

L. Ray Strobel

# Miserere

SSAA a cappella



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## **Composer's Notes**

*Miserere* is meant to be a thoughtful and reflective journey. It was immediately inspired by the announcement of Pope John Paul II's passing, but grew to encompass more than any single remembrance. Listen for the melody to be carried by the altos, first smoothly and seamlessly, then joined by the rest of the choir. Gradually the melody becomes more contrapuntal until it becomes fragmented just before the climax at the word "Patris". The melody returns to the altos, and the piece ends not without a final brief reminder of the recently resolved tension.

## **About the Composer**

Ray Strobel (b. 1971) is originally from Manvel, TX, and his decision to pursue music was greatly influenced by Paul D. Rogers, band director at Manvel Jr. High, and Donald Uhlig, who taught him private lessons on trumpet for nearly six years.

Ray is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA, where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Music Composition in 1993 and Masters in Music Education in 2001.

Ray has been teaching music since 1996, in public schools and teaching private lessons in many instruments. Since 1999 Ray has also taught various music classes at the Summer Music and Art Day Camp at Chatham University. Ray is currently directing the high school, middle school, and part of the elementary bands for the Wilksburg School District, in the greater Pittsburgh area. He composes and arranges many songs for his students.

Ray's compositions include works for concert band, church choir, and chamber and solo instruments. He has also written songs and arranged horn parts for the ska band "Cut Once" as their trumpet player.

Ray lives in Allison Park, PA, with his wife Jennifer and daughter, Lake. He enjoys watching sports, especially football. He and his family participate with a medieval recreation society.

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Flowing ♩ = 78-84

Musical score for Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, and Alto 2. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. It features vocal lines with lyrics "Ooh," and piano dynamics (*p*).

Musical score for Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, and Alto 2. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. It features vocal lines with lyrics "Mi - se - re - re," and piano dynamics (*p* and *mp*). A box containing the number 9 is positioned above the second measure of the Soprano 1 line.