

MAY 26, 2021



SoundFourth!

Weekly Newsletter for the Choir of First Baptist Church



“If God is the Creator of the entire universe, then it must follow that He is the Lord of the whole universe. No part of the world is outside of His lordship. That means that no part of my life must be outside of His lordship.”

-R.C. Sproul



Happy Memorial Day!

CHOIR NEWS THIS WEEK:

Upcoming Repertoire

Upcoming Calendar

Seven Days of Prayer for Our Choir

A Word From the Director

Prayer Requests



Upcoming Repertoire

Sunday, May 30

- The Lord Almighty Reigns
- Find Us Faithful
- May the Love of the Lord Rest Upon Your Soul

Sunday, June 6

- Great is the Lord
- Amazing Grace

Sunday June 13

- How Firm a Foundation
- Grace to You

Sunday June 20

- A Passion for Thee

Sunday, June 27

- My Faith Looks Up to Thee

"Magnify God's Name with Worship"

Upcoming Calendar

Sunday, May 30 (Trinity Sunday/Memorial Day) - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, June 2 - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Sanctuary)

Thursday, June 3 - Trinity Thursday Night Worship (7pm Ryberg Hall Lawn)

Sunday, June 6 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, June 9 - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Sanctuary)

Thursday, June 10 - Trinity Thursday Night Worship (7pm Ryberg Hall Lawn)

Sunday, June 13 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, June 16 - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Sanctuary)

Thursday, June 17 - Trinity Thursday Night Worship (7pm Ryberg Hall Lawn)

Sunday, June 20 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, June 23 - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Sanctuary)

Thursday, June 24 - Trinity Thursday Night Worship (7pm Ryberg Hall Lawn)

Sunday, June 27 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Sunday, June 27 - Celebration of Freedom (6:00pm - Chancel)

Wednesday, June 30 - No Rehearsal

Thursday, July 1 - No Trinity Thursday Night Worship

Sunday, July 4 - No Choir in Service

Wednesday, July 7 - No Rehearsal

Thursday, July 8 - Trinity Thursday Night Worship (7pm Ryberg Hall Lawn)

Sunday, July 11 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, July 14 - No Rehearsal

Thursday, July 15 - Trinity Thursday Night Worship (7pm Ryberg Hall Lawn)

Sunday, July 18 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, July 21 - No Rehearsal

Thursday, July 22 - Trinity Thursday Night Worship (7pm Ryberg Hall Lawn)

Sunday, July 25 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, July 28 - No Rehearsal

Thursday, July 29 - Trinity Thursday Night Worship (7pm Ryberg Hall Lawn)

Sunday, August 1 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, August 4 - No Rehearsal

Sunday, August 8 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, August 11 - No Rehearsal

Sunday, August 15 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, August 18 - Fall Business Meeting (6:30pm - Fellowship Hall)

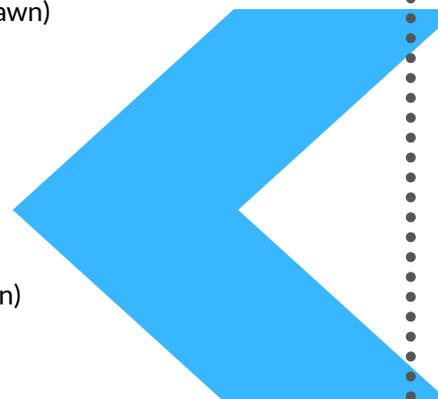
Sunday, August 22 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, August 25 - Rehearsals Resume! (7:30pm - Choir Room)

Sunday, August 29 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)

Wednesday, September 1 - Rehearsals Resume! (7:30pm - Choir Room)

Sunday, September 5 - Sing in Service (10:35am - Choir Room)



Seven Days of Prayer for Our Choir



A Challenge & Resource

As we continue on in this post-Covid journey, we cannot do anything without prayer. As such, I want to challenge each of you to this 7 day prayer challenge. Let this serve as a springboard to remember that what we do is important, but that it is God Who has given us these musical abilities and empowers our music & its effects on the congregation. Join me in this challenge!

Day One (Thursday) - Psalms 16:11

"You reveal the path of life to me; in Your presence is abundant joy; in Your right hand are eternal pleasures."

Righteous Father, I thank You for this divine choir ministry and pray that You will rest Your hand upon it. Your Word says that at Your right-hand are pleasures forevermore, so Lord we pray that Your right-hand covers this ministry. I pray that when we lift our voices to You, we experience pleasures that benefit the soul. May disheartened hearts be encouraged, may anger be forgotten in the melodies of worship, and in Your presence let there be fullness of joy, Amen.



Day Two (Friday) - I Chronicles 15:22

"Chenaniah, the leader of the Levites in music, was to direct the music because he was skillful."

Oh Lord, in the Old Testament, the chief of Levites was appointed to lead and give instruction of the singing because he was skillful. In the same respect, let individuals be appointed into this choir that most importantly have a heart that desires more of You, as well as great skill. I pray that we pursue high quality sounding worship and never lose sight of You Yahweh. Let those who are appointed understand their responsibility within this region, Amen.

Day Three (Saturday) - Revelation 5:11-12

"Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels around the throne, and also of the living creatures and of the elders. Their number was countless thousands, plus thousands of thousands. They said with a loud voice: The Lamb who was slaughtered is worthy to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing!"

Heavenly Father, the voice of any angels gather round Your throne in awe of Your greatness. They gather along with the living creatures and the elders in their thousands, yet a thousand tongues is not enough to give You the praise You deserve. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain! Lord, I pray that this will be an example to my choir ministry, let Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Lord, I pray that we surrender to You in this ministry, Amen.





Day Four (Sunday) - Luke 2:13-14

"Suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to people He favors!"

Faithful Savior, glory to You in the highest and peace to those with whom You are well pleased here on earth. I pray that You remain well pleased with this choir ministry as we strive to lift You up. King of Glory I pray for a refreshed anointing on this ministry, I pray that our love for You is the driving force of all that we do. I rebuke ulterior motives in Jesus' Name and declare that this choir ministry remains fixated on magnifying Your Name, Amen.

Day Five (Monday) - II Chronicles 20:21

"Then he consulted with the people and appointed some to sing for the Lord and some to praise the splendor of His holiness. When they went out in front of the armed forces, they kept singing:"

Dear Lord, let us consult You first before we make any decisions in this choir ministry, just like Your people turned to You before appointing their singers in Your Word. Those who sang and praised You in holy attire were sent first before the army declaring "Give thanks to the Lord, for His loving kindness is everlasting." I pray that when we minister we will understand that we are battling not against flesh and blood but against higher things. This is the prayer of our heart, Amen.



Day Six (Tuesday) - Psalm 96:12

"Let the fields and everything in them exult. Then all the trees of the forest will shout for joy"

Oh Lord, in the Old Testament, the chief of Levites was appointed to lead and give instruction of the singing because he was skillful. In the same respect, let individuals be appointed into this choir that most importantly have a heart that desires more of You, as well as great skill. I pray that we pursue high quality sounding worship and never lose sight of You Yahweh. Let those who are appointed understand their responsibility within this region, Amen.

Day Seven (Wednesday) - Isaiah 6:3

"And one called to another: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts; His glory fills the whole earth."

Heavenly Father, the voice of any angels gather round Your throne in awe of Your greatness. They gather along with the living creatures and the elders in their thousands, yet a thousand tongues is not enough to give You the praise You deserve. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain! Lord, I pray that this will be an example to my choir ministry, let Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Lord, I pray that we surrender to You in this ministry, Amen.



"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."

-Martin Luther

A Word from the Director

"For me, living is Christ and dying is gain. Now if I live on in the flesh, this means fruitful work for me; and I don't know which one I should choose. I am pressured by both. Just one thing: Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or am absent, I will hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, working side by side for the faith that comes from the gospel, not being frightened in any way by your opponents.

~Philippians 1:21-23a, 27-28a~



As we approach Memorial Day, the images of soldiers present and past who have given their lives for the cause of freedom come to our minds. This is a time in which we take deliberate steps to remember.

But this is also a time in which, for American believers, we have a dual remembrance. Not only do we remember our freedom as Americans, but we also remember the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for us. If anyone else in the Bible was familiar with this idea, it would have been the Philippian church.

The church at Phillipi has an interesting part to play in the history of the ancient world. It was originally named for Philip of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great, and served as Alexander's capital in Greece. Later, after the Romans had conquered Greece, it was the sight of one of the most important battles in world history - the battle between the forces of Antony & Octavius and the forces of Brutus & Cassius in the Roman civil war following the death of Julius Caesar. Following this battle, the victors allowed the soldiers of their enemy

to stay in the city of Phillipi as a Roman settlement that did very well. The people here were ex-military and proud of their Roman heritage. Paul makes allusion to this in his letter to the church at Phillipi, giving them the picture of the church as an army of God - "*living is Christ and dying is gain*" - ready to lay down their lives for a cause or allegiance. Again, the allusion is made that the church should stand firm "*in one spirit, with one mind,*" which would reflect the military mindset of working together for a common goal. And all of this was for what purpose? What were they called to remember? To "*live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.*"

As we approach another Memorial Day, we remember, as citizens of this country and citizens of the heavenly kingdom, who has gone before us. We show thankfulness for all who have given their lives as Americans for us and our freedoms. Certainly part of that should be in thanksgiving and part in celebration. But as believers especially, we give thanks and remember the sacrifice of Christ. We remember all that He gave of Himself for us, and all this so that He might redeem us from our own sin. Now, as we live out our salvation and become ever more like Christ in our lives, we have been tasked with something simple - much as an army lives and dies for its country, so we are to live and die for our heavenly King, and we are to stand firm in one spirit together as an army working side by side for the sake of the Gospel of Christ. We are to never be intimidated, but we are to give of ourselves here on earth for the glory of God above, knowing that the victory is always ours - not because of our lives or what we have done, but because He lives and what He has already done for us! Remember...

In His Service, Braxton

"Magnify God's Name with Worship"

Prayers



Prayers

- Suzanne Carter - Dog sick
- Faye Downs - Daughter had surgery
- Carolyn Crumpler - Recovering at home
- Jimmy Jones - Recovering at home
- Pope Hardee - Lewy Body Dementia
- Church transition & Pastor Search Committee
- Pray for our deacons as they study church renewal with Dr. Cogdill.



Haven't returned to choir yet? We miss you!



You're invited!

Know someone who loves to sing? Invite them!

THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PRESENTS

*A Celebration
of Freedom*

JUNE 27, 2021

"Magnify God's Name with Worship"