

And when the Lord
would take him away to heaven,
lo! there came a fiery chariot, with fiery horses,
and he went by a whirlwind to heaven.
II Kings 2:11

February 8, 1996

Dear Friends of the Chorale;

The Rogue Valley Chorale is busily preparing for our second concert in the twenty-third series. Mendelssohn's *Elijah* is a very stirring oratorio and we hope that our audience will share our enthusiasm for each moment of its presentation. The above passage from II Kings is the text for one of *Elijah's* most dramatic choruses. However, the oratorio has some more quiet, but poignant, melodies such as the familiar "Lift Thine Eyes to the Mountains". From its opening recitative to the final chorus, "And Then Shall Your Light Break Forth", *Elijah* is a work of true magnificence.

On Saturday evening, February 24, and Sunday afternoon, February 25, a block of reserved seats will be held for season ticket holders. They will be held until fifteen minutes before each concert. We are expecting a favorable response from the public so seating may be limited. Therefore, we urge you to come early in order to take advantage of the reserved seating.

On Friday evening, February 23, we are giving a special performance for local church groups. You may choose to attend this performance but reserved seating will not be available for the Friday evening concert.

Thank you again for your support and I speak for all Chorale members when I assure you that this will be a memorable musical experience.

Sincerely,

Charleen N. Fike, President
Rogue Valley Chorale