

SING FOR JOY

July 2003



Pastor W. Bruce Benson,
Sing For Joy host

***From Dr. John Ferguson, music director
and Jeffrey O'Donnell, music specialist***

Programming music for *Sing For Joy* is both exciting and challenging. It's exciting in that we have the privilege and opportunity to share fabulous music with a large, nationwide audience. The challenging aspect comes from the limited repertoire of performances that (a) have been recorded and (b) we have in our collection.

While extensive, the *Sing For Joy* collection of recordings does not contain all the sacred music available on compact disc, and it certainly does not represent the full range of repertoire that has been written to respond to biblical themes. When discussing the direction a given program should take in its musical presentation, we have often remarked in our listening sessions, "If only a recording of THAT were available!"

How do we determine which recordings are used on *Sing For Joy*? Each recording must meet several criteria before it's included in our program:

Scriptural correlation. *Sing For Joy* is rooted in the lectionary. Given this foundation, our primary source for ideas is the very themes presented by the Scriptures each week. Sometimes we are able to find works that quote the text directly; other times we look for overall themes and concepts. In every case, our goal is to illuminate the Scriptures through music.

Clarity of text. If the words can't be understood, the point of presenting a given work is lost. We strive to do the best we can to allow the works to "speak for themselves." This standard is a difficult one to follow, and sometimes we may not be completely successful.

Overall musical quality. We make every attempt to present performances that adhere to very high standards. Good intonation (tuning), dynamic sensitivity and stylistic integrity are critical factors to consider. We can, however, allow a little variance here if, for example, a performance has so much energy, enthusiasm and legitimacy that we feel it appropriate to overlook tuning problems or some blurred text. But excellence is our first priority. *Sing For Joy* does not include any performances that we'd feel uncomfortable listening to outside of the program.

Stylistic diversity. We like a mix of musical styles on *Sing For Joy*. From the contrapuntal weavings of Orlando Gibbons to the modern stylings of Arvo Pärt, from emotional African American Spirituals to majestic English choral anthems, we attempt to display a diverse cross-section in each program. It's a continual source of amazement that the same texts can evoke such different responses from composers and arrangers throughout the ages.

Regional / denominational diversity. It would be easy to focus only on choirs from the Upper Midwest, rich in Lutheran choral tradition, or England, home of so many outstanding cathedral choirs of men and boys. We choose, however, to represent as many of the outstanding music ensembles found all across the world as we can. We also attempt to present choirs from the many denominations that follow the liturgical year (and a few that don't).

All of these threads combine to form the musical tapestry that is *Sing For Joy*. We're always eager for feedback about the music you hear. Please do not hesitate to contact us by letter or via our web site, singforjoy.com.



Soli Deo Gloria,

*Jeffrey O'Donnell
John Ferguson*

Listings

July 6

4 Pentecost Scriptures:

- (1R) Ezekiel 2:1-5
(PS) Psalm 123
(2R) 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
(G) Mark 6:1-13

“Prologue” from The Apostles, Op. 49 – Edward Elgar. Massed choirs of St. Olaf College / Robert Scholz. (CD) *Ris’n With Healing in His Wings* / ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-2564 © 2002, St. Olaf Records, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057

“Is Not His Word Like a Fire?” from Elijah, Op. 70 – Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. Willard White – Baritone, London Symphony Orchestra / Richard Hickox. (CD) *Mendelssohn: Elijah* / CHANDOS / CHAN 8774/5 © 1989, Chandos Records, Ltd., Colchester, England.

Join We All With One Accord

Boston Baroque / Martin Pearlman. (CD) *Lost Music of Early America* / TELARC / CD-80482 © 1998, Telarc International Corporation, 23307 Commerce Park Road, Cleveland, OH 44122

“Psalm 123” from Three Antiphonal Psalms – Virgil Thomson. Gloriae Dei Cantores – Cape Cod, MA / Elizabeth C. Patterson. (CD) *By the Rivers of Babylon: American Psalmody Vol. II* / GLORIAE DEI CANTORES / GDCD 027 © 1999, Gloriae Dei Cantores, Distributed by Paraclete Press, Brewster, MA 02631

The Word Was God – Rosephanye Powell. Andrews University Singers – Berrien Springs, MI / Stephen Zork. (CD) *All Nations Sing* / ANDREWS UNIVERSITY © 1997, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI 49104

Ain’a That Good News – William L. Dawson. St. John Cathedral Choir – Denver, CO / Donald Pearson. (CD) *America, the Golden Dream* / DELOS / DE 3203 © 1996, Delos Records, 1645 North Vine Street, Suite 340, Hollywood, CA 90028

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (CROSS OF JESUS) Wells Cathedral Choir / Malcolm Archer. (CD) *Favourite Hymns from Wells Cathedral* / GRIFFIN / GCCD4010 © 1997, Griffin & Co., Ltd., 96 Church Street, Lancaster LA1 1TD.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (LINSTEAD) – Arr. Bradley Ellingboe. Voices of Praise – San Diego, CA / Bradley Ellingboe. (CD) *Music for the Church Year, Volume II* / KJOS / NN9712C © 1997, Neil A. Kjos Music Company, 4380 Jutland Drive, San Diego, CA 92117-3698

Saint Teresa’s Bookmark – Edward Tyler. The St. Olaf Cantorei / John Ferguson (CD) *A Thousand Ages: A Celebration of Hope* / GIA / CD-474 © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 South Mason Avenue, Chicago, IL 60638

LECTIONARY

1R-First Reading 2R-Second Reading PS-Psalms G-Gospel

July 13

5 Pentecost Scriptures:

- (1R) Amos 7:7-15
(PS) Psalm 85:8-13
(2R) Ephesians 1:3-14
(G) Mark 6:14-29

O God Beyond All Praising (THAXTED) – Arr. Richard Proulx. The Cathedral Singers – Chicago, IL / Richard Proulx. (CD) *Rare Beasts & Unique Adventures, Vol. 2* / GIA PUBLICATIONS / GIA CD-468 © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 South Mason Avenue, Chicago, IL 60638

Thy Holy Wings, Dear Savior (BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR) – Arr. Karle Erickson. The Gustavus Choir – St. Peter, MN / Karle Erickson. (CD) *Favorite Swedish Hymns* / DELTA DIGITAL / DRCD91-131 © Gustavus Adolphus College, 800 West College Ave, St. Peter, MN 56082

How Beauteous Are Their Feet (WORCESTER) – Arr. Abraham Wood. His Majestie’s Clerkes / Paul Hillier. (CD) *Goostly Psalmes* / HARMONIA MUNDI / HMU 907128 © 1996, Harmonia Mundi USA, 2037 Granville Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90025

Glorify the Lord With Me – Jean Berger. Massed choirs of St. Olaf College / Sigrid Johnson. (CD) *Out of Darkness, Let Light Shine* / ST OLAF RECORDS / E-1840 © 1991, St. Olaf Records, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057

Love’s Redeeming Work Is Done (SAVANNAH) – Arr. Dent Davidson. The Cathedral Choristers, St. Mark’s Cathedral – Seattle, WA / J. Melvin Butler. (CD) *Great Music of Holy Week & Easter* / CHURCH HYMNAL CORPORATION / ISBN: 0-89869-282-2 © 1997, Church Hymnal Corporation, 445 Fifth Ave, New York, NY 10016

“O Man, Greatly Beloved” from Dona Nobis Pacem – Ralph Vaughan Williams. The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra & Chorus / Robert Shaw. (CD) *Barber, Bartók, & Vaughan Williams* / TELARC / CD-80479 © 1998, Telarc International Corporation, 23307 Commerce Park Road, Cleveland, OH 44122

July 20

6 Pentecost Scriptures:

- (1R) Jeremiah 23:1-6
(PS) Psalm 23
(2R) Ephesians 2:11-22
(G) Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The Lord’s My Shepherd (ORLINGTON) Scottish Philharmonic Singers / Ian McCrorie. (CD) *Psalms of Scotland* / ABBEY / SCSCD 2830. © 1988, SCS Music Ltd, 4 Newtec Place, Magdalen Rd, Oxford OX4 1RE, England.

“The Lord Is My Shepherd” from Requiem – John Rutter. Choir of King’s College, Cambridge / Stephen Cleobury. (CD) *Rutter Requiem* / EMI CLASSICS / CDC 7243 5 5605 27 © 1998, EMI Records Ltd., 304 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010.

Listings

Shepherd Me, O God – Marty Haugen. The Calvin College Alumni Choir – Grand Rapids, MI; Henry Kingma - Tenor / Pearl Shangkuan. (CD) *Hymnale* / CALVIN COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION / CD 22. © 2002, Calvin College, 3201 Burton Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4388.

Psalm 23 – Arr. Jeffrey Smith. Parish Choirs of St. Paul's Parish, K Street – Washington, DC / Jeffrey Smith. (CD) *Show Yourselves Joyful* / PRO ORGANO / CD 7068 © 1997, Zarex Corporation, South Bend, Ind.

The Church's One Foundation (AURELIA) – Arr. William Baerg. The Riverton Singers – Winnipeg, Canada / William Baerg. (CD) *These Our Hymns* / RIVERTON PRODUCTIONS / RP1200CD © Riverton Productions, 225 Riverton Ave, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2L 0N1

Built on a Rock (KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS) – Arr. Thorleif Aamodt & Jan Bender. The Gustavus Choir – St. Peter, MN / Karle Erickson. (CD) *Favorite Norwegian Hymns* / DELTA DIGITAL / DRSCD93-327 © Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN 56082.

July 27

- 7 Pentecost Scriptures:
(1R) 2 Kings 4:42-44
(PS) Psalm 145:10-18
(2R) Ephesians 3:14-21
(G) John 6:1-21

All Creatures of Our God and King (LASST UNS ERFREUEN) – Arr. John Rutter. The Cambridge Singers, The City of London Sinfonia / John Rutter. (CD) *Te Deum & Other Church Music by John Rutter* / COLLEGIUM RECORDS / COLCD 112 © 1990, Collegium Records, P.O. Box 31366, Omaha, NB 68131

Psalm 145: We Are Led by the Hand of God – David Haas. Lori True – Cantor, GIA Ad Hoc Choir / David Haas. (CD) *Psalms for the Church Year, Vol VIII* / GIA PUBLICATIONS / GIA CD-387. © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 South Mason Avenue, Chicago, IL 60638

The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee – Jean Berger. Glorïæ Dei Cantores – Cape Cod, MA / Elizabeth C. Patterson. (CD) *By the Rivers of Babylon: American Psalmody Vol. II* / GLORIÆ DEI CANTORES / GDCD 027 © 1999, Glorïæ Dei Cantores, Distributed by Paraclete Press, Brewster, MA 02631

“Jesus, My Sweet Pleasure” from Motet III: Jesu, meine Freude, BWV 227 – J.S. Bach. Holy Trinity Bach Choir – New York, NY / Richard Erickson. (CD) *Bach for All Seasons* / AUGSBURG FORTRESS / 3-5855 © 1999, Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

The Lord's Prayer – Robert Stone. The Concordia Choir – Moorhead, MN / René Clausen. (CD) *Sing Joyfully Unto God* / CONCORDIA MUSIC RECORDINGS / E-1938 © Concordia Music Recordings, 901 South 8th Street, Moorhead, MN 56562.

Let Us With a Gladsome Mind (MONKLAND) – Arr. Alan Ridout. Shadyside Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir –

Pittsburgh, PA / John Walker. (CD) *A Choral Harvest* / PRO ORGANO / CD 7072 © 1995, Zarex Corporation, South Bend, Ind.

For the Fruit of All Creation (AR HYD Y NOS) – Arr. John Ferguson. The St. Olaf Cantorei / John Ferguson. (CD) *A Thousand Ages: A Celebration of Hope* / GIA PUBLICATIONS / CD-474 © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 South Mason Avenue, Chicago, IL 60638.

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IN HONOR OF:
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 Mrs. M.J. Puckett
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 Rev. Martha S. Nordt
 Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Sandborg
 Frances Summers

Listeners Sharing the Joy

“I appreciate your wonderful program greatly. I send some tapes to our daughter, son-in-law and four grandchildren living in China.” *Hoagland, Ind.*

“Just want to say that Pastor Benson is doing a great job. He adds a new dimension to *Sing For Joy*. I've been listening for years — keep up the good work!” *Roanoke, Va.*

“We need to worship God every day to receive His grace in times of war or peace. Following the lectionary assures one of hearing all the messages of grace and redemption in the Scriptures.” *Vero Beach, Fla.*

••••• Sing For Joy on Classical 89.3 WCAL

You can hear *Sing For Joy* Sundays at 10 a.m. or 9:30 p.m. on the station that produces the program, Classical 89.3 WCAL, in Minnesota's Twin Cities area. In Rochester, Minn., hear it at the same time on Classical 89.3's affiliate station, 88.7 KMSE.



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