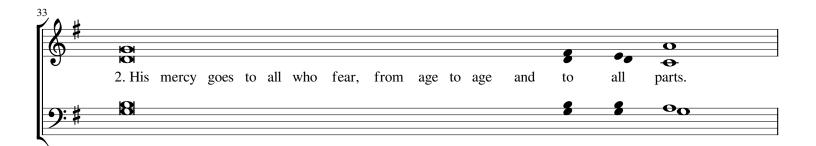
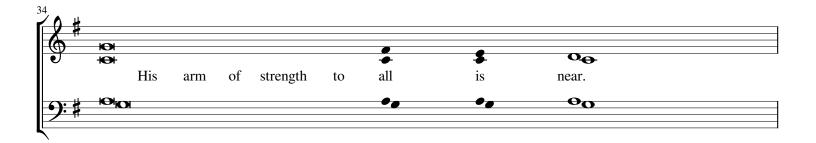
Mary's Song

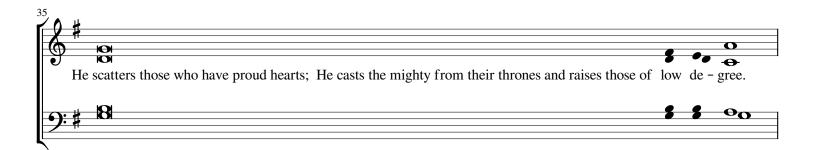
J. T. Mueller, tr. (1885-1967) after Luke 1:46-55

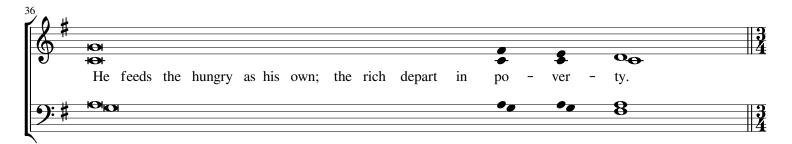
Stewart Alan Hughes (1952-2007)











About the composer

Stewart Alan Hughes received his BME from Florida State University in 1974, where he studied conducting with Dr. Joseph Flummerfelt. Mr. Hughes then taught high school band in Georgia until 1984. He graduated from Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1988, earning a Master of Divinity degree. Rev. Hughes served as Pastor of Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church at historic Ebenezer, GA from 1988-1996. Jerusalem Church (est. Salzburg, Austria, 1733; formed in the colony of Georgia 1734) is the oldest continuously worshipping Lutheran church in America.

His colleague Steven Branyon shared this memory: Under Rev. Hughes' leadership, Jerusalem Church, while remaining a small 'country' church, was by far the most 'liturgical' church of all the surrounding area Lutheran churches during these years. These well-planned liturgies were not always "formal" but were often quite elaborate. Participants were well-instructed beforehand, but if there were any confusion or anything did not go as planned, Rev. Hughes would simply give a quiet instruction and the service would continue. Once when I questioned this practice, he shared with me an important philosophy, saying "It is not the 'how' that is important, but it is the 'why' that is so very important." I never forgot his simple message.



