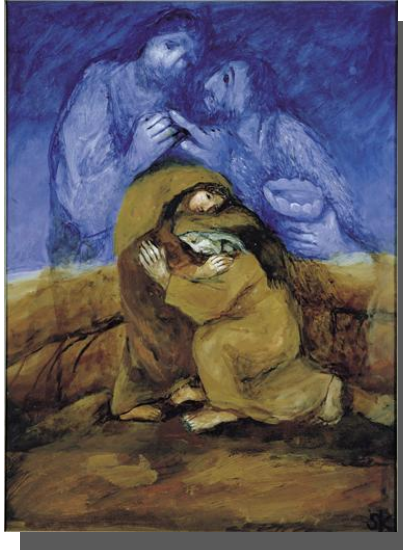


A Benefit
Choral Evensong
to assist the
Choristers' Scholarship Fund



Magnificat by Sieger Koder

Presented by:
The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys

Thursday, May 20, 8 PM ~ St. Mark's Episcopal Church – Grand Rapids
Friday, May 21, 8 PM ~ St. Paul's Episcopal Church – Muskegon
Saturday, May 22, 7 PM ~ St. Mary's Cathedral – Lansing
Sunday, May 23, 4 PM ~ Christ Church - Cranbrook

~ Special Guest Director - Dr. Martin Neary ~

~ CONCERNING THIS SERVICE OF EVENSONG ~

The form of this service is little altered from that of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, but the content has a much longer history. The Psalms were the hymns of the Jewish temple; the Canticles, the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, are from the New Testament; other prayers and hymns come from the past centuries of the Christian church. All these texts have been refined throughout the ages to express the profound mysteries of God.

For some it is music, not words alone, that carries them into the presence of God; for others it is silent meditation. For most people, however, it takes all three – words, music, and silent meditation – to lead them into the true spirit of worship. This service of Evensong is a unique part of our Christian heritage with its offering of a liturgical, architectural, and musical space into which we may bring our daily anxieties and preoccupations, and hold them together with a recollection of the God whose saving acts we celebrate.

One may feel that there is little opportunity for the congregation to take an active part in the worship, but the wisdom of the ages tells us that most find that through their own silent attention, while ministers and choir speak and sing in their name, they make the words and music their own. They are then able, with an uncluttered mind, to offer to God the best of who they are and what they hope to become. It is then that this service of Evensong, which has been called the jewel in the crown of Anglicanism, can be experienced for what it is; a worship experience that allows us, with all our senses, to express our hopes and thanksgivings to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

~ Introit ~

Beati Quorum Via (Psalm 119)

C.V. Stanford
(1852-1924)

Beati quorum via integra est: Blessed are the undefiled in the way:
Qui ambulant in lege Domini. who walk in the law of the Lord.

~ Prelude ~

Fantasia and Fugue in D Minor

Josef Seger
(1716-1782)

~ Hymn ~

The Church's One Foundation
(Choir & Congregation)

S.S. Wesley
(1810-1876)

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**

**Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

**Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.**

~ The Preces & Responses ~

Set I

Martin Neary
(b.1940)

Precentor: Oh Lord, open thou our lips

Choir: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise

Precentor: O God, make speed to save us

Choir: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Precentor: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Choir: As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be:
world without end Amen. Praise ye the Lord.

~ The Psalm ~

The Psalm setting for tonight's service is a newly commissioned setting of Psalm 46 by Grand Rapids composer, Dr. Carol VanRandwyke. Dr. Carol VanRandwyk received a Bachelor of Music Degree in theory and composition in 1982, a Master of Music Degree in theory in 1984, and a Ph.D. in music composition in 1994 from Michigan State University. She is currently head of composition and theory at GRCC where the choir makes it's home.

Psalm 46

Carol VanRandwyk

1. God is our hope and strength:
a very present help in trouble.
2. Therefore will we not fear though the earth be mov'd:
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.
3. Though the waters thereof rage and swell:
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.
4. The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God:
the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.
5. God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be remov'd:
God shall help her and that right early.
6. The heathen make much ado and the kingdoms are mov'd:
but God hath shewed his voice and the earth shall melt away.
7. The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
8. O come hither and behold the works of the Lord:
what destruction He hath brought upon the earth.
9. He maketh wars to cease in all the world:
He breaketh the bow and knappeth the spear in sunder,
and burneth the chariots in the fire.
10. Be still then and know that I am God:
I will be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth.
11. The Lord of Host is with us:
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Gloria: Glory be to the Father: and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

~ **Old Testament Lesson** ~

Joshua 24:1-15 (Joshua's Last Message)

~ **Evening Canticle I** ~

Magnificat (Collegium Regale) Song of Mary **Herbert Howells**
(1892-1983)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For He hath regarded the lowliness of His hand maiden.
For behold, from hence forth all generations shall call me blessed.
For He that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is His name.
And His mercy is on them that fear Him throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with His arm:
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and the meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things and the rich He hath sent empty away.
He remembering His mercy hath holpen His servant Israel,
As He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, forever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

~ **New Testament Lesson** ~

Ephesians 3:14-21 (Christ's Love for Us)

~ **Evening Canticle II** ~

Nunc Dimittis (Collegium Regale) Song of Simeon **Hebert Howells**
(1892-1983)

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace: according to Thy word.
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation
Which Thou hast prepared before the faces of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

~ The Creed~

Precentor: I believe in God...

All: ... **the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen**

~ The Preces & Responses ~

Set II

Martin Neary
(b.1940)

Precentor: The Lord be with you.

Choir: And with thy spirit.

Precentor: Let us pray.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

~ The Lord's Prayer ~

Precentor: Our Father,

Choir: Which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen

Precentor: O Lord, shew Thy mercy upon us.

Choir: And grant us Thy salvation.

Precentor: O Lord, save the Nation.

Choir: And mercifully hear us when we call upon Thee.

Precentor: Endue Thy mercies with righteousness.

Choir: And make Thy chosen people joyful.

Precentor: O Lord, save Thy people.

Choir: And bless Thine inheritance.

Precentor: Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir: Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only Thou, O God.

Precentor: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir: And take not Thy Holy Spirit from us.

~ **The Collects** ~

Precentor: (Prayers)

Choir: Amen.

~ **Anthems** ~

To honor this the 200th birthday year of S.S. Wesley, tonight's Evensong is featuring both Wesley anthems and hymns. Born in London on August 14, 1810, the son of Samuel Wesley and the grandson of Charles Wesley, Samuel Sebastian is considered to be the greatest composer of church music between Purcell and Stanford. He was an outspoken critic and tireless fighter for improvements in the standards of music used in worship.

His first teacher was his father, then at age 10, he became a chorister at the Chapel Royal. Six years later, at the age of 16, he was organist at three London churches before becoming organist to Hereford Cathedral in 1832. Other appointments followed after this. He was awarded the Doctor of Music from Oxford 1839.

Blessed Be the God and Father

S.S. Wesley
(1810-1876)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which according to his abundant mercy
hath begotten us again unto a lively hope
by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled,
that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation
ready to be revealed at the last time.

But as he which hath called you is holy,
so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.
Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

Love one another with a pure heart fervently.
See that ye love one another.

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible,
by the word of God.

For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass.
The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away.

But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. Amen.

~ **Offertory** ~

Voluntary in C

John Travers
(1703-1758)

Rejoice in the Lamb is a festival cantata for four soloists, SATB choir, and organ composed by Benjamin Britten in 1943 and based on the poem *Jubilate Agno* by Christopher Smart (1722-1771). The poem, written while Smart was in an insane asylum, is a highly idiosyncratic and ecstatic praise and worship of God by all created being and things, each in its own way.

Rejoice in the Lamb

Benjamin Britten

(Chorus)

(1913-1976)

Rejoice in God, O ye Tongues;

Give the glory to the Lord and the Lamb.

Nations, and languages, and every Creature in which is the breath of Life.

Let man and beast appear before him, and magnify his name together.

Let Nimrod, the mighty hunter,

Bind a leopard to the altar and consecrate his spear to the Lord.

Let Ishmail dedicate a tyger,

And give praise for the liberty in which the Lord has let him at large.

Let Balaam appear with an ass,

And bless the Lord his people and his creatures for a reward eternal.

Let Daniel come forth with a lion,

And praise God with all his might through faith in Christ Jesus.

Let Ithamar minister with a chamois,

And bless the name of Him That cloatheth the naked.

Let Jakim with the satyr

Bless God in the dance, dance, dance, dance.

Let David bless with the bear

The beginning of victory to the Lord, to the Lord the perfection of excellence.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah for the heart of God,
And from the hand of the artist inimitable,
And from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

(Treble Solo)

For I will consider my cat Jeffry.
For he is the servant of the living God, duly and daily serving him.
For at the first glance of the glory of God in the East he worships in his way.
For this is done by wreathing his body seven times round with elegant
quickness.
For he knows that God is his savior.
For God has bless'd him in the variety of his movements.
For there is nothing sweeter than his peace when at rest.
For I am possessed of a cat, surpassing in beauty,
From whom I take occasion to bless Almighty God.

(Counter-Tenor Solo)

For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour.
For this is a true case--Cat takes female mouse,
Male mouse will not depart, but stands threat'ning and daring.
If you will let her go, I will engage you, As prodigious a creature as you are.
For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour.
For the Mouse is of an hospitable disposition.

(Tenor Solo)

For the flowers are great blessings. For the flowers are great blessings.
For the flowers have their angels, even the words of God's creation.
For the flower glorifies God and the root parries the adversary.
For there is a language of flowers.
For the flowers are peculiarly the poetry of Christ.

(Chorus)

For I am under the same accusation with my Savior,
For they said, he is besides himself.
For the officers of the peace are at variance with me,
And the watchman smites me with his staff.
For the silly fellow, silly fellow, is against me,
And belongeth neither to me nor to my family.
For I am in twelve hardships but he that was born of a virgin
Shall deliver me out of all, shall deliver me out of all.

(Bass Solo & Chorus)

For H is a spirit and therefore he is God.
For K is king and therefore he is God.
For L is love and therefore he is God.
For M is musick and therefore he is God.
And therefore he is God.

(Chorus)

For the instruments are by their rhimes,
For the shawm rhimes are lawn fawn and the like.
For the shawm rhimes are moon boon and the like.
For the harp rhimes are sing ring and the like.
For the harp rhimes are ring string and the like.
For the cymbal rhimes are bell well and the like.
For the cymbal rhimes are toll soul and the like.
For the flute rhimes are tooth youth and the like.
For the flute rhimes are suit mute and the like.
For the bassoon rhimes are pass class and the like.
For the dulcimer rhimes are grace place and the like.
For the clarinet rhimes are clean seen and the like.
For the trumpet rhimes are sound bound and the like.
For the trumpet of God is a blessed intelligence
And so are all the instruments in Heav'n.

For God the Father Almighty plays upon the harp
Of stupendous magnitude and melody.
For at that time malignity ceases
And the devils themselves are at peace.
For this time is perceptible to man
By a remarkable stillness and serenity of soul.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah for the heart of God,
And from the hand of the artist inimitable,
And from the echo of the heavenly harp
In sweetness magnificent and mighty.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

~ Intercessions ~

~ Closing Hymn ~

O Thou Who Camest From Above

S.S. Wesley
(1810-1876)

(Choir & Congregation)

**O Thou who camest from above,
The pure celestial fire to impart
Kindle a flame of sacred love
Upon the mean altar of my heart.**

**There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return,
In humble prayer and fervent praise.**

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire

**To work and speak and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up thy gift in me.**

**Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make my sacrifice complete.**

~ Choral Blessing ~

Bless, O Lord, Thy Servants

Chad Dykema
(b. 1967)

Bless, O Lord, Thy servants as we seek to do thy will.
Enfold us with Thy love. Show us Thy mercy.
Grant us Thy courage. Lead us in ways of rightful living.
Bless, O Lord, Thy servants as we seek to do thy will.
Amen.

~ Final Response ~

Bless, O Lord

Chad Dykema
(b.1967)

Bless, O Lord, Thy servants as we seek to do Thy will. Enfold us with Thy love.
Show us Thy mercy. Grant us Thy courage. Lead us in ways of rightful living. Amen

~ Prelude ~

Transport de joie

Oliver Messiaen
(1908-1992)

LET HIS SPIRIT SOAR



We hope you have enjoyed tonight's program by the Choir. Won't you please help us continue our mission to train boys in West Michigan musically and spiritually and to offer the communities here the fruits of their efforts. Make a contribution today. Thank-you!

All proceeds from this Benefit Evensong will go to *music scholarships for our boys*, many of whom rely upon this assistance to be able to sing in the choir. Your continued support at this Benefit Evensong is both appreciated and vital to our mission *to promote and enrich Christian Worship here in West Michigan*. All financial giving at this service will be noted as tax deductible donations to the choir. The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys is a registered 501(c) 3 non-profit organization acknowledged by the State of Michigan.

GRCMB, PO Box 6152, Grand Rapids, MI 49516 www.grcmb.org

Roster Winter 2009

~ Trebles ~

Cantoris

Danny Becker
Victory Chemjor
Jason Gantos
Linus Guerra
Lars Lindgren
Isaac Mangione
Schuyler Pruis
Mwenda Righa
Joseph Schimmelmann

Decani

Francis Corona
Judah Guerra
Jordan Malone
Colin Raab
Tom Ryskamp
Ian Staves
Calvin VanZytveld
William VanZytveld
Luke VanderKooy



~ Counter Tenors ~

Cantoris

John Mark Becker
John Hibma
David VanZytveld

Decani

Mark Becker
Noah Becker
Keith Fredlund

~ Tenors ~

Cantoris

Dirk Pruis
William Reed
Daniel Weinrick

Decani

Chad Dykema
Joey Hidalgo
Steve Johnson

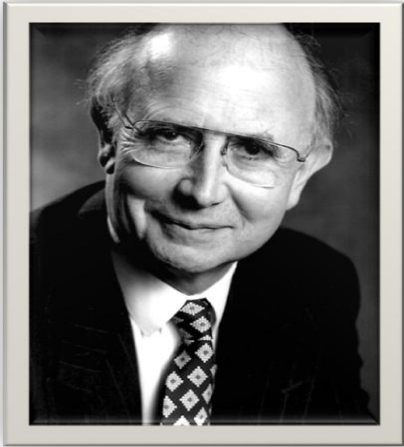
~ Basses ~

Cantoris

David Diephouse
Eric Lindgren
Gordon Stegink
Jacob VanHouten
Charles Witteveen

Decani

Dave Boersma
Doug DeVries
Brandon Harris
Gerald Kryuf
Norm Sneller



Martin Neary...

It is a great privilege and joy to once again have Dr. Martin Neary working with and directing the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys.

British organist and conductor **Martin Neary**, who was Organist and Master of the Choristers at **Winchester Cathedral** (1972–87) and **Westminster Abbey** (1988–98), is especially noted for championing contemporary church music, and for his groundbreaking performances of music by Bach and Purcell.

In 1978 Neary directed the first complete performance in England of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with period instruments, and in 1995, conducted two televised programs marking the tercentenary of the death of Henry Purcell. His CD with the Westminster Abbey Choir and the New London Consort, *Music for Queen Mary*, was nominated for a Grammy.

Martin Neary is particularly associated with contemporary British composers Jonathan Harvey and John Tavener, with over thirty commissions and premieres. As organist, Martin Neary has also programmed many new works, not least in his recitals at the Royal Festival Hall in London. He is the only second person to have been elected twice as president of the Royal College of Organists.

Martin Neary, who read theology and music at Cambridge University and later studied conducting at Tanglewood under Erich Leinsdorf, and with André Marchal in Paris, has received numerous awards. Among them his appointment as Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order by the Queen, in recognition of his services for choosing and directing the music at the funeral of Princess Diana.

Next year marks the Choir's 21st season, and the Board of Directors is proud to announce two guest directors.

- **Dr. Neary** returns in November to direct a program celebrating Royal Occasions in honor of the opening of the Princess Diana exhibit at the GRAM.
- March will bring **Andrew Nethsingha**, Organist/ChoirMaster St. John's College, Cambridge, to train and lead the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys in their annual Lenten Meditations.
- You won't want to miss any of this, including the Choir's Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols in December.

Add the choir's website to your favorites list and keep informed of all of the excitement that lies ahead.

www.grcmb.com

INSERT PAGES 19 & 20 FROM OUR LAST INSERT (THE LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS PROGRAM) WHICH HAS SUMMER CAMP AND DONOR LIST INFORMATION ALONG WITH PRESS REVIEW & PICTURES.