

TOUCH THE EARTH LIGHTLY

I

Creation Sings

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), arr. Tom Trenney (b. 1977)

Creation sings of God's grace and glory.
The sky gives adoration and praise.
The sun and moon shine God's light on all nations.
The earth and sea resound with praise.
The flow'rs and forests blooming in beauty
Reveal the wonders of God's love.
All living creatures unite in thanksgiving,
a melody our voices raise.
In harmony, we sing God's praise.

Text by Tom Trenney

HYMN #835: ***"All Creatures, Worship God Most High"***

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Stand at the close of the organ introduction

Stanza 1 - All

Stanza 2 - Lower voices

Stanza 3 - All

Stanza 4 - Treble voices

Stanza 5 - All

Stanza 6 - All

Text by Francis of Assisi

All You Works of the Lord, Bless the Lord

Kenneth Jennings (1925-2015)

All you works of the Lord, bless the Lord,
sing praise and magnify God forever.
You angels of the Lord, bless the Lord;
you heavens bless the Lord;
All you pow'rs of the Lord, bless the Lord;
sing praise and magnify God forever.
You sun and moon, you stars of heaven,
you showers and dew, bless the Lord;
You winds of God, you fire and heat,
you winter and summer, bless the Lord;
You dews and frost, you frost and cold,
you ice and snow, bless the Lord;
You nights and days, you light and darkness,
you lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord
– sing praise and magnify God forever.
Let the earth bless the Lord; you mountains and hills,
all you green things that grow on the earth, bless the Lord;
You wells and springs, you rivers and seas,
you whales and all who move in the waters, bless the Lord;
All you birds of the air, all you beasts and cattle,
all you children of mortals, bless the Lord;
You people of God, you priests of the Lord,
you servants of the Lord, bless the Lord
– sing praise and magnify God for evermore.
You spirits and souls of the righteous;
you pure and humble of heart, bless the Lord;
Let us bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
praise God and magnify God forever, Amen.

Text: Benedicite, omnia opera

HYMN #824: *“This Is My Father’s World”*
TERRA PATRIS, adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard (1852-1930)

Stanza 1 – All in harmony

Stanza 2 – Choir

Stanza 3 – All in unison

Text by Maltbie D. Babcock

HYMN #833: **"Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices"**

O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HATTE, Johann B. König (1691-1758)

Stanza 1 – All Stanza 3 – Organ

Stanza 2 – All Stanza 4 – Choir

Stanza 5 – All Sing

Text by Johann Mentzer

II

REFLECTION

Planted by God

Susan Palo Cherwien (b. 1953-2021)

Mothering God

Based on MARYTON by Washington Gladden, alt. Tom Trenney

Mothering God, you gave me birth
in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of ev'ry breath,
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form,
offering me your food of light,
grain of life, and grape of love,
your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one,
in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow
until I flow'r, until I know.

Text by Jean Janzen; based on Julian of Norwich

HYMN #845: **"Voices Raised to You We Offer"**

SONG OF PRAISE, Carolyn Jennings (b. 1936)

Stand at the close of the organ introduction

Stanza 1 – All Stanza 3 – Choir

Stanza 2 – All Stanza 4 – All

Stanza 5 – All

Text by Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.

May the Deep Blessings of Earth

Tom Trenney

May the deep blessings of earth be with us.
May the fathomless sounding of seas surge in our soul.
May boundless stretches of the universe echo in our depths
to open us to wonder, to strengthen us for love, to humble us with gratitude,
that we may find ourselves in one another, that we may lose ourselves in gladness,
that we give ourselves to peace.

Text by John Philip Newell

HYMN: "Abba, Abba Hear Us"

ARIRANG, Korean Traditional

Stanza 1 – Soloist, all at "All creation waits..."

Stanza 2 – Treble voices, all at "All creation waits..."

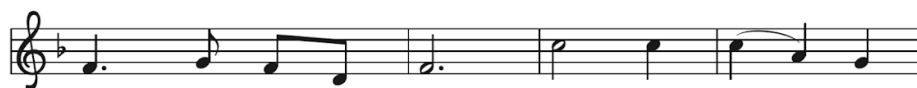
Stanza 3 – Lower voices, all at "All creation waits..."



1 "Ab - ba, Ab - ba, hear us," we cry; God's Spir - it
2 With the whole cre - a - tion we cry, groan as in
3 As we pray, the Spir - it breathes sighs, sighs far too



cries in us, names us a - dopt - ed and be - lov - ed
child - birth. Soon all sin, all death's de - cay will be no
deep for words; God, who search - es hearts and knows the Spir - it's



heirs, the heirs of God. All cre - a - tion
more; we shall be free. All cre - a - tion
mind, hears all our prayer. All cre - a - tion



waits, ea - ger and long - ing, for the glo - rious
waits, ea - ger and long - ing; for the prom - ised
waits, ea - ger and long - ing. As we live in



free - dom of God's chil - dren soon will be re - vealed.
glo - ry that we soon shall see we wait and pray.
hope, we know that in all things God works for good.

Text by Andrew Donaldson

III

REFLECTION

“scrubbing away their mistakes, their guilt”

Susan Palo Cherwien

HYMN: ***“In Sacred Manner”***

SEATTLE, Robert Buckley Farlee (b. 1950)

Stanza 1 – Choir

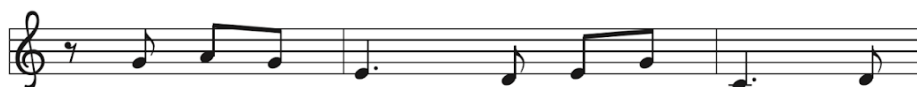
Stanza 4 – Choir

Stanza 2 – All

Stanza 5 – Low Voices

Stanza 3 – Treble Voices

Stanza 6: All



1 In sa - cred man - ner may we walk up -
2 In sa - cred man - ner may we see the
3 In sa - cred man - ner may we touch the
4 In sa - cred man - ner may we hear the



on the fair and lov - ing earth, in beau - ty move, in
lu - mi - nous and lov - ing stars, with won - der and with
sus - pir - ant and lov - ing green, give hon - or and give
pound - ing waves, the sear - ing fire, the rush - ing wind, the



beau - ty love the liv - ing round that brought us birth. We
awe be - hold their ev - er - new cre - a - tive pow'rs. The
grat - i - tude for shade, for bloom, for gift un - seen. The
sing - ing night, the for - est hymn, the lov - ing choir. The



stand on ho - ly ground. We stand on ho - ly ground.
heav - ens show us God. The heav - ens show us God.
trees shall shout for joy. The trees shall shout for joy.
morn - ing stars shall sing. The morn - ing stars shall sing.

5 In sacred manner may we live
among the wise and loving ones,
sit humbly, as at sages' feet,
by four-legged, finned, and feathered ones.
The animals will teach.
The animals will teach.

6 In sacred manner may we walk
upon the fair and loving earth,
in beauty move, in beauty love
the living round that brought us birth.
We stand on holy ground.
We stand on holy ground.

This We Know

Ron Jeffers (b. 1943)

This we know. The earth does not belong to us; we belong to the earth.

This we know. All things are connected like the blood that unites one family.
All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth, befalls the children of earth.

This we know. We did not weave the web of life, we are merely a strand in it.
Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

This we know.

Text by Chief Seattle

HYMN #739: ***“Touch the Earth Lightly”***

TENDERNESS, Colin Gibson (b. 1933)

Stanza 1 – Soloist

Stanza 2 – Low Voices

Stanza 3 – Treble Voices

Stanza 4 – All Sing

Text by Shirley Erena Murray

Now All the Woods Are Sleeping

Arr. David Cherwien (b. 1957)

Now all the woods are sleeping,
through fields the shadows creeping,
and cities sink to rest;
Let us as night is falling
on God our maker calling,
give thanks to him who loves us best.

Text by Paul Gerhardt



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All You Works of the Lord Bless the Lord – Text: *Benedicite omnia opera*; Music: Kenneth Jennings © Augsburg Fortress.

This is My Father's World – ELW, #824; Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, alt.; Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, adapt.

Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices – Text: Johann Mentzer, tr. Composite © Augsburg Fortress; Music: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HATTE, Johann B. König.

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GUEST CONDUCTORS

Tom Trenney



Tom Trenney shares his passion as pastoral musician, composer, and teacher in worship with his home congregation, in the college classroom, and in performances, hymn festivals, choral and organ workshops and master classes all around the country. Tom is blessed to

be in his twelfth season as Minister of Music to First-Plymouth Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. Tom's choral compositions have been published by Augsburg Fortress, Beckenhurst Press, Choristers Guild, E.C. Schirmer/Galaxy, Morningstar, MusicSpoke, Pavane, and G. Schirmer. His music has been sung in churches and colleges around the country.

Shaun Halland



Shaun Halland teaches Vocal Music at Coon Rapids High School and has taught for eighteen years. He has also served many churches as a worship and music leader throughout the Twin Cities and worked as a freelance collaborative pianist. Shaun has sung with The National Lutheran Choir since 2002 and currently

serves as the tenor section leader. He holds a Bachelor Degree from Luther College in Vocal Music Education and a Master of Sacred Music in Choral Conducting from Luther Seminary.

National Lutheran Choir

David Cherwien, *Artistic Director*

SOPRANO

Allison Ackmann
Joan Floren Memorial Chair
Katherine L. Castille
Angelica Imaginatio Chair
Ellie Demitrius
Mount Olive Lutheran Church Chair I
Karla Hanson
Chelsey Kearns
Mycah Lerum
*Generations of Paul and Florence
Peterson Chair*
Susan Mencil
Christina Myers
Sarah Olson
Brittany Rudoi*
eLJay Foundation Chair
Meredith Samuelson
Sandra and Steve Rach Chair
Lisa Schlotterback
Kate Tripoli
Emily Tryggestad

ALTO

Colleen Schaeffle Cook
Christine Cherwien*
*Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
Chair*
Emily Skoblik Diallo
Marta Edman
Caroline Freund
Torunn Harty
Amy M. Hoff
Zanny Johnson
Jenny Kelley
Elaine and Arthur Halbardier Chair
Sarah Koepf
Rochelle Milbrath
Jill Maltrud Reid
Angelica Tenere Chair
Brittany Rooney
Kaiya Ruff
Mount Olive Lutheran Church Chair II
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Anne Zielske
Gwenn and Steven Branstad Chair

TENOR

Ian Cook
Joseph Crippen
Shaun Halland*
Bartz-Schreiber Chair
Seth Hartwell
Will Heller
Aaron Holmgren
Ken Holmen
Travis Karstad
Allana and Matthew Helland Chair
Andrew Kreye
Uecker Family Chair
Brian Lensch
*Kenneth C. and Dorothy A. Bailey
Memorial Chair*
Jack Strub
Dain Swanson
JT Torgeson
Mark Uecker
Seyna Poynter Chair

BASS

Steven Branstad
Alumni Chair
Phil Dahl
Kenton Hunt
Curtiss L. Strom Memorial Chair
David Johnson
Jacob Kunkel
Dave Michel
Matthew Olson
Sam Olson
Ron Pietsch
Eli Pollock
Rob Reid*^
Danny Roth
Timothy M. Schmidt
Gill Brothers Funeral Directors Chair
Dan Streeper
Riley Unzicker
Elizabeth M. Strom Chair
Jeff Tunseth

* Section Leader

^ Choir Manager/Librarian

GUEST ARTISTS

Organ & Piano: David Cherwien
Oboe: Sarah Boyle Carmack
Reader: Jennifer Baker-Trinity

NLC STAFF

David Cherwien, *Artistic Director* | Tina Meckel, *Executive Director*
Sarah Anderson, *Marketing & Events Manager* | Bridgit Jordan, *Bookkeeper*
Kristin Rongstad, *Operations Manager* | Paul John Rudoi, *Content & Communications Manager*

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The National Lutheran Choir ***Singing a Sacred and Spiritual Story***

Under the direction of Dr. David Cherwien, the 60 plus member National Lutheran Choir's artistry is rooted in its mission to strengthen, renew and preserve the heritage of sacred choral music.

Founded in 1986 by Dr. Larry Fleming, the National Lutheran Choir sings a spiritual story through diverse repertoire—from early chant and simple folk anthems to complex choral masterworks and new compositions. Currently in its 36th year, the National Lutheran Choir features a roster of committed volunteer singers from a variety of faith backgrounds.

In addition to concertizing, the National Lutheran Choir enjoys frequent broadcasts on public radio and thousands of views on its YouTube channel of selected performances and concert streams. A discography of 35 recordings showcases the ensemble's music making over the years and features hymns, choral classics, contemporary works, spirituals, and major new works commissioned by the National Lutheran Choir. Much of this influential new work is featured in "The National Lutheran Choir Series," published by MorningStar Music. The Choir is the recipient of Chorus America's Margaret Hillis Award (2013) and the Dale Warland Singers Commission Award, presented by Chorus America and funded by the American Composers Forum, for Lament of the Earth by Steve Heitzeg and Susan Palo Cherwien.

David Cherwien, Artistic Director



David Cherwien, Artistic Director of the National Lutheran Choir, is a nationally known conductor, composer, and organist. Recognized for his contributions to the field of church music and liturgy, he often serves as a clinician and hymn festival leader across the country.

David serves as Cantor at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, a parish known for its passion for traditional liturgy and creative, high-quality music. He also serves as editor of the "National Lutheran Choir Series" of choral music published by MorningStar Music. David is a founding member of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and has served in its leadership in a variety of capacities, including as National President. He is a member of the American Choral Director's Association, American Guild of Organists, Chorus America, and Choristers Guild.

David Cherwien is a prolific composer and is the 2007 winner of the Raabe Prize for Excellence in Sacred Composition for his piece, "The Souls of the Righteous." Cherwien has composed over 25 new works for the National Lutheran Choir during his tenure as Artistic Director.

O BLESSED SPRING

Following the darkness of winter, we sing to the promise of life in our 2nd virtual concert of the season, **O Blessed Spring**. The program will draw musical inspiration from the seasons of nature, the seasons of life, and life in God. Both the choir and audience will sing as we look toward a brighter future more connected to the world than ever before.

STREAMING MARCH 13-27
NLCA.com

LAMENT OF THE EARTH

WINNER of the Dale Warland Singers Commissioning Award, premiered at our spring concert

THE EARTH SINGS BEAUTY

May 1, 4pm · St. Andrew's Church, Mahtomedi, MN

MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO LIVE BROADCAST · LIVESTREAM ON NLCA.COM

Music by
STEVE HEITZEG

Text by
SUSAN PALO CHERWIEN

Featured Artists
CLARA OSOWSKI MINNESOTA BOYCHOIR



Beauty in our Hands



2022 GALA

Sunday, April 3
from 3pm to 5:30pm

QUINCY HALL

1325 Quincy Street NE · Minneapolis, MN 55413

Join us in person
or virtually at [NLCA.com/gala](https://nlca.com/gala)



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Callbacks on May 17

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SYMPHONY OF A THOUSAND

Join us as we perform
Mahler's 8th Symphony
 with the Minnesota Chorale
 and Minnesota Orchestra
 directed by Osmo Vänskä.

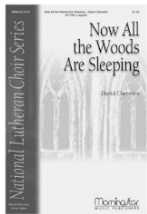
ORCHESTRA  HALL

June 10 & 11th at 8pm
 June 12 at 2pm

Tickets at
MinnesotaOrchestra.org



Nearly every program features repertoire from
 MorningStar's National Lutheran Choir Series.



The NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR Series
 David M. Cherwien, Editor

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Today's program included
Now All the Woods Are Sleeping
 by Artistic Director David Cherwien.

Visit NLCA.com for more information.

COMMUNITY EVENTS UPDATES

HYMNFEST with THE ST. JOHN'S
 BOYS' CHOIR

RESCHEDULED: March 20 at 4pm



PACIFIC NORTHWEST TOUR CANCELLED



The NLC will livestream our spring concert
 for our friends in the Pacific Northwest and beyond.
 More information can be found at NLCA.com

MESSAGES FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE TWIN CITIES CHORAL COMMUNITY

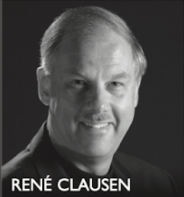
MAGNUM CHORUM

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Dwight Jilek, Artistic Director

MARCH 5, 2022



RENÉ CLAUSEN



Behold, I Make All Things New

MIDWINTER CONCERT
 WITH RENÉ CLAUSEN

Saturday, March 5, 8:00 p.m.
 First Lutheran Church
 Columbia Heights, Minnesota

APRIL 23, 2022



STEVE STARUCH, Host



Gala: Celebrating 30 Years!

COME AND CELEBRATE 30 YEARS
 WITH MAGNUM CHORUM, STEVE
 STARUCH AND FRIENDS!

Saturday, April 23, 6:00 p.m.
 Westin Galleria
 Edina, Minnesota

MAY 13 & 14, 2022



ANTON ARMSTRONG



ST. OLAF CHOIR

Spring Concert

WITH ANTON ARMSTRONG
 AND THE ST. OLAF CHOIR

Friday, May 13, 7:30 p.m.
 St. Olaf College
 Northfield, Minnesota

Saturday, May 14, 7:30 p.m.
 Westwood Lutheran Church
 St. Louis Park, Minnesota

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS: MAGNUMCHORUM.ORG