

APR. 21, 2021



# SoundFourth!

*Weekly Newsletter for the Choir of First Baptist Church*

## CHOIR NEWS THIS WEEK:

Mother's Day Bake Sale

A Celebration of Freedom

Upcoming Repertoire

Music & Worship

A Word From the Director

Prayers & Praises

## Mother's Day Bake Sale!

Our students will be having a bake sale coming up on Mother's Day - May 9th - at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall! All treats will be available for the price of a donation toward the student Mission Trip this summer! Be sure to bring the mothers in your life and get them something as well as sneaking something for yourself!

To all of you who are moms, take the opportunity to be treated by someone and to treat yourself too!

## A Celebration of Freedom - June 27th

Our church will be having our annual Celebration of Freedom on June 27! We will hopefully be having a hot dog dinner, the service, and our ice cream social as well. Be sure to put this on your calendar for the summer!

## Upcoming Repertoire

### Sunday, April 25

- In the Lord, I'll Be Ever Thankful
- My Faith Has Found a Resting Place
- May the Road Rise to Meet You

### Sunday, May 2

- Psalm 100
- Be Thou My Vision

### Sunday, May 9

- Jesus, We Are Here
- Draw Nigh to God

### Sunday, May 16

- Come and Sing the Praise
- We Are the Reason
- Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

### Sunday, May 23

- How Lovely, Lord
- Come Down, Lord

### Sunday, May 30

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



*"Magnify God's Name with Worship"*

# Upcoming Calendar

**Sunday, April 25** - Sing in Service (10:35am - Chancel)

**Wednesday, April 28** - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Ryberg Hall)

**Sunday, May 2 (Senior Adult Day)** - Sing in Service (10:35am - Chancel)

**Wednesday, May 5** - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Ryberg Hall)

**Sunday, May 9 (Mother's Day)** - Sing in Service (10:35am - Chancel)

**Sunday, May 9 (Mother's Day)** - Youth Bake Sale

**Wednesday, May 12** - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Ryberg Hall)

**Sunday, May 16 (Graduation Sunday)** - Sing in Service (10:35am - Chancel)

**Wednesday, May 19** - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Ryberg Hall)

**Sunday, May 23 (Pentecost)** - Sing in Service (10:35am - Chancel) **~HANDBELLS IN SERVICE~**

**Wednesday, May 26** - Rehearsal (6:30pm - Sanctuary)

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

**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 - Chancel)

**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 - Chancel)

**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 - Chancel)

**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 - Chancel)

**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 - Chancel)

**Wednesday, July 14** - No Rehearsal

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

**Sunday, July 18** - Sing in Service (10:35am - Chancel)

**Wednesday, July 21** - No Rehearsal

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



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# Music & Theology



*"I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O Lord, I will make music."*

*- Psalm 101:1*

Not only was Martin Luther an accomplished theologian and beloved pastor, but he also had some gifting for music. He wrote many hymns, many of which are sung to this day not only by those in the Lutheran tradition but by other Protestants as well. Perhaps the best known is "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," which is based on Psalm 46. Luther well understood the power and influence of music. His understanding is well captured in his statement that "music is the handmaiden of theology."

Like a handmaiden who assists her master, music serves theology and the teaching of God's Word. And like a handmaiden, music can be a good servant or a bad servant. When music is a good servant, it provides the right setting for the teaching of God's truth and for helping the people of God grasp the deep things of the Lord. Quality hymns and songs enrich our hearts and minds, driving home what God has revealed to His people. On the other hand, when music is a bad servant, it gets in the way of good theology. Poorly crafted music and lyrics promote error. As an art form, music always communicates something, and it can communicate either truth or error.

So many of the fights over music that occur in the church have been over whether we should have contemporary hymns and songs or stick to the classic music of the church. That debate can obscure the real issues. After all, the classic hymns of the church were contemporary music when they were first sung, and some of the music written in our day will undoubtedly endure as classic music for the people of God. No, the real debate is between good music and mediocre or poor music. A beloved hymn is not necessarily a good hymn simply because it is old, for there are many old hymns that teach poor theology. And a current song is not necessarily a bad song, for many current songs teach good theology.

At issue is whether a particular hymn or piece of music, in both the arrangement of notes and its lyrics, is able to convey biblical truth. Good worship music is able to convey something of the complexity of our Lord's character, and it invites us to increase our knowledge. Simplistic songs often do not do justice to the full biblical truth they seek to express, and they often do not invite us to move deeper into God's Word to learn more and more about Him. Our goal should be to find the music that is best able to convey God's truth, goodness, and beauty.

For more resources, visit Ligonier Ministries at their website: [www.ligonier.org/](http://www.ligonier.org/)

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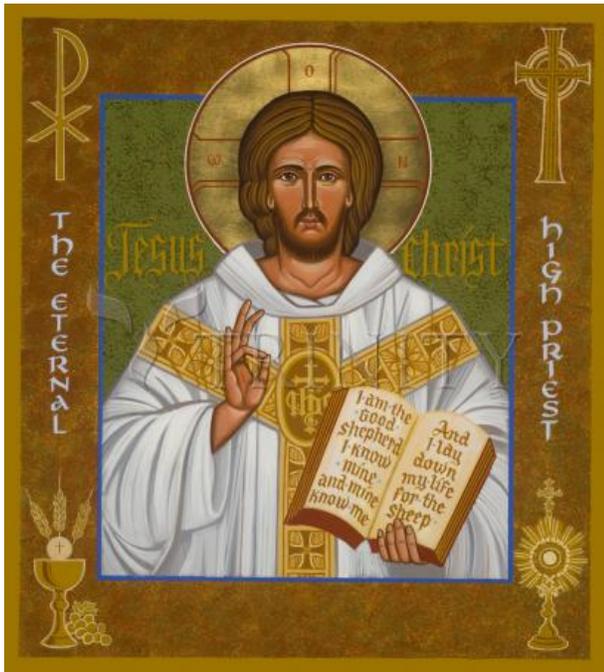
*"Magnify God's Name with Worship"*

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# A Word from the Director

*"In his life, Christ is an example showing us how to live; in his death, he is a sacrifice satisfying for our sins; in his resurrection, a conqueror; in his ascension, a king; in his intercession, a high priest."*

~ Martin Luther ~



*Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea;  
a great High Priest whose name is Love,  
who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on His hands,  
my name is written on His heart.  
I know that while in heav'n He stands  
no tongue can bid me thence depart.*

I think we all today would say that we have this strong and perfect plea before God's throne. When we are asked by God Himself at the end of days why we should be allowed into His Kingdom, our answer is simple...we don't deserve it. We don't deserve heaven or righteousness. Our only plea is Jesus Christ, who took on our flesh, lived a perfect life, and died a death on our behalf, taking on all the sin of the world onto Himself and giving to us an opportunity to be reconciled to God by faith in Jesus Christ as the risen

Lord and Lord of our lives. And yet, so many come to this moment and then leave it here. For while we acknowledge the life and death of Christ and our faith in His resurrection, we often forget the fact that the next part of our faith in Christ is in the fact that we are changed by His Spirit. We not only believe in the Person of Jesus; but because of our love for Him, we turn away from our sin and follow after Him. This is where Jesus takes on the new role in the life of the Christian as our High Priest.

What is the role of the High Priest? Obviously, in the Bible, the high priest was the one who offered sacrifices on behalf of the people. The people found themselves laden with griefs or sins or dark walks through life as we do, and the high priest was the one who would be a spiritual leader to them in both word and deed. The high priest was the intercessor between God and man, linking two separate worlds together. Of course, our High Priest is unique in that He not only has interceded for us, but He was and is the intercession for us on our behalf. He stands between God and us shedding His righteousness and putting it onto us - linking two worlds that were broken apart. By His death, we have not just been healed but reconciled to God, and now Christ stands between the worlds imparting wisdom and healing to us from God the Father although we definitely do not deserve it. One of the keys to realize about our High Priest is that we will always have a need for Him. There will never be a time on this earth where we can be counted as perfect or able to carry our own righteousness - instead, we must always rely on Him to impart His righteousness onto us.

So when we walk through life, our salvation is not the end of the journey - it is merely the beginning, a starting point in turning from our sin and showing our salvation with the proof the spirit provides us with - the fruits of the Spirit. No matter where we are in the journey, each of us has a priority in relying on "the great High Priest whose name is Love" for our each and every day of living and being. When - not if - we fall, we come back to our High Priest who is interceding to God on our behalf, and we continue to turn away from our own wants and desires and to the truth that God has given us in His Word. To the believer that demonstrates in their salvation the Fruit of the Spirit, no tongue will bid us thence depart from the joys of heaven and of our eternal High Priest.

In His Service, Braxton

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# Prayers & Praises



## *Prayers*

- Continue to pray for **Carolyn Crumpler**, who is recovering at home from a fractured a verebrae in her neck. Thankfully, she does not need any surgery and has been fitted for a neck brace.
- Continue to pray for our Pastor Search Committee that was voted in this last Sunday.
- Continue to pray for **Jimmy Jones** - Recovering at home.
- Continue to pray for **Pope Hardee** - Lewy Body Dementia - and for her family and caretakers.
- Pray for the continued transition of our church - for wisdom, boldness, and continued trust in God.
- Pray for our Youth Group as they go to Camp Caswell and on mission to Cincinnati this summer - that God would bless them and mold them through their experiences.
- Pray for our children & their families as they serve in various ways around our community.
- Pray for our deacons as they study church renewal with Dr. Cogdill.
- Pray for all unspoken prayer requests.

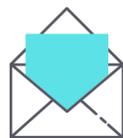


## *Praises*

- We praise God that it seems that **Olive Cooke** is going to keep her eye! She is recovering day by day and prayers are still needed!
- We praise God that **Lori Garrison** has recovered from her battle with Covid-19!
- Our handbells have returned to rehearsing! It is great to add another piece to our musical puzzle!



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



*You're invited!*



*Know someone who loves to sing? Invite them!*

Any prayer requests?

Praises? Updates?

Email Braxton

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”

~ COLOSSIANS 3:16 ~

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