

## **Program Notes for *I Lift Up My Eyes***

***I Lift Up My Eyes*** for SATB chorus, Native American flute/alto flute, harp/piano, and violoncello, was commissioned by the Two Rivers Chorale in memory of Tom Johnson, a beloved member of the chorale. The piece premiered on November 13, 2011 and was conducted by Timothy Sawyer at Benson Great Hall in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The text is based on Psalm 121:

I lift up my eyes to the mountains,  
From where shall I find help?  
My help comes from Adonai,  
Who made the heavens and the earth.  
He will not let you stumble and fall,  
The one who watches over you will not sleep.  
Adonai watches over you,  
And stands beside you as your shade.  
The sun will not harm you by day,  
Nor the moon by night.  
Adonai will keep you from all harm,  
And will take care of your soul.  
Adonai will watch over your coming and going  
Both now and forevermore.