra and percussion, measures 107-112. The score includes staves for 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 features a large 'PERUSAL COPY' watermark. Dynamics include *f*, *mf < f*, and *sfz*. Performance markings include *a2* and *Glk*. The score is divided into measures 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, and 112.

"Before the mountains were born..."

K

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
Glk
mf

Mlt. 2
Marimba

Pno.
mf

"Before the mountains were born..."

Musical score for 'Before the mountains were born...'. The score is written for a full 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), 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.

"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

Mlt. 2

Pno.

f *fff* *p* *ff* *fff*

PERUSAL SCORE

"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. 1
- Mlt.
- Pno.

The score includes dynamic markings such as *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The percussion section includes a Gong and Rain Stick. The score is overlaid with a large, diagonal watermark that reads "PERUSAL SCORE".