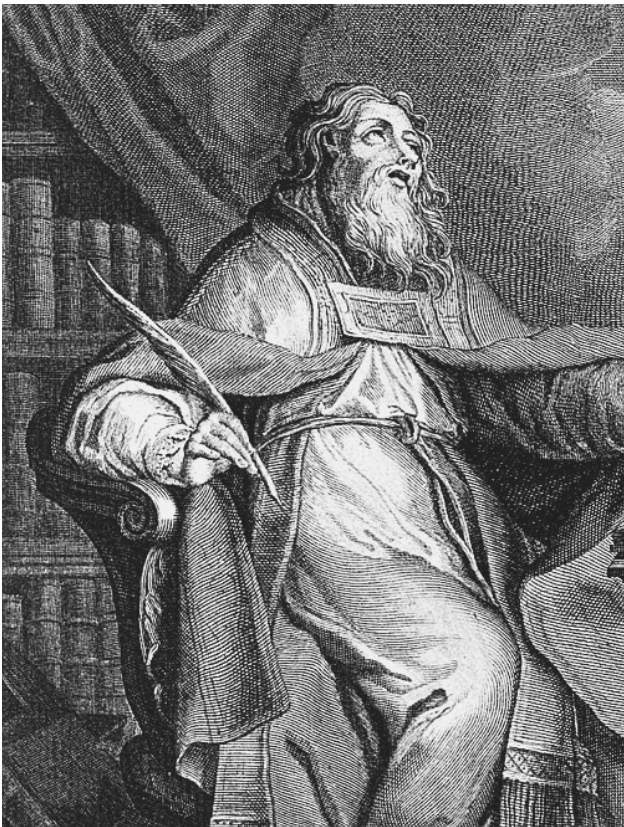


*Elaine Hagenberg*  
MUSIC

# Alleluia

All shall be Amen and Alleluia.  
We shall rest and we shall see.  
We shall see and we shall know.  
We shall know and we shall love.  
Behold our end which is no end.



## **Saint Augustine (354-430)**

St. Augustine was born in Roman North Africa to a Catholic mother and a pagan father. His teenage years were full of youthful rebellion, but after attending the university at the age of sixteen, he discovered religion and philosophy for himself, igniting a desire to seek truth in all its forms.

He became a teacher, a public speaker, and, after a conversion experience, a monk, a priest, and finally, the bishop of a small city called Hippo. The Catholic Church recognizes Augustine as a saint, and many Protestants consider him a father of the Reformation. This joyous resurrection prayer speaks to his faith that mortal death is not the end.

## About Elaine

Elaine Hagenberg's music "soars with eloquence and ingenuity" (ACDA Choral Journal). Her compositions are performed worldwide and frequently featured at distinguished international concert halls from Australia to South America and throughout Europe.

In addition to composing full-time, Elaine actively engages in bringing her music to life as the guest artist and featured clinician for professional conferences and festivals both in the U.S. and abroad as a composer, conductor, and accompanist of her work. Elaine has music in print with various publishers and publishes her concert music independently through Elaine Hagenberg Music.

Elaine lives in Iowa with her husband and four children and enjoys being in nature, traveling, gardening, and sipping homemade cappuccinos.



## INSPIRATION

I'm often asked: "What is the inspiration behind your compositions?"

As a choral composer, my inspiration always begins with poetry. The words that tend to resonate personally often include themes that are both meaningful to me and unite us through shared experiences. You will often hear uplifting messages of hope, imagery of nature, and elements of my faith. As I weave these components together, my aim is to add yet another layer of beauty to the text so we can gain a deeper understanding of its message as we share it with others.

One summer evening, I took a manuscript notebook and this beautiful text by St. Augustine and visited the rose gardens at dusk. I remember sketching all the ways I could sing the word "Alleluia." As the sunset filtered through the trees, I envisioned the light and beauty of eternity.

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. As you read the text by Saint Augustine and reflect on his life's story, can you recall a time when you discovered something which led you to a new desire or passion?
2. How does the use of the 7/8 time signature create a different mood than a 4/4 time signature?
3. How does the music support the text through rhythm and tempos?
4. How is the melody shared throughout the piece? Note which measures the sopranos have the melody, followed by the tenors, the basses, and then the altos.
5. The form of this piece is ABA. How does the music of the A section (measures 1 and 43) contrast with the music of the B section (beginning at measure 17)?
6. How are dynamics used to support the text and create contrast throughout the piece?
7. How do the key changes beginning at measures 41 and 51 support the text and enhance the piece?
8. What additional observations do you have about "Alleluia"?
9. What would you like your audience's response to be when they hear your interpretation of this piece?



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