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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 13, 2017

## 2017 SPRING CONCERT ANNOUNCED

### Michigan Premiere of Handel's *Jephtha*

Auburn Hills, MI, March 13, 2017– The Oakland Choral Society is proud to announce our 2017 Spring Concert will feature the rarely performed work of Handel, *Jephtha*. As far as our research has been able to determine, this work of Handel will be a Michigan premiere. The story of Jephtha (Jephthah) comes from the book of Judges, chapter 11. It is a story of family, brothers, relationships, ambition, conflict and fate. Can an illegitimate half-brother redeem himself in his community by taking on the ambitious project of leading the Israelites in war against the Ammonites? Will success bring him redemption? Does a promise with god need to be honored? Even when it involves the sacrifice of your only child? How with this story end?

*Jephtha*, is the fourth and last oratorio from Handel. The music is darker, to go along with the story line, and very emotional. The relationship of a father and daughter is demonstrated in raw emotion with Jephtha's famous aria, "Waft her, angels through the skies." Come, listen and enjoy this presentation by the Oakland Choral Society, with orchestra and soloists, conducted by Noah Horn. Soloists include Josh Lovell in the role of Jephtha and world renowned opera singer Sherezade Panthaki as Iphis. The concert is Sunday, April 30, 2017 3:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham MI. This oratorio speaks very directly to us with very human emotions. It will be a memorable experience.

Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 3:00 PM  
First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, MI  
1669 W. Maple Rd, Birmingham, MI 48009  
Church Phone: (248) 644-2040

Oakland Choral Society is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible. Thank you for supporting the Oakland Choral Society.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Mark Bartnik at 248-391-0184 or email at [info@oaklandchoralsociety.org](mailto:info@oaklandchoralsociety.org).