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Arts & Entertainment
Lecture Series

SOUND THE TRUMPET

TRACING THE USE OF THE TRUMPET THROUGH THE BIBLE EXPLORING SETTINGS BY SAMUEL ADLER AND GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

Lecture recital presented by
Paul Tingley, DMA

Friday September 15, 4:30 PM Livestream
Performing Arts Center, Brewster, MA

What is a Shofar?

Shofar is Hebrew for "tube"—the tube from the horn of a kosher animal.

Torah does not stipulate that the ram's horn be used, but only that it be a horn from a kosher animal. A kosher animal is a cloven-hoofed animal.



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The Sounds of the Shofar

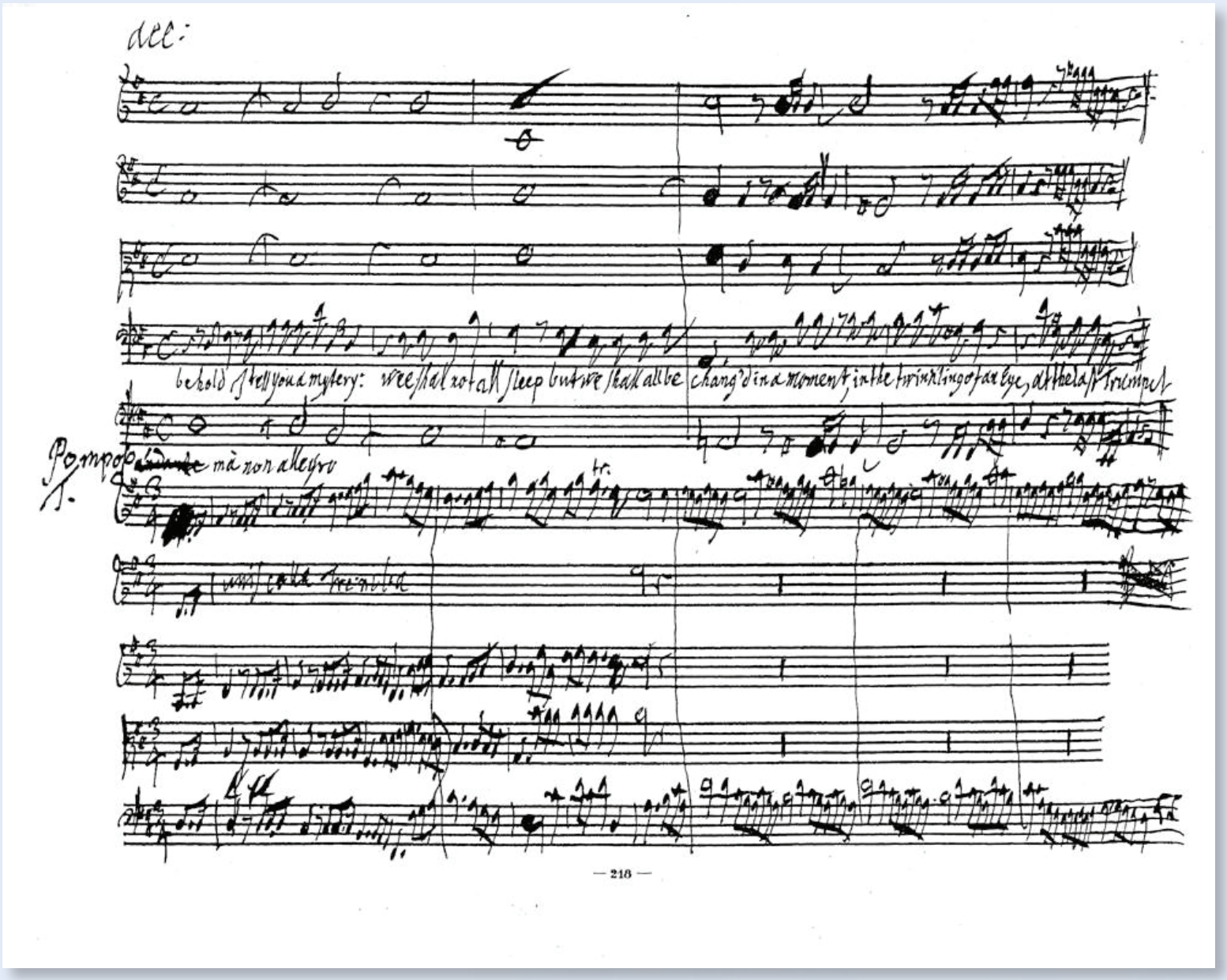
Tekiah—a long unbroken tone symbolizing hope in the strength of God and praise for who God is.

Shevarim—three shorter, more broken sounds, indicating wailing and sorrow for sin and fallen humanity. Call to repentance.

Teruah—nine quick, staccato notes (like the sound of an alarm clock) representing the broken hearts of those who come to God…to awaken the soul. *Teruah* is the common word for fanfare…perhaps this was the sound used when the walls of Jericho fell down.

Tekiah-ha-Gadol—A single blast as long as you can hold it. This was the ceremonial close of service.
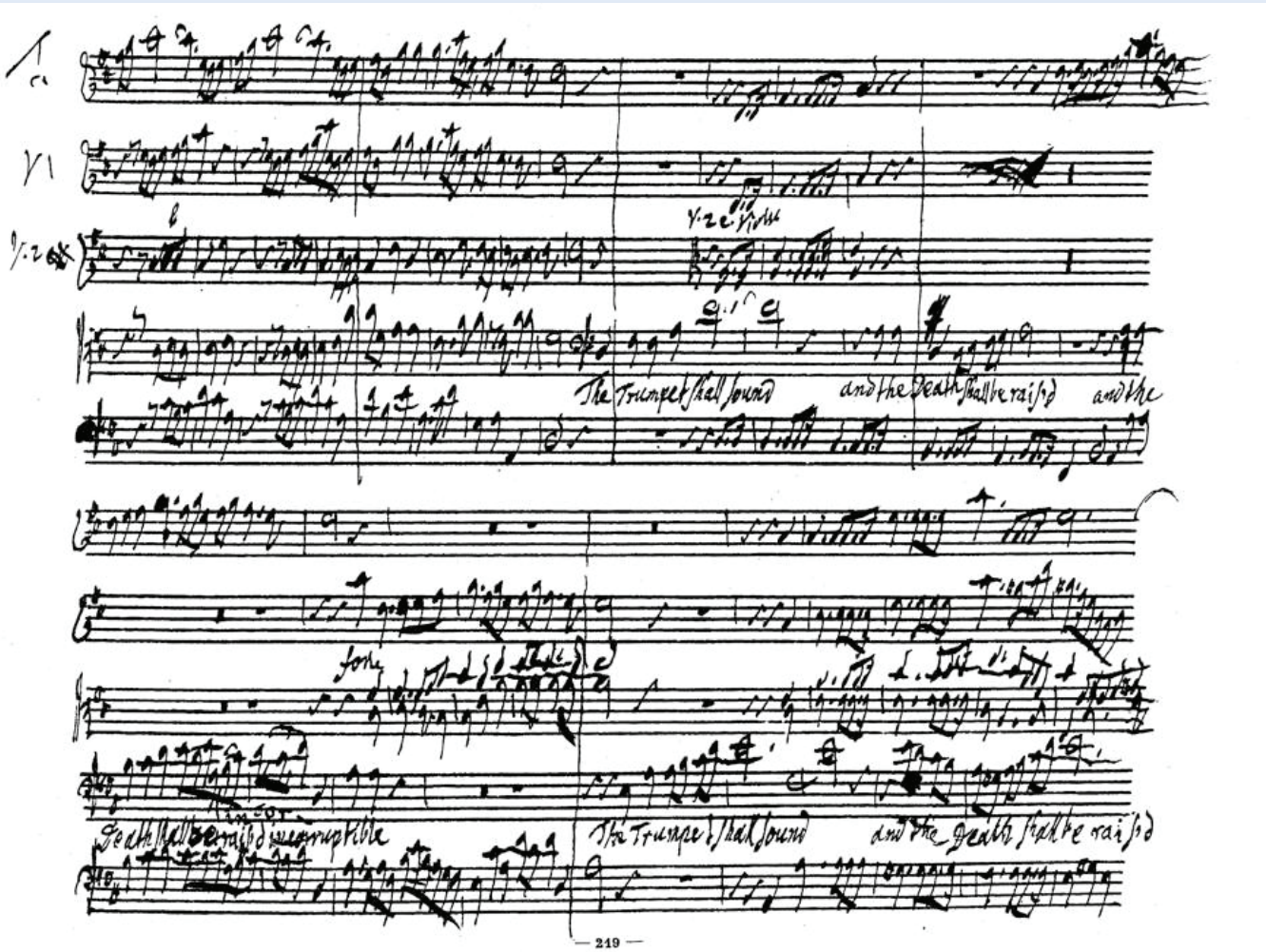
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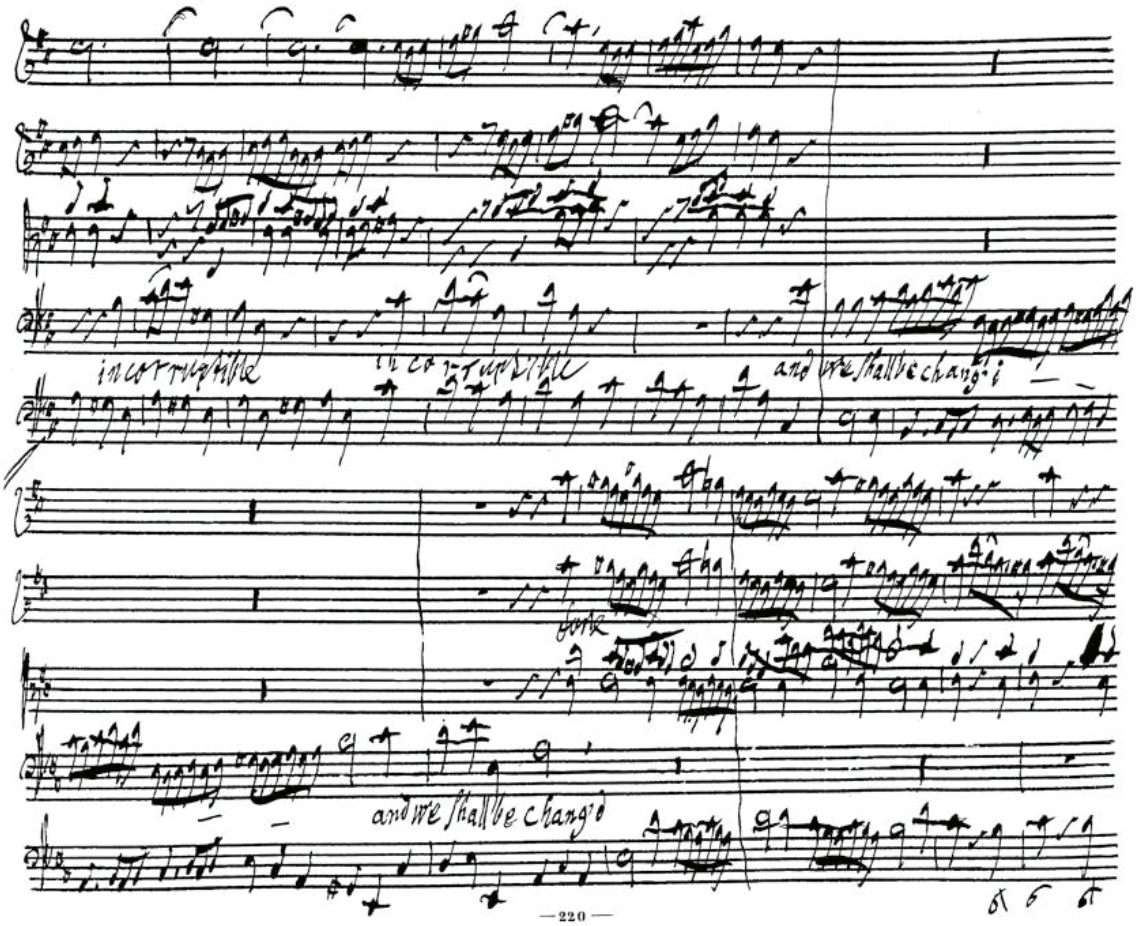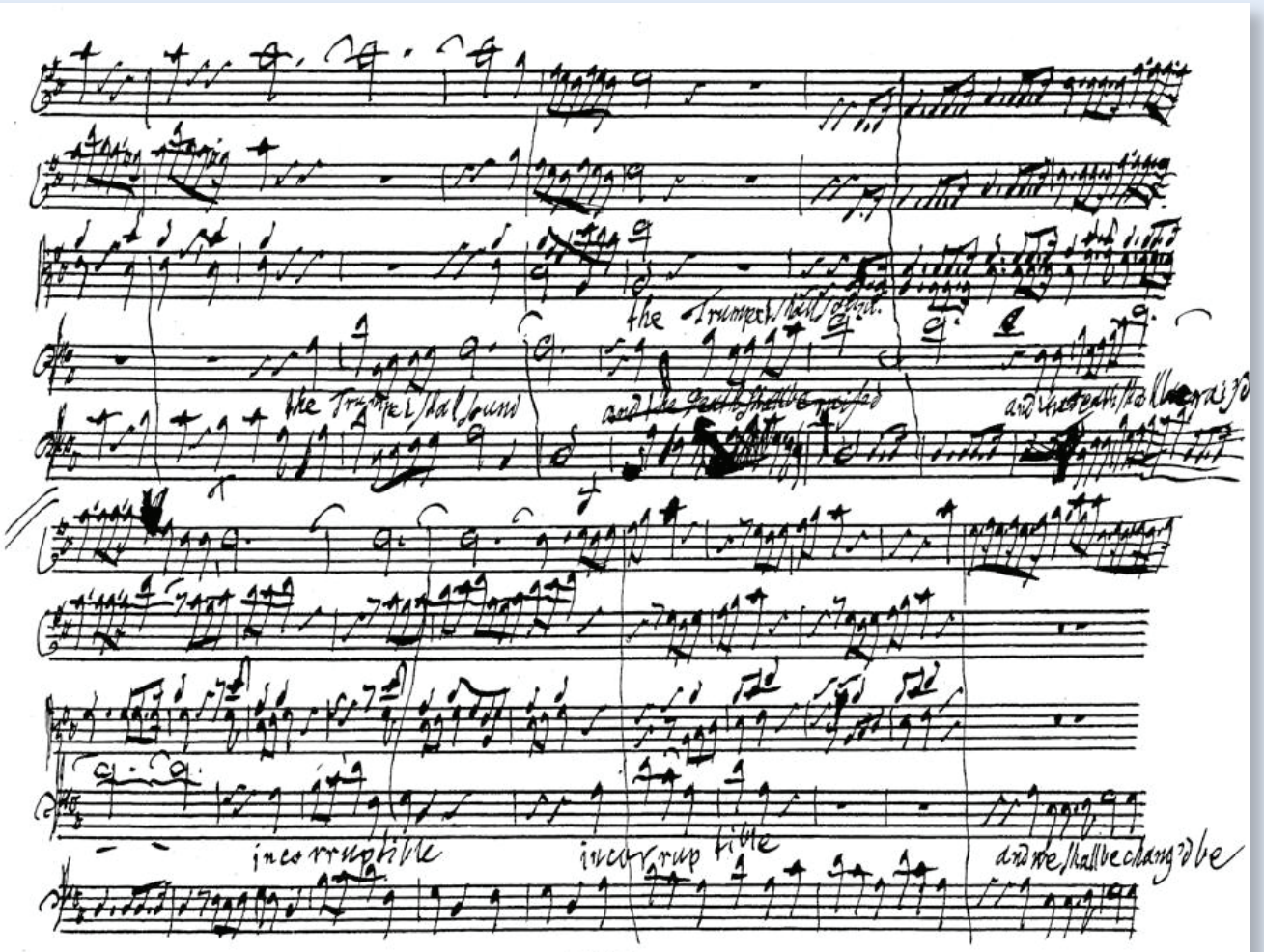


Manuscript of *The Trumpet Shall Sound*
by George Frideric Handel, 1741
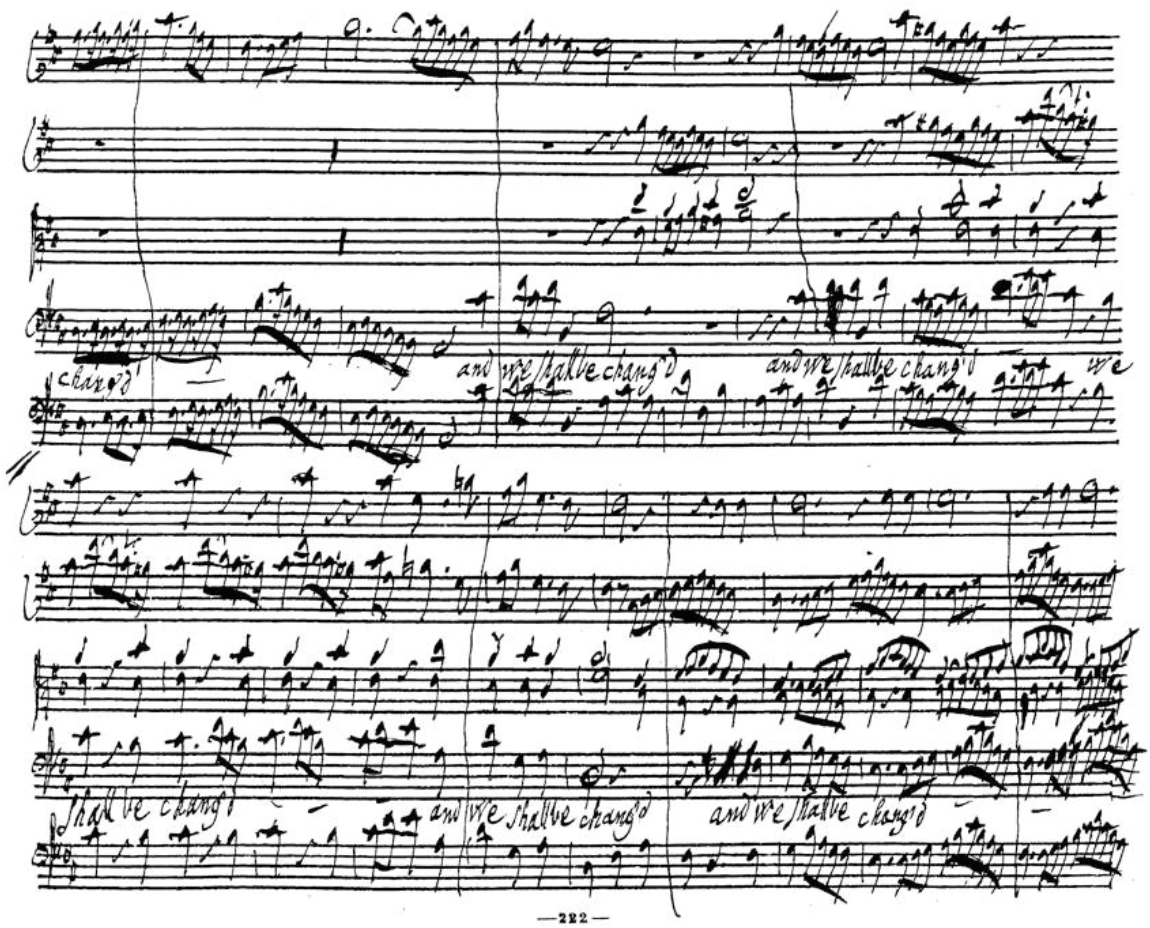


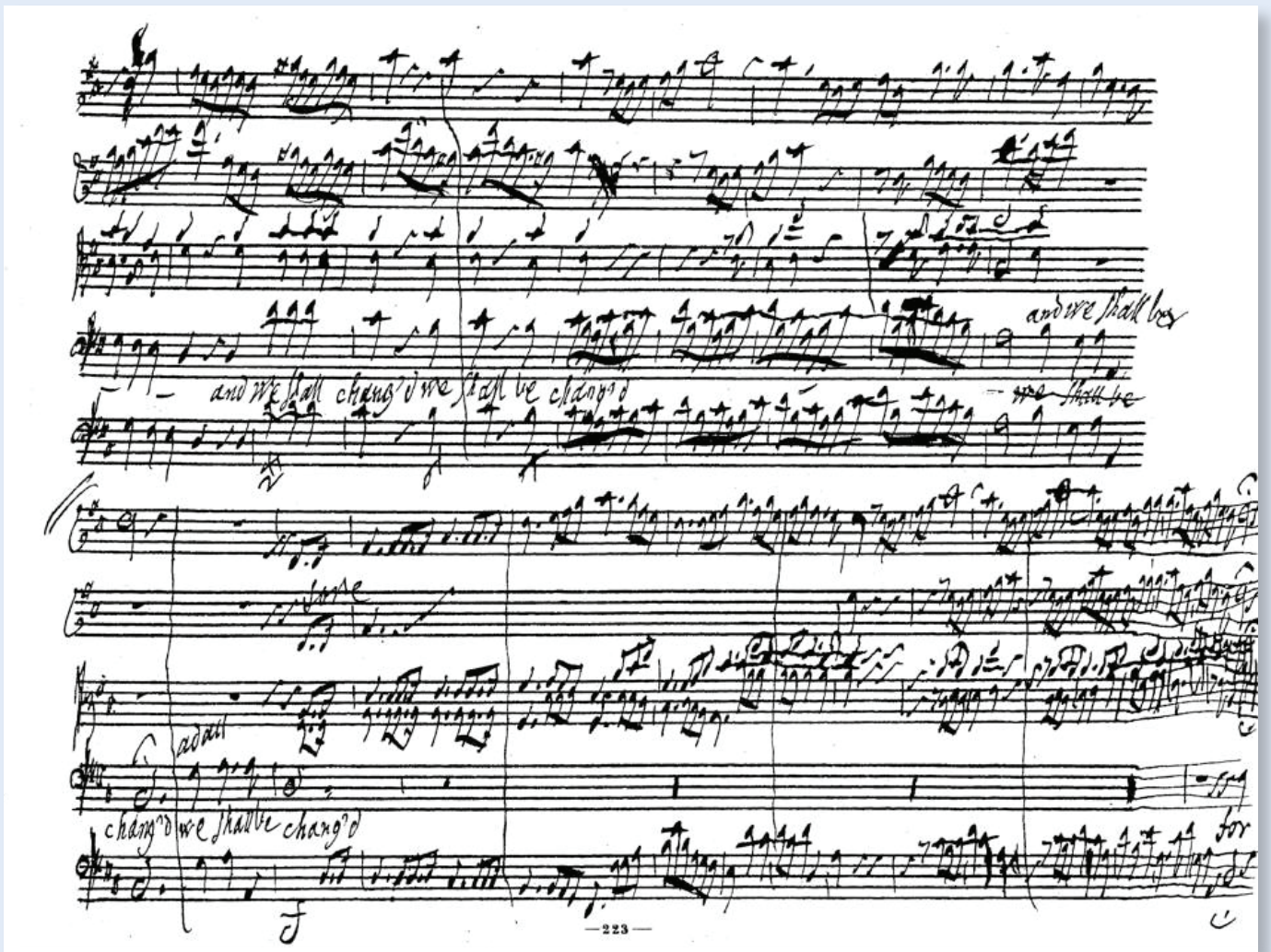
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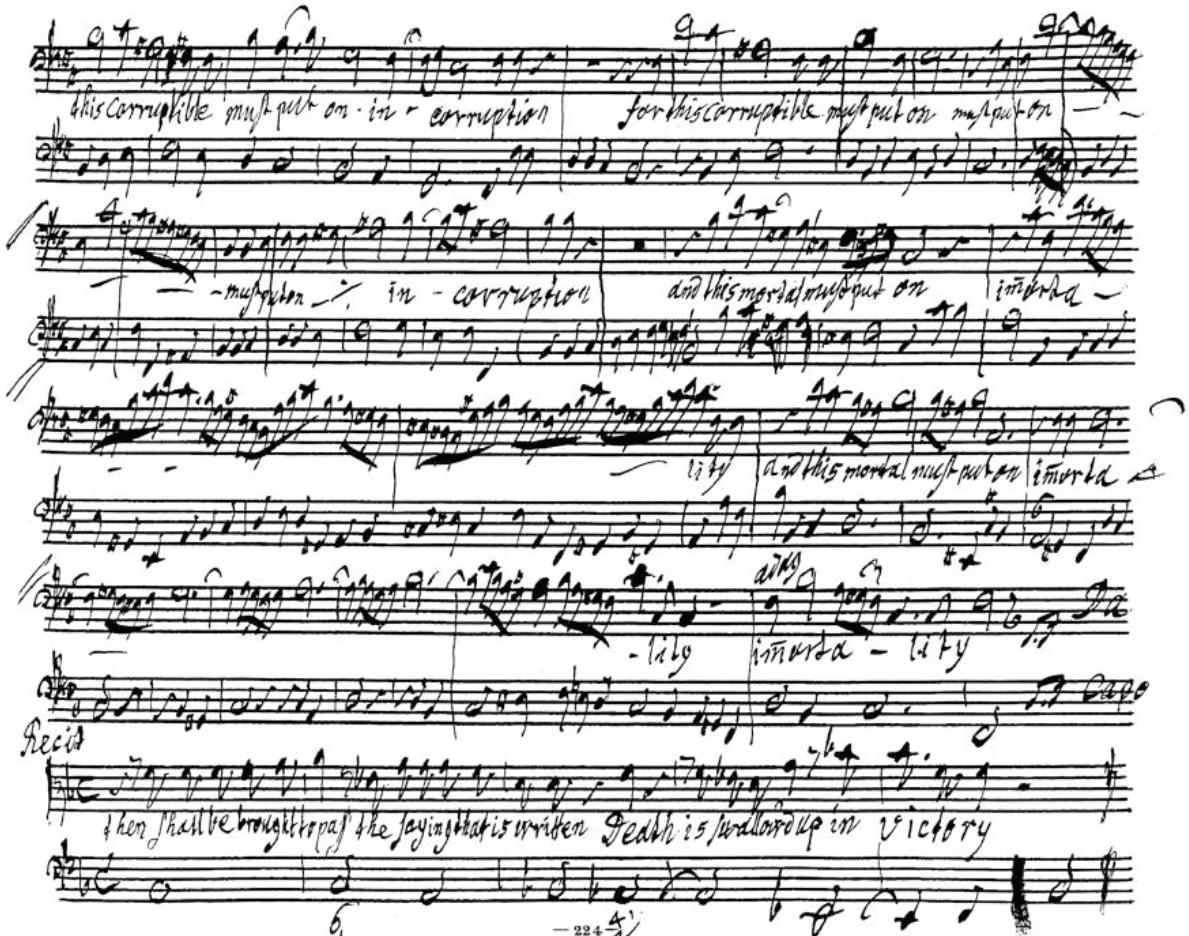

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incorruptible
The Trumpet shall sound
and the Death shall be raised


incorruptible
incorruptible
and we shall be changed
forte
and we shall be changed


the Trumpet shall sound
the Trumpet shall sound
and the dead shall be raised
and the dead shall be raised
incorruptible
incorruptible
and we shall be changed


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then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written Death is swallowed up in victory

Scripture References for the Trumpet as Discussed in Lecture Recital

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye…the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. —1 CORINTHIANS 15:52

With trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn, shout for joy before the LORD, the King. —PSALM 98:6

Make two trumpets of hammered silver, and use them for calling the community together and for having the camps set out. —NUMBERS 10:2

Praise him with the sound of the trumpet, praise him with the psaltery and harp.
—PSALM 150:3

Then the LORD will appear over them, and his arrow will go forth like lightning; the Lord GOD will sound the trumpet and will march forth in the whirlwinds of the south.
—ZECHARIAH 9:14

The sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder. Then Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him. —EXODUS 19:19

The LORD said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites: 'On the first day of the seventh month you are to have a day of rest, a sacred assembly commemorated with trumpet blasts. Do no regular work, but present an offering made to the LORD by fire.'" —LEVITICUS 23:23–25

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last. —REVELATION 1:10

The Seventh angel sounded the trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: "The Kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever." —REVELATION 11:15

Additional References (There are 118 in total but these are a few of my favorites.)

Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our feast day. —PSALM 81:3

Blow a trumpet in Zion, consecrate a fast, proclaim a solemn assembly. —JOEL 2:15

Put the trumpet to your lips! —HOSEA 8:1

So Joab blew the trumpet; and all the people halted and pursued Israel no longer, nor did they continue to fight anymore. —2 SAMUEL 2:28

…and Benaiah and Jahaziel the priests blew trumpets continually before the ark of the covenant of God. —1 CHRONICLES 16:6

The Levites stood with the musical instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets. —2 CHRONICLES 29:26

Praise him with the sound of the trumpet. —PSALM 150:3

Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle? —1 CORINTHIANS 14:8

So the people shouted, and priests blew the trumpets; and when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted with a great shout and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight ahead, and they took the city. —JOSHUA 6:20

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosh_Hashanah

Other Sources

Correspondence with Samuel Adler, Paul O'Dette, Andrew Pelletier, Brian Shaw and John Theissen

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