## CHORALES FOR WINDS

A WARM-UP ROUTINE IN THE CLASSICAL TRADITION
ARRANGED BY:
CHARLES WHITMER



## Introduction

This collection contains a wealth of traditional hymns and folk hymns from various sources that include: Early American Hymn Traditions (late 1700's to mid 1800's), Later American Hymn Traditions (late 1800s to early 1900's), British Hymn Traditions (English, Welsh and Scottish - 1600's to early 1900's) and a few other traditional American and European hymns from various other sources.

The chorales within this compilation are arranged in the major and minor keys most commonly encountered by wind bands. They can provide excellent reading opportunities throughout the year in addition to serving as a valuable resource to improve tuning, blend and balance within the ensemble. The works can also be performed by full concert band as well as mixed chamber ensembles since all parts of all hymns have been spread across the woodwinds and brass sections respectively.

Several different styles from many different composers are represented within the volume, as well as various musical time periods and geographical areas of western music. Except for a few familiar chorales, the majority of these melodies and folk hymns are appearing in print for winds for the first time. It is hoped that the inclusion of these traditional hymns into the realm of wind ensembles will provide directors and teachers with a new wealth of traditional warm-up chorales for generations to come.

Charles Whitmer

## About the Composer

Charles Whitmer has been teaching music in the public schools from 1982 to the present with 30 of those years teaching middle school band in the Texas public schools. He also formerly taught music for the Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS) at the US Army's Camp Zama in Japan. He has a Bachelor of Music Degree in Education (1980) and a Master of Curriculum & Instruction (music education) Degree (1989) both from the University of Houston. He is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association and the Association of Texas Small School Bands. Mr. Whitmer was also featured on an album produced locally as a solo soprano saxophonist on the album, "Psalms, Hymns, & Spiritual Songs" in 2009 produced by Mr. Dennis Mease of The Woodlands, Texas. He currently has 612 traditional songs in print arranged for autoharp for which he is known internationally.

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