

PRESS RELEASE
TOURNAMENT FOR BRASS
February 19, 2012; 4:00 PM; Calvary Baptist Church

The Lexington Brass Band offers music of pageantry and majestic grandeur in its third concert of the season, *Tournament for Brass*, Sunday, February 19, at 4:00 pm, Calvary Baptist Church, 150 East High Street, Lexington, KY. Tickets are \$5.00, general admission and are available at the door. For further information contact: 859-858-3877 or 859-858-3511 Ext. 2246; email: ronald.holz@asbury.edu

Announcer Nicky Hughes, dressed in full knightly armor, will deliver the famous ‘Band of Brothers’ speech from Shakespeare’s *Henry V*. The band will frame this with a dazzling version of the 15th-century *Agincourt Song*, and the suite from Michael Kamen’s score to the HBO hit of the same name (*Band of Brothers*), but set in World War II. The concert’s title tune, the three-movement *Tournament for Brass* (Eric Ball) has the band jousting with multiple technical, lyrical and musical adversaries. The performance should prove to be a delightful experience for audience and brass band. To help insure a good listening strategy for this classic brass work, the conductor will provide insight during the concert, backed by short demonstrations from the band, as part of the festive listening experience.

Several soloists will be featured, including Nathan Miller in a rare virtuosic E Flat Alto Horn variation solo, *Sing Glory, Hallelujah* (George Marshall), and Chase Hawkins presenting on E Flat Soprano the beautiful *Intermezzo* from the opera *Cavalleria Rusticana* (Mascagni).

Two contrasting marches round out the program. First, Percy Fletcher’s Elgarian *Spirit of Pageantry* that will set the tone for the day, and second, a remarkable and little-known work by John Philip Sousa, newly arranged for the band by Dr. Louis Bourgois (the band’s bass trombonist), *New Mexico*.

The director of the Lexington Brass Band, Dr. Ronald W. Holz, professor of music at Asbury University, designs the band’s exciting, scripted, one-hour concerts. He is recognized as an international authority on the worldwide music and culture of brass bands in the British tradition.

See also www.lexingtonbrassband.com for more information on the band, its members, and its leadership.