

**Pavel Grigorievich Tchesnokov** (24 October 1877 – 14 March 1944), was a Russian composer, choral conductor and teacher. He composed over five hundred choral works, over four hundred of which are sacred. Today, he is most known for his piece *Salvation is Created* as well as works such as *Do Not Reject Me in Old Age* (solo for basso profundo).

**Let Thy Good Spirit Lead Me** (Duh Tvoj blaghi) is one in a cycle of ten Communion Hymns, opus 25, composed by Tchesnokov during his tenure as precentor at the Church of the Holy Trinity “at the Mud Baths” in Moscow. The cycle culminates a number of opuses in which Tchesnokov wrote richly sonorous harmonized settings of traditional chant melodies; the present work, however, does not use a pre-existing chant melody. The works were very likely composed for practical use by Tchesnokov’s church choir; in 1904 this choir was known to have comprised 42 singers—ten women sopranos, seven women altos, twelve tenors, and thirteen basses. The text is the Communion Hymn for the feast of Pentecost, prescribed to be sung during the Liturgy served on that day.

Let thy good spirit lead me on a level path! (Ps. 143:10) Hallelujah.

**Dr. Michael Pratt** has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, The Crosswell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Mikhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreech, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.

# Let Thy Good Spirit Lead Me

Durations 3:30

Duh Tvoj blaghi, Op. 25, No. 10

Pavel Tchesnokov

Arr. by Michael Pratt  
for Brass Septet

Maestoso ♩ = 76

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system (measures 1-7) features a **Maestoso** tempo with a metronome marking of ♩ = 76. It includes parts for Trumpet in B♭ 1, 2, and 3; Horn in F; Trombone; Euphonium; and Tuba. The dynamics are marked *f* (forte). The second system (measures 8-15) includes parts for B♭ Trumpet 1, 2, and 3; Horn; Trombone; Euphonium; and Tuba. It features a **rit.** (ritardando) leading to a section marked **A** *a tempo*. Dynamics in this section range from *p* (piano) to *pp* (pianissimo).