

## COMPOSERS' COMPETITION

The 2011 American Guild of Organists Region V Convention will be hosted by the Lexington, Kentucky Chapter from June 12-16, 2011. Composers are invited to submit new, unpublished organ compositions suitable for use in Church and Synagogue services. Winning compositions will be published in a collection based on the theme **Biblical Sketches** (subtitled *The Lexington Organ Book*) issued by MorningStar Music, and available at the regional convention and afterward.

- Instrument: Organ solo
- Eligibility: Open to composers of any age, gender or nationality
- Length: From 2 ½ minutes to 5 minutes in duration
- Difficulty: From easy to moderate
- Content: "Free" composition not based on pre-existing melody, or, if an existing hymn tune is included, it should be in public domain (not under copyright). The piece should be based on one of the themes listed below.
- Registration: Organ stop registrations may be included, or simply dynamic levels.
- Prizes: 1st prize: \$1000; 2nd prize: \$800; 3rd prize: \$500. Honorable mentions of \$200.
- Entries: Composers may enter more than one piece, but only one will be eligible for 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize. Honorable mentions are not subject to this limitation.
- Format: Submitted pieces may be in hand-manuscript, in Sibelius or Finale, or pdf files. Three copies of the entry must be submitted by mail.
- Publication: Composers agree to sign over copyright of winning compositions to MorningStar Music, Inc., and allow publication in the collection.
- Theme: Organists often search for pieces suited to the scripture for a particular service; for this reason, we have chosen Biblical passages which lend themselves to the creation of new organ pieces suitable for worship services.

Composers may choose from these suggested Biblical passages:

- **"The Winds of Pentecost"** (Acts 2: 1-4)
- **"Tongues of Fire"** (Acts 2: 1-4)
- **"Come, follow me"** (Matthew 4:19 or Mark 1:17)
- **"The Transfiguration"** (Mark 9: 2-7)
- **"Jacob Wrestling with the Angel"** (Genesis 32: 24-28)
- **"The last will be first, and the first will be last"** (Matthew 20: 16)
- **"Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled, and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted"** (Matthew 23: 11-12, or Luke 14: 11)
- **"Many are called, but few are chosen"** (Matthew 22: 14)
- **"The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ"** (Philippians 4:7)
- **"Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice!"** (Philippians 4: 4)
- **"Water from the Rock"** (Exodus 17:6)

- **“Moses parts the Red Sea”** (Exodus 14: 21-22)
- **“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”** (Matthew 18:20)
- **“Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience”** (Colossians 3:12b)
- **“Forgive as the Lord forgave you”** (Colossians 3: 13b)
- **“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts”** (Colossians 3:15a)
- **“The Servant of All”** (Mark 9:35)
- **“The Two Greatest Commandments”** (Luke 10: 27) or (Mark 12: 30-31)
- **“The Good Samaritan”** (Luke 10: 30-37)
- **”Mary and Martha”** (Luke 10: 38-42)

**Submission Procedure:**

1. Submit entries using the US Postal service
2. Entries must be postmarked no later than October 1, 2010.
3. Send three copies of the music without the composer’s name on any copy.
4. In the envelope on a separate sheet of paper, please include the following:
  - a. the name of the composer
  - b. the composer’s mailing address
  - c. the composer’s telephone numbers (home, work, cell)
  - d. the composer’s e-mail address
5. Mail the submission to:
 

Dr. Kate Covington  
 AGO Composition Competition  
 2011 Lexington AGO  
 PO Box 4164  
 Lexington KY 40544 (USA)
6. The composer will receive a postcard acknowledging the receipt of the entry within two weeks of its arrival.
7. Inquiries about the competition may be e-mailed to [registrar@2011lexingtonago.com](mailto:registrar@2011lexingtonago.com)
8. Regulations for the Composers’ Competition are also published on the website of the Lexington AGO Chapter at [www.agolexington.org](http://www.agolexington.org) and on the Convention website at [www.2011lexingtonago.com](http://www.2011lexingtonago.com)