

ST. OLAF COLLEGE PRESENTS:

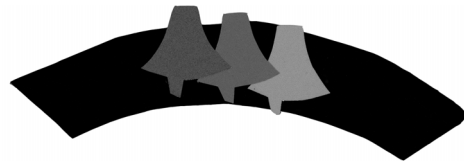


A SING FOR JOY HYMN FESTIVAL

St. Mary's Visitation Parish; Milwaukee, Wis.	Saturday, October 15, 7:30 PM
Calvin Christian Reformed Church; Grand Rapids, Mich.	Sunday, October 16, 6:00 PM
Severance Hall; Cleveland, Ohio	Monday, October 17, 7:30 PM
First Presbyterian Church; Fort Wayne, Ind.	Tuesday, October 18, 7:30 PM
Saint Luke Church; Chicago, Ill.	Wednesday, October 19, 8:00 PM
Central Lutheran Church; Minneapolis, Minn.	Thursday, October 20, 4:30 PM
Boe Memorial Chapel, St. Olaf College; Northfield, Minn.	Thursday, October 20, 8:00 PM

Please silence all wireless phones and other electronic devices

*To us this day it may not be clear, and we may not all agree
whether what we do here is worship or performance,
but, as a sign of appreciation and gratitude,
applause is welcomed following the Benediction Anthem.*



OPENING HYMN

Please stand and sing

“From All That Dwell below the Skies”

DUKE STREET

All 1. From all that dwell be - low the skies,
 All 2. E - ter - nal are your mer - cies, Lord;
 All 3. In ev - ery land be - gin the song;

Let the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise;
 E - ter - nal truth at - tends your word:
 To ev - ery land the strains be - long;

Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung,
 Your praise shall sound from shore to shore,
 In cheer - ful sounds all voic - es raise,

Through ev - 'ry land by ev - 'ry tongue.
 Till suns shall rise and set no more.
 And fill the world with loud - est praise.

Text: Psalm 117; St. 1-2; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; St. 3-4, Anon.
 Tune: John Hatton, c. 1710-1793
 Arrangement: John Ferguson, b. 1941

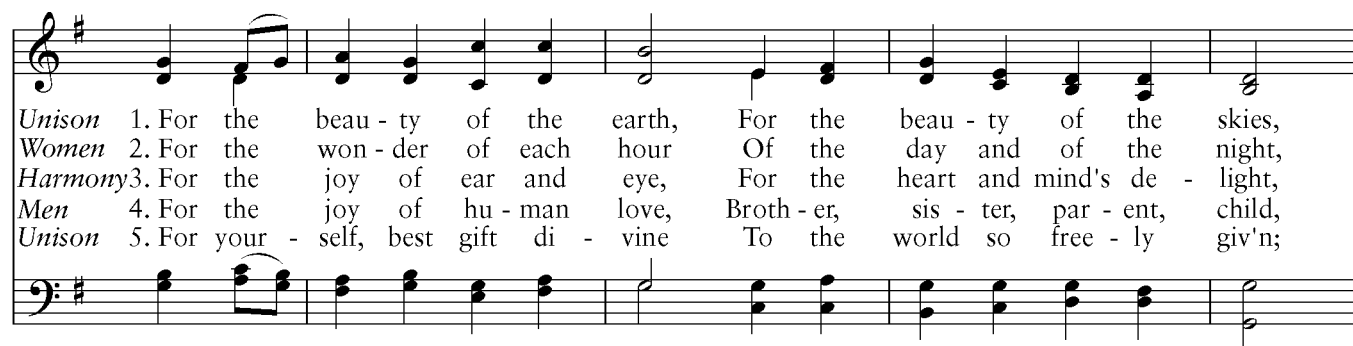
Please be seated

WELCOME
HYMN

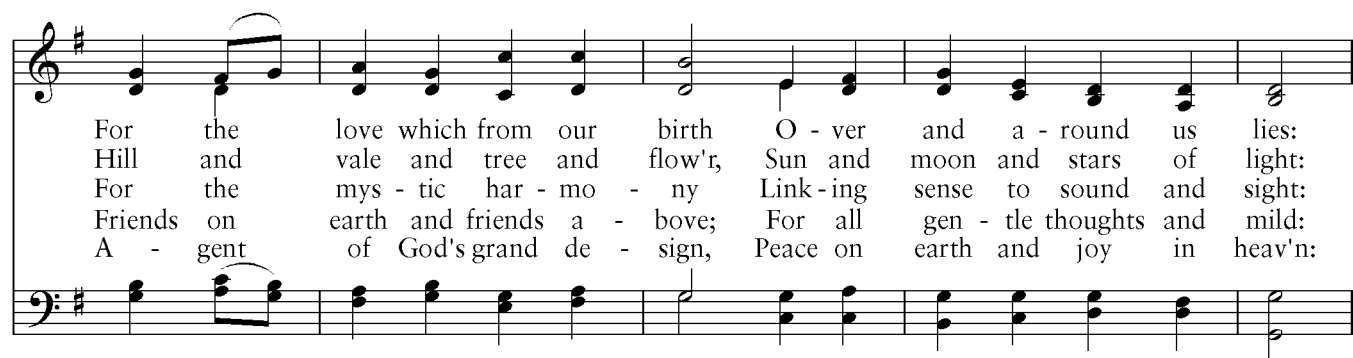
Please stand and sing

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX



Unison 1. For the beau - ty of the earth, For the beau - ty of the skies,
Women 2. For the won - der of each hour Of the day and of the night,
Harmony 3. For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's de - light,
Men 4. For the joy of hu - man love, Broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
Unison 5. For your - self, best gift di - vine To the world so free - ly giv'n;



For the love which from our birth O - ver and a - round us lies:
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and moon and stars of light:
For the mys - tic har - mo - ny Link - ing sense to sound and sight:
Friends on earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
A - gent of God's grand de - sign, Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

Refrain



Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Text: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.
Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872
Arrangement: John Ferguson

Please be seated

PART I
Creation

REFLECTION

Pastor Bruce Benson

ANTHEM

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

ROYAL OAK

Refrain:

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
God made their tiny wings. *Refrain*

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky. *Refrain*

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them every one. *Refrain*

God gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well. *Refrain*

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, alt.
Tune: English Traditional
Arrangement: John Ferguson (GIA Publications: G-3104)

READING

“The Creation Story” from *God’s Trombones*

James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938)

Anton Armstrong, reader

HYMN

At the sound of the bells, please stand

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



All 1. All crea - tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice with us and
 Men 2. O rush - ing wind and breez - es soft, O clouds that ride the winds a -
 Organ 3. O flow - ing wa - ters, pure and clear, Make mu - sic for your Lord to
 Women 4. Earth ev - er fer - tile, day by day Un - folds rich bless - ings on our
 All 5. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless And wor - ship God in hum - ble -



sing: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! O burn - ing sun with gold - en
 loft: O, sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! O ris - ing morn, in praise re -
 hear. O, sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! O fire so mas - ter - ful and
 way, O, sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! The fruits and flow'rs that ver - dant
 ness. O, sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! O, praise the Fa - ther, praise the



beam And sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam;
 joyce, O lights of eve - ning, find a voice.
 bright, Pro - vid - ing us with warmth and light,
 grow, Let them his praise a - bun - dant show.
 Son, And praise the Spir - it, Three in One,



O sing ye! O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!
 O sing ye! O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!
 O sing ye! O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!
 O sing ye! O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!
 O sing ye! O sing ye! Al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia!

Text: *Laudato si, mi Signor*; Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. by William H. Draper, 1855–1933, alt.

Tune: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln 1623*

Arrangement: John Ferguson (GIA Publications: G-4124)

Please be seated

PART II

Music

REFLECTION

Pastor Bruce Benson

HYMN

“When the Morning Stars Together”

WEISSE FLAGGEN



Choir 1 *When the morn- ing stars to - geth - er* Their Cre - a - tor's glo - ry sang,
 All 2 *When in syn - a - gogue and tem - ple* Voic - es raised the psalm-ists' songs,
 Choir 3 *Voice and in - stru - ment in u - nion* Through the a - ges spoke your praise,
 All 4 *Lord, we bring our gift of mu - sic;* Touch our lips and fire our hearts,



And the an - gel host all shout - ed Till with joy the heav - ens rang,
Of - fer - ing the a - do - ra - tion Which a - lone to you be - longs,
Plain-song, tune - ful hymns, and an - thems Told your faith - ful, gra - cious ways.
 Teach our minds and train our sens - es, Fit us for these sa - cred arts.



Then your wis - dom and your great - ness Their ex - ul - tant mu - sic told,
 When the sing - ers and the cym - bals With the trum - pet made ac - cord,
 Choir and or - ches - tra and or - gan Each a sa - cred of - fering brought,
 Then with skill and con - se - cra - tion We would serve you, Lord, and give



All the beau - ty and the splen - dor Which your might - y works un - fold.
 Glo - ry filled the house of wor - ship, And all knew your pres - ence, Lord.
 While, in - spired by your own Spir - it, Po - et and com - po - ser wrought.
 All our powers to glo - ri - fy you, And in serv - ing ful - ly live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, © Oxford University Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
 Tune: As in *Tochter Sion*, Cologne, 1741
 Arrangement: John Ferguson (MorningStar: 50-6051)

READING

“Mary’s Story: as told by St. Luke”

John Ferguson

Text: Luke 1:26–33, 38–42 (NRSV)
 Music: GIA Publications: G-6668

Martin Hodel, trumpet
Alan Naylor, reader

ANTHEM

“Magnificat”

John Ferguson

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
 for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
 Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
 And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
 He has brought down the mighty from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
 he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his descendants forevermore.

Text: Luke 1:46b–55 (NRSV, alt.)
 Music: GIA Publications: G-6667

PART III

Human Love

REFLECTION

Pastor Bruce Benson

HYMN

Please stand

“This is My Song”

FINLANDIA

Harmony 1. This is my song, O God of all the na-tions, A song of peace for
Harmony 2. My coun-try's skies are blu-er than the oc-ean, And sun-light beams on

lands a - far and mine. This is my home, the coun-try where my heart is;
clo - ver-leaf and pine. But oth - er lands have sun-light too and clo-ver,

Here are my hopes, my dreams, my sac - red shrine. But oth - er hearts in
And skies are ev - ery-where as blue as mine. O hear my song, thou

oth - er lands are beat-ing, With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
God of all the na-tions, A song of peace for their land and for mine.

Text: Lloyd Stone, b. 1912
Tune: Adapted from *Finlandia*, by Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957

Please be seated

ANTHEM

“Ubi Caritas” from *Four Motets on Gregorian Themes*, Op. 10

Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corder diligamus nos sincero. Amen.*

Where charity and love are, there is God.
The love of Christ has brought us together into one flock.
Let us rejoice and let us be glad in that love itself.
Let us fear and love the living God.
And let us love from a pure heart. Amen.

Text: Antiphon for Maundy Thursday
Music: Theodore Presser (Presser 312-41253)

HYMN

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

BEACH SPRING

Stanza two sung in canon, men begin, then women begin with the choir women three beats later



Unison 1. Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice Bore the weight of hu-man need,
Canon 2. Still your chil - dren wan-der home - less; Still the hun - gry cry for bread;
Unison 3. As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till your love's re - veal-ing light



Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, Worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
Still the cap - tives long for free - dom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.
In its height and depth and great - ness Dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,



We, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear,



Con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
By your Spir - it send your pow - er To our world to make it whole.
Stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, Your a - bun - dant life to share.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, alt., © Oxford University Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Tune: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

PART IV

*Christ -
God's Best Gift*

REFLECTION

Pastor Bruce Benson

HYMN ANTHEM

“Lamb of God”

O LAMM GOTTES, UNSCHULDIG

Lamb of God most holy! Who on the cross didst suffer,
Patient still and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer;
Our sins by Thee were taken, Or hope had us forsaken:
Have mercy on us, O Jesu!

Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1490–1541

Tune: Nikolaus Decius, 1490–1541

Arrangement: F. Melius Christiansen, 1871–1955 (Augsburg Fortress: #0-8006-5259-2)

HYMN

Please stand

“Christ Has Arisen”

MFURAHINI, HALELUYA

Stanzas sung by choirs; Refrain sung by all

Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom. *Refrain*

“Go spread the news: he’s not in the grave.
He has arisen this world to save.
Jesus’ redeeming labors are done.
Even the battle with sin is won.” *Refrain*

For three long days the grave did its worst
until its strength by God was dispersed.
He who gives life did death undergo,
and in its conquest his might did show. *Refrain*

Christ has arisen to set us free.
Alleluia, to him praises be.
Jesus is living! Let us all sing;
he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain*

The angel said to them, “Do not fear.
You look for Jesus who is not here.
See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.
Only the grave cloths are lying there.” *Refrain*

Refrain:

Let us sing praise to him with end-less joy. Death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.

Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b.1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: Traditional Tanzanian

Please be seated

REFLECTION

Pastor Bruce Benson

HYMN ANTHEM

“In Thee is Gladness”

IN DIR IST FREUDE

In thee is gladness, gone is all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By thee are given the joys of heaven,
Thou the only Savior art.
To serve thee ever, forsake thee never,
We bow before thee love and adore thee.
Alleluia!

In him is gladness, gone is all sadness,
He who once was dead is raised.
Jesus is giving life to the living
now and ever let him be praised!
Wherefore they laid him, Death has not stay'd him,
The tomb once somber holds him no longer.
Alleluia!

Now is the story of Easter glory
sung with glad voices, the world rejoices.
Alleluia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–c.1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt.
Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556–1622
Music: Daniel Kallman (MorningStar: MSM-50-9258)

HYMN

Please stand and sing the refrain when invited

“Walk in the Light”

JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics: "We'll walk in the light, beau-ti - ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy shine bright." The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The second system also has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics: "Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the world. We'll". The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C).

Text: George D. Elderkin, refrain; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, stanzas
Music: Traditional
Arrangement: André Thomas (Choristers Guild: CGA1063) Printed by permission of Choristers Guild under License #697

Please be seated

PART V

Doxology

REFLECTION

Pastor Bruce Benson

HYMN ANTHEM

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

DEDICATION ANTHEM (Mennonite Hymnal 606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Hallelujah, Amen.

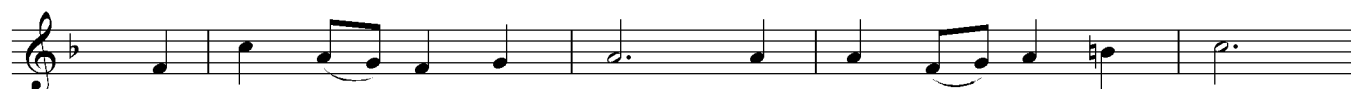
Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, *Manual of Prayers for use of Scholars of Winchester College*, 1695, alt.
Tune: Boston Handel and Haydn Society Collection, 1830

HYMN

Please stand

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

MARION



All 1. Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
Men 2. With voice as full and strong As o - cean's surg - ing praise,
Choir 3. Yes, on through life's long path, Still chant - ing as we go;
Choir 4. With all the an - gel choirs, With all the saints on earth
All 5. Praise God who reigns on high, The Lord whom we a - dore:



Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.
Send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, The psalms of an - cient days.
From youth to age, by night and day, In glad - ness and in woe.
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss, True rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
The Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, One God for - ev - er - more.



All Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
All Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
Choir Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
Choir Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
All Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.
Tune: Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916
Arrangement: John Ferguson (MorningStar: MSM-60-7015)

Please be seated

PRAYERS FOR A HYMN FESTIVAL

Pastor Bruce Benson

HYMN

Please stand at the conclusion of the introduction

“God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven”

AR HYD Y NOS

Unison 1. God, who made the earth and heav - en, Dark - ness and light:
Harmony 2. And when morn a - gain shall call us To run life's way,
Harmony 3. Guard us wak - ing, guard us sleep - ing, And, when we die,
Unison 4. Ho - ly Fa - ther, throned in heav - en, All - ho - ly Son,

You the day for work have giv - en, For rest the night.
 May we still, what - e'er be - fall us, Your will o - bey.
 May we in your might - y keep - ing All peace - ful lie.
 Ho - ly Spir - it, free - ly giv - en, Blest Three in One:

May your an - gel guards de - fend us, Slum - ber sweet your mer - cy send us,
 From the pow'r of e - vil hide us, In the nar - row path - way guide us,
 When the last dread call shall wake us, Then, O Lord, do not for - sake us,
 Grant us grace, we now im - plore you, Till we lay our crowns be - fore you

Ho - ly dreams and hopes at - tend us All through the night.
 Nev - er be your smile de - nied us All through the day.
 But to reign in glo - ry take us With you on high.
 And in wor - thier strains a - dore you While a - ges run.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826; William Mercer, 1811–1873; Richard Whately, 1787–1863, alt.
 Tune: Welsh Traditional
 Arrangement: John Ferguson

Please be seated

BENEDICTION ANTHEM

“How Can I Keep from Singing”

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING / AZMON / NEW BRITAIN

My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation.
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing;
it finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die? My Savior still is living.
What though the shadows gather 'round? A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love commands both heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899
Tune: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899
Arrangement: Eric Nelson (Augsburg Fortress: 0-8006-7517-7)

LEADERS IN THIS HYMN FESTIVAL

Organist and Artistic Director:	John Ferguson
Reflections:	Pastor Bruce Benson
Choral Clinician and Conductor:	Anton Armstrong
Instrumentalists:	Martin Hodel and Laura Wilde, trumpet David Scalise and Lauren Vork, trombone Joey Paulsen, percussion; Molly Crane, piccolo Julia Brown
Handbell Assistant:	Judith Seleen Swanson
Cover Art:	Mike Mihelich and Jeffrey O'Donnell
Program Design:	Janet Kringen Thompson
Director of Church Relations, St. Olaf College:	Jeffrey O'Donnell
Producer and Music Director, <i>Sing For Joy</i> :	Jennifer Rowe
Communications Coordinator, <i>Sing For Joy</i> :	Linda Hagan Kvanbeck
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Brookfield East High School Chamber Choir
Mary Bigus, director of choral activities

Members of the Divine Savior Holy Angels H.S. Choir
Rebekah Wickert, director of vocal music

Milwaukee High School of the Arts Concert Chorale
Raymond Roberts, director of choral activities

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Calvin Christian Reformed Church Sanctuary Choir
Kenneth Bos, director of music

Calvin College Campus Choir
John Wituliet, director

Calvin Theological Seminary Choir
Roy Hopp, director

NORTHFIELD

The St. Olaf Choir
Anton Armstrong, conductor

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First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir
Stephen Sheftz, director

First Wayne Street United Methodist Church Choir
Dale Tucker, director

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Adult Choir
Tim Robison, director

Trinity English Lutheran Church Chancel Choir
Robert Hobby, director

Trinity Episcopal Church Adult Choir
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Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church Choir
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North Shore Baptist Church Choir
Susan Feiler, director

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JOHN FERGUSON, DIRECTOR
ANTON ARMSTRONG, GUEST CONDUCTOR

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Katie Darling, *Billings, Mont.*
Laura Frye, *Milford, Mass.*
†Lauren Goe, *Bartlett, Ill.*
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John Douglass, *Northfield, Minn.*
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Kristian Eikevik, *Stillwater, Minn.*
†Jeffrey Foels, *Stillwater, Minn.*
Andrew Foxwell, *Menomonie, Wis.*
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Tyler Hayes, *Plymouth, Minn.*
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Joey Paulsen, *Coon Rapids, Minn.*
Phillip Romine, *Elkhart, Ind.*
*David Scalise, *Shoreline, Wash.*
Peter Schattauer, *Dubuque, Iowa*

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Nicholas Bayer, *Dayton, Ohio*
Peter Bodurtha, *Eagan, Minn.*
Jacob Erickson, *Minot, N.D.*
†Matthew Fedde, *Denver, Colo.*
Andrew Garrison, *Austin, Minn.*
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† Officer
* Section leader

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Mary Tranby, *secretary* • Mark Johnson, *St. Olaf Records sales and marketing manager*

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BIOGRAPHIES

JOHN FERGUSON is the Elliot and Klara Stockdal Johnson Professor of Organ and Church Music at St. Olaf College and minister of music to the student congregation. One of the most respected church musicians in the United States, he has received acclaim for the congregational hymn festivals he presents throughout the country.

PASTOR BRUCE BENSON is the host of *Sing For Joy*, and has served as St. Olaf College pastor since 1981. While at St. Olaf, Benson has led seven international study programs for students and has been worship planner, presider and chaplain for the college's biennial Conference on Worship, Theology and the Arts.

ANTON ARMSTRONG is the Harry R. and Thora H. Tosdal Professor of Music at St. Olaf College and conductor of the St. Olaf Choir, a position he assumed in 1990. Armstrong is a graduate of St. Olaf, and earned a master of music degree at the University of Illinois and a doctor of musical arts degree from Michigan State University.

MARTIN HODEL teaches trumpet at St. Olaf College and is a member of the Minnesota Orchestra. He holds a doctorate in trumpet performance and literature from the Eastman School of Music as well as a B.A. in music education from Goshen College and a M.M. in trumpet performance and conducting from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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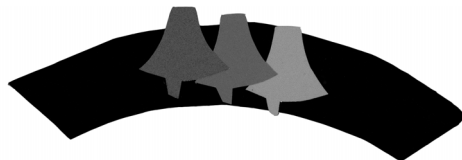
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Sing For Joy

In 1954, a young pastor, Alvin Rueter, well-settled at his second parish in California, accepted the call to form a new Lutheran congregation in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Together, Alvin and his wife, Beulah, developed strategies to publicize and grow this fledgling parish. This was a time of new communications technology, but they passed up the allure of television in favor of an electronic medium that was better-established — radio.



Al and Beulah Rueter

Within a year, Alvin and Beulah began a radio program of sacred music on an FM station.

"To survive, radio had to be transformed, and many stations chose to become a music box with a friendly voice," recalls Alvin. "In going house to house inviting people to our church, I ran across the head of the department of radio and TV at the University of Tulsa. I told him I'd decided to become a disc jockey with sacred music, and he suggested I try out the idea on the university's station."

From the beginning, Alvin recognized the usefulness of selecting music with a thematic focus. "Like other DJs, I tried to keep my remarks to a minimum. But unlike others, I wanted my talking to add up to an important message. So having a theme helped those minimal announcements, in tandem with the music, achieve a unified impact."

But, not surprisingly, before long it was a stretch to find meaningful themes that could be expressed through the available music. At that pivotal moment, Alvin settled on one of *Sing For Joy's* defining traits: using Western Christendom's "common lectionary" — a specific, predictable schedule of scriptural readings — as the basis for *Sing For Joy* and the music it presents through the weekly themes of the church year.

In recent years, the lectionary has been adopted by a larger and larger circle of interdenominational church bodies, including Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Mennonite, Disciples of Christ and Congregational churches. By some accounts, the lectionary is now the basis for worship in the services attended by the majority of churchgoers in America. *Sing For Joy*, in turn, presents musical works that give voice to the scriptural texts designated for each week.

In 2002, *Sing For Joy* marked the end of an era: Rev. Rueter, who had recently celebrated his 81st birthday, announced his decision to retire from his role as *Sing For Joy's* host and producer. Early on, it was acknowledged that Alvin was irreplaceable. Working closely with St. Olaf College, he helped choose the accomplished members of the college community who, beginning with the Advent broadcasts in 2002, would carry on his legacy.

Listeners from divergent backgrounds appreciate *Sing For Joy* and what it brings them for a multitude of reasons. Certainly, plenty of churchgoers feel that the program complements their weekly worship experience. And many church musicians express their appreciation for the insights and leads the program provides. But the program also clearly appeals to listeners from backgrounds transcending the kind of Christian orientation one might expect. That breadth of appeal speaks to *Sing For Joy's* unique presentation of Scripture-based music and related commentary in an engaging, personable and consequential way.

Sing For Joy, produced by St. Olaf College, is a program of the Office of Church Relations. As a college of the church, St. Olaf values its church-relatedness that is manifested in a number of ways — through relationships with congregations and synods, through events on campus that are rooted in faith issues and outreach, and very significantly through *Sing For Joy*. These programs embrace an ecumenical audience, providing values and viewpoints that strengthen and encourage our initiatives.

Our goal is to provide *Sing For Joy's* constituents with excellent music and thought-provoking commentary that strengthens listeners' worship life, and supports the church in evangelism and worship. We are most proud of the 50-year legacy of *Sing For Joy* and look forward to a strong and growing ministry with this program.

IDEALS TO ACTION



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