

Begin, my tongue, some heavenly theme

Isaac Watts (1674-1748), adapted.

Guildford, by Edward Harwood (1707-87)

Edited by Barry Lloyd and Francis Roads

Soprano [Air]

1. Be - gin, my tongue, some heav'n-ly theme, And speak some bound - less thing, The migh - ty—
 2. *Pro - claim, "Sal - va - tion from the Lord, For sin - ful, dy - ing men:" His hand has*
 3. He_ that can dash whole worlds to death, And make them when he please, He_ speaks, and

Tenor

Bass

Keyboard

9

S works, or migh - tier name Of_ our e - ter - nal King. Tell of his won - drous faith - ful - ness, And
writ the sa - cred word With an im - mor - tal pen. En - graved as in e - ter - nal brass, The
 that al - migh - ty breath Ful - fils his great de - crees. His ve - ry word of grace is_ strong As

T

B

Kbd.

19

S sound his pow'r a - broad; Sing the sweet pro - mise of his grace, And the per - for - ming God.
gra - cious pro - miseshines; Nor can the pow'rs of dark - ness rase Those e - ver - las - ting lines.
 that which built the skies; The voice that rolls the stars a - long Speaks all the pro - mi - ses.

T

B

Kbd.

Harwood published *Guildford* in his *A Set of Hymns and Psalm Tunes* (London, 1776).

He printed the present six slightly adapted versions of the nine verses of Watts's hymn.

STB is a fairly rare combination of available voices in British choirs. There are several ways in which this piece could be adapted for other voices. It would be easy to compose an alto part, or to transpose the tenor up an octave for an SSB combination.

Bar 18 note 2: original a; altered to avoid parallel octaves, unusual in Harwood's idiom.