

375 YEARS OF FAITHFULNESS AND PRAISE

A Musical Journey Through the Years

May 26, 2019, 4 PM

A concert to celebrate the 375th Anniversary of
First Parish Congregational Church, Wakefield MA

Prelude, Chaconne & Fugue in C Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Buxtehude was a Danish composer of such repute at the time that Bach, at the age of 20, walked 250 miles to study with him for three months.

The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1858)

This setting of a hymn tune from the 16th century was written for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in Westminster Abbey in June, 1953. **The audience is invited to join in singing the first, second, and fifth verses, found in the hymnal at #101, at the conductor's direction.**

If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments Thomas Tallis
(1505-1585)

Tallis was the Choirmaster at London's Chapel Royal under the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth I.

Hallelujah, Amen (from the oratorio *Judas Maccabaeus*) G.F. Handel
(1685-1759)

George Frederic Handel was born in Germany but spent most of his career in London; *Judas Maccabaeus* was one of 29 oratorios he composed, the most famous of which was *Messiah*. He also wrote 46 operas, hundreds of orchestral works for various combinations, several organ concertos, and many hymn tunes, the most well-known of which is *Joy to the World*.

Two Songs of the Revolution: Chester and America-1770 William Billings
(1746-1800)

Born in Boston, William Billings was colonial America's first composer, compiling 6 books worth of primarily 4-part choruses of both religious and secular texts. *Chester* was regarded at the time as the theme of the American Revolution, as it has several verses (not performed today) which mention various British oppressors by name. He is buried in the Central Burying Ground on Boston Common.

Hymn: *Faith of Our Fathers* (1849) Hymnal #404
Please join the choir and organ to sing this historic hymn.

Teach Me, O Lord Thomas Attwood
(1765-1838)

Attwood was a pupil of Mozart and a close friend of Felix Mendelssohn, hosting him at his home during Mendelssohn's frequent visits to London. He

was a chorister at the Chapel Royal as a child, and in later years became the official composer and organist there under George IV. He also served as organist at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

Grant Us Thy Peace Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Born in Germany, Mendelssohn composed for many genres, perhaps the most famous of which is his incidental music for a production of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, from which comes his famous wedding march, colloquially known as "Here Comes the Bride;" his most famous hymn tune is "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." Martin Luther's words and Mendelssohn's setting still give us pause to consider what we strive for even today.

Psalm 150 Cesar Franck
(1822-1890)

Franck was born in Belgium, but spent his adult life in Paris as a composer and teacher, as well as the organist of the Basilica of Sainte-Clotilde, one of the larger Paris cathedrals. He was known internationally as an organ virtuoso, but was also recognized as a composer of symphonic, organ, and choral works, of which *Psalm 150* was one of his most well-known.

Toccata Leon Boellman
(1862-1897)

Boellman composed in all genres, but is best known for his organ compositions, the most well-known of which is *Suite Gothique*, from which this *Toccata* comes. He served as organist all his professional life at the Church of St. Vincent de Paul in Paris; he admired fellow Parisian Cesar Franck and spoke of trying to compose in the style of Franck.

O How Amiable Ralph Vaughan Williams
(with *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*)

Born and educated in England, Vaughan Williams studied composition with Maurice Ravel, and is best known for composing in many moods and genres, including symphonies, religious and secular choral music, and stage music. This anthem was written for the dedication of a cathedral in 1934. **The audience is invited to sing the first verse of hymn #686 as cued by the conductor; please be aware of the altered rhythm from the hymnal version, with longer notes.**

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether Harold Friedell
(1905-1958)

Friedell was a native New Yorker who was organist and choirmaster of St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City from 1946 until his untimely death from a heart attack. He taught at the Juilliard School of Music and Union Theological Seminary, both in NYC, and is best known for his many hymns and choral anthems.

I Will Joyfully Sing

Mary McDonald
(born 1956)

A native Tennessean, McDonald has composed over 1000 choral anthems; this anthem is one of the favorites of the FPCC Sanctuary Choir.

The Battle Hymn of the Republic

Unknown

This text is by the famous poet and abolitionist Julian Ward Howe (1819-1910) and is set to the folk tune "John Brown's Body." It was first heard at Fort Warren in Boston Harbor on May 12, 1861, one month after the start of the Civil War. We perform this today on Memorial Day weekend to honor the memory of all those who perished in service to our country.

The audience is invited to join in the final chorus at the direction of the conductor.

More Than Worthy (Muchow)

Cornerstone

Majesty/All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (Hymns 10 & 43)

Hymn: *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

Hymnal #151

Toccatina in C

J.S.Bach
(1685-1750)

J.S.Bach is widely regarded as the most prolific composer for organ of all time, but he also wrote cantatas for every week of the Liturgical Year, several other large choral works, and almost countless instrumental works.

Thank you for coming today; we certainly hope you enjoyed the music, and will come again to worship with us during our 375th Anniversary Year and beyond.

Please join us for a reception in the vestry following the concert.

First Parish Congregational Church, Wakefield, MA

Rev. John Dale, Senior Pastor

Donald Hodgkins, MM, Director of Music Ministries

Doug Jackson, Cornerstone Leader

Ruth Ross, Office Administrator

Kenneth Wood, Custodian

Rev. Dr. Richard Weisenbach, Pastor Emeritus

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THE 375TH ANNIVERSARY CHOIR

Darlene Berube	John Dale
Wendy Dennis	Eleanor Elliott
Kristi Feng	Cheryl Frank
Kristin Hagan*	Barbara Hammond
Dave Hammond	Faith Hodgkins
Rick Hughes	Rick McDermod
Anna Morsillo*	Jeanne Nielsen
Brendan O'Brine*	Hazel Piper
Larry Piper	Don Putney
Sally Putney	Joann Sanford
Elaine Shindle	Jeffrey Smith
Susan Taormina	Nathan Velluto*
Pat Weisenbach	Rich Weisenbach
Carl Wickstrom	David Zeek
Carol Zoubek	

*FPCC Choir Section Leaders

Mike Salvatore, Conductor

Randy O'Keefe, Trumpet

Don Hodgkins, Organist and Director

IF YE LOVE ME, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS

(Paraphrase of portions of John 14)

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
And I will pray the Father,
And He shall give you another Comforter,
That he may abide with you forever,
Abide with you forever,
E'en the Spirit of truth,
That he may abide with you forever,
Even the Spirit of truth,
That he may abide with you forever.

HALLELUJAH, AMEN

(From the oratorio *Judas Maccabaeus*)

Hallelujah, amen, hallelujah, amen!
O Judah rejoice, rejoice! Rejoice, O Judah, in songs divine,
With Cherubim and Seraphim harmonius join.
And in songs divine, harmonius join,
Hallelujah, amen!

Two Songs of the Revolution

CHESTER

Let tyrants shake their iron rod,
And slavery clank her galling chains,
We fear them not, we trust in God,
New England's God forever reigns.

What grateful offering shall we bring?
What shall we render to the Lord?
Loud hallelujah let us sing.
And praise His name on every chord.

AMERICA – 1770

Come let us sing unto the Lord,
And praise His name with one accord.
In this design one chorus raise,
From east to west His praise proclaim.
From pole to pole extol his fame.
The skies shall echo back His praise.

TEACH ME, O LORD

(Psalm 119:33)

Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes,
Teach me, teach me the way of Thy statutes;
And I shall keep it, and I shall keep it
Unto the end.

GRANT US THY PEACE

Martin Luther

Grant us Thy peace, our gracious Lord,
Thou Source of every blessing!
Feeble and frail, we trust Thy word.
All things in Thee possessing.
In Thee is our hope and safety.

PSALM 150

(paraphrased and condensed)

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

O praise ye the Lord, praise God in His temple.

Praise ye the Lord in the firmament of his power!

Praise ye Him for His mighty acts, praise ye Him for His mighty acts,

Praise ye Him, praise ye Him, according to his majesty!

Praise ye Him, praise ye Him with the sound of the trumpet.

Praise ye Him, praise ye Him with the psaltery and harp.

Praise ye Him with the timbrel, praise ye Him with the dance,

Praise Him with the organ and stringed instruments.

Praise ye Him upon the loud cymbals.

Praise ye Him, praise ye Him upon the high sounding cymbals.

Let everything that hath breath, let everything that hath breath,

Praise, praise the Lord, praise, praise ye the Lord!

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

O HOW AMIABLE

(Paraphrase of parts of Psalms 84 & 90)

O how amiable are Thy dwellings:

Thou Lord of Hosts!

My soul hath a desire and longing

To enter into the courts of the Lord;

My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,

And the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;

Even Thy altars, O Lord of Hosts,

My King and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house:

They will be always praising Thee.

The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us;

Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.

O prosper thou our handywork,

O prosper thou our handywork!

O God, our help in ages past,

Our hope for years to come,

Our shelter from the stormy blast,

DRAW US IN THE SPIRIT'S TETHER

Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name,
Two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father, Break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluya! Alleluya! So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully,

I WILL JOYFULLY SING!

(Adapted from Psalm 59:16)

I will joyfully sing in the morning.
I will joyfully sing all the day.
I'll sing praises to Thee in the morning.
For the Lord is the strength of my day.
I will lift up my eyes in the morning,
For the Lord will not turn me away.
I'll sing praises to Thee in the morning,
For the Lord is the strength of my day.
I will sing! I will sing!
I will sing of praises, His goodness to me.
I will sing! I will sing! I will sing!
I will sing of His praises, His goodness to me.
I will sing!!