

# FROM PAST TO FUTURE

FOUR PRELUDES *for* ORGAN  
ON HYMN TUNES *of* ALFRED V. FEDAK

**CARSON P. COOMAN**

Opus 267

**I. Three Tall Trees Grew on a Windy Hill**

THREE TALL TREES, 1989; Text by Herbert O'Driscoll

**II. Borrow a Stable**

BORROWING STRANGER, 1996; Text by Richard Leach, 1993

**III. Heal Me, Hands of Jesus**

HANDS OF JESUS, 1998; Text by Michael Perry, 1981

**IV. Year By Year, from Past to Future**

SAGE HILL, 1991; Text by Alan Luff



Selah Publishing Co.

### **I. Three Tall Trees Grew on a Windy Hill**

THREE TALL TREES, 1989; Text by Herbert O'Driscoll

### **II. Borrow a Stable**

BORROWING STRANGER, 1996; Text by Richard Leach, 1993

### **III. Heal Me, Hands of Jesus**

HANDS OF JESUS, 1998; Text by Michael Perry, 1981

### **IV. Year By Year, from Past to Future**

SAGE HILL, 1991; Text by Alan Luff

*From Past to to Future* (2001) is a set of four organ preludes based on hymn tunes by American composer Alfred V. Fedak. The work was commissioned by and is dedicated to St. Michael's Church, Dresden, for the re-dedication of the chancel organ. The commission was made possible with numerous gifts from the congregation.

I strongly feel that new hymn tunes should be a significant part of worship. However, one of the difficulties (for organists) with new hymn tunes is that, by virtue of their newness, there does not exist a body of organ literature on those tunes. This short set is intended as a companion to *Sing to the Lord No Threadbare Song: New Hymntunes of Alfred V. Fedak*, an anthology (released 2001) of Fedak hymn tunes published by Selah. All four tunes used in these pieces are included, with their original texts, in this anthology.

Fedak's hymn tunes are almost always tied very explicitly to their respective texts. Thus, the organ preludes in this set are inspired both by the tunes themselves but also by the stanzas of the hymn texts. Reading (and singing) the full texts for these hymns will help in the interpretation of these pieces.

These four pieces may be used as service voluntaries in a worship setting or as a set together for recital. They are especially intended for use in introducing these wonderful Fedak hymn tunes to a congregation.

Carson P. Cooman

July 2001, Rochester, N.Y.

for St. Michael's Church, on the re-dedication of the chancel organ

# I. "Three Tall Trees Grew On a Windy Hill"

THREE TALL TREES (tune by Alfred V. Fedak)

I: 8' solo principal  
II: 8' solo reed (quiet)  
Ped.: 16' flute

arr. Carson P. Cooman

*Slow* (♩=40)

The musical score is arranged in three systems. Each system contains three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a pedal staff (bass clef). The first system begins with a tempo marking of 'Slow' and a quarter note equal to 40 beats (♩=40). The first staff of the grand staff contains the melody, with a first ending bracket labeled 'I.' and a second ending bracket labeled 'II.'. The second staff of the grand staff contains accompaniment for the first ending, and the second staff of the grand staff contains accompaniment for the second ending. The pedal staff contains a simple bass line with notes and rests. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, with a first ending bracket labeled 'I. (both hands)' and a second ending bracket labeled 'II.'. The third system continues the melody and accompaniment, with a first ending bracket labeled 'I. (both hands)' and a second ending bracket labeled 'II.'. The tempo marking 'Slow' is present at the beginning of the first system.

*very sparse and open*

# II. "Borrow a Stable"

BORROWING STRANGER (tune by Alfred V. Fedak)

I: 8', 2' flutes  
II: 8' (+4') flute  
Ped.: 16' flute; II to Ped

arr. Carson P. Cooman

*With joy* (♩ = 72)

I.

II.

Ped.

II. (both hands)

I.

II.

# III. "Heal Me, Hands of Jesus"

HANDS OF JESUS (tune by Alfred V. Fedak)

I: 8' principal

II: 8' flute (or string) + celeste (hushed)

Ped.: 16' flute; II to Ped

arr. Carson P. Cooman

*Slowly and very freely* (♩=52)

*like a prayer*

I.

II.

Ped.

Ped.

II.

# IV. "Year By Year, from Past to Future"

SAGE HILL (tune by Alfred V. Fedak)

I: Full

Ped.: Full, with large reed

arr. Carson P. Cooman

*With exuberance* (♩ = 72)

I. (both hands)

Ped.

The musical score is arranged in four systems. Each system contains three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass clef staff labeled 'Ped.'. The first system includes the tempo marking 'With exuberance (♩ = 72)' and the instruction 'I. (both hands)'. The music is in 2/2 time and features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some passages marked with slurs and accents. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).