North Shore Choral Society



Psalms, New and Old

March 5, 2017 St. John Brebeuf Church Niles, Illinois



Psalms, New and Old Julia Davids, Music Director Nathan Ward, tenor William Lewis, treble Sharon Peterson, organ and piano

Showers of Blessings Psalm 147:7-8
The Heavens Are Telling, from The Creation, Psalm 19
Der 23. Psalm Franz Schubert
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Psalm 23arr. Virgil Thomson
The Lord Is My Shepherd Psalm 23
The 23 rd Psalm
Tantum Ergo
Biblické písně (Biblical Songs)
IV Hospodin jest muj pastýr Psalm 23:1-4 VIII Popatriž na mne a smiluj se nade mnou Psalm 25:16-18,20 IX Pozdvihuji ocí svých k horám Psalm 121:1-4
Haleluyaw Psalm 111Salomon Sulzer Nathan Ward, tenor

- I Canate Domino Psalm 98
- II Deus misereatur Psalm 67

Chichester Psalms Leonard Bernstein

William Lewis, treble

Ariana Gray Bé, soprano Laura Korowski, mezzo soprano Nicholas Krupp, tenor David Hunt, bass

- I Urah, hanevel Psalms 108:2, and 100
- II Adonai ro-I Psalms 23, and 2: 1-4
- III Adonai, Adonai Psalms 131, and 133:1

Instrumentalists

Jeff Handley, percussion Brandon Podjasek, percussion
Sharon Peterson, organ and piano

The North Shore Choral Society thanks Marek Rachelski, Musical Director & Liturgical Coordinator, as well as the pastors and staff at St. John Brebeuf Church.

Thank you to The Saints for ushering at today's concert.

Cover Art: The Lord Is My Shepherd, Psalm 23

PROGRAM NOTES

The Book of Psalms is the third section of the Hebrew Bible and part of the Old Testament of the Christian Bible. Composers have long been inspired to set Psalms to music - indeed, many of the Psalms originally included musical directions to the leader or choir director. Those selected for performance today demonstrate a wide variety of treatments, in particular one of the most popular Psalms, "The Lord is My Shepherd" or Psalm 23. The NSCS will offer five settings of this Psalm, each very distinctive. In addition, you'll hear our guest tenor soloist Nathan Ward sing Dvořák's setting in Czechoslovakian. From the straightforward, tuneful early American settings to the rhythmic Leonard Bernstein, and the ethereal and mystical treatment by Tarik O'Regan, the composers represented today have utilized these ancient texts to express their unique compositional points of view.

Massachusetts composer Joseph Stone (1758-1837) was a teacher, amongst other employments, and composed numerous Psalm tunes and anthems. "Showers of Blessings" has somewhat of a complicated history. Currently published in *The Sacred Harp*, it was originally a fuging tune called Grafton. The compositional technique of the fuging tune came to America from England and involves the use of imitation in Protestant hymn tunes. Stone's tune "Grafton" was originally published in *The Sacred Harp* under another title and credited to someone else, but that has since been corrected. The words are by English theologian, minister, and prolific hymn writer, Isaac Watts.

~ Julia Davids

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) composed *The Creation* in 1798, at a time when he had already achieved considerable fame throughout Europe for his symphonies and chamber music. During one of his earlier visits to London, he had heard George Frederick Handel's *Messiah* performed and expressed a wish to compose an oratorio himself in that grand style. The Creation quickly established itself in the repertoire, and within a year it was performed widely throughout the continent and in England. Ever since, it has been one of the cornerstones of the choral repertoire and a popular favorite of choral societies throughout the world. "**The Heavens Are Telling**" comes at the end of the first of three parts in the oratorio and demonstrates triumphant choral writing juxtaposed against a trio of soloists, the angels Gabriel (soprano), Uriel (tenor), and Raphael (bass).

~ Donald Draganski and Julia Davids

Austrian Franz Schubert (1797-1828) was an incredibly prolific composer of the early Romantic period. His music is regularly performed today, including his seven symphonies, chamber music, and over six hundred songs. His exquisite setting of "**Der 23rd Psalm"** was written in 1820 at the urging of a friend as a test piece for her vocal pupils! It has since become part of the standard canon of repertoire for Women's Choirs. Despite not originally being written for worship, its expressive phrasing and rippling piano part clearly depict the pastoral text.

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" is a traditional southern American hymn tune, arranged by American composer Virgil Thomson (1896-1989). The tune, "Resignation," first appeared in the *Southern Harmony Hymnbook* in 1835. The text is a paraphrase of Psalm 23 by the aforementioned Isaac Watts. This arrangement is very simple in design, following the original tune. Thomson uses dynamics and slight tempo changes for each verse to highlight the text.

In 1994, the spunky, straight-talking Rev. Geraldine Granger was called to be vicar of the fictional village of Dibley, initiating the long-running BBC television series *The Vicar of Dibley*. Howard Goodall (b.1958), a prominent radio and television composer (who also composed the music for *Black Adder, Mr. Bean*, and *Red Dwarf*) was hired to provide the music. The show begins with pastoral scenes of the English countryside, accompanied by the angelic treble voices of the Choir singing Goodall's "**The Lord Is My Shepherd**." The success of the show and the popularity of its theme song have established this anthem as a standard piece of the choral repertoire.

~ Colin Roust

~ Julia Davids

Contemporary vocal virtuoso Bobby McFerrin (b.1950) is perhaps best known for his hit song "Don't Worry Be Happy" and for his unique vocal style that incorporates wide-ranging pitches and vocal percussion. The son of classical musicians, McFerrin has collaborated with top artists in all styles of music from Yo-Yo Ma to Herbie Hancock, and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra with which he recorded a collection of the interpretations of the works of classical composers such as Mozart. His setting of "The 23rd Psalm" is dedicated to his mother and references the liturgical chanting of many sacred traditions, but with jazzinfluenced harmonies. The most striking element of this composition, transcribed for choir by Dan Stolper, is the text by the author that uses the feminine pronoun in reference to God. "The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I

need, She makes to lie down in green meadows, Beside the still waters, She will lead..."

French composer Gabriel Faure (1845-1924) is one of the most highly regarded French composers of the Romantic era. His chansons and his Requiem are best known of his vocal music and exhibit an ethereal tonal and harmonic quality coupled with sensitive phrasing. He wrote at least two settings of the "**Tantum Ergo"** text which is not a Psalm but is part of a hymn from the Middle Ages, "Pange Lingua," written by St. Thomas Aquinas. This setting, Opus 55, was composed around 1890 and beautifully pairs the harp and organ with tenor solo and chorus.

~ Julia Davids

Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904) penned the *Biblické písně*, (*Biblical Songs*) while homesick for Bohemia. He had recently composed and premiered his *New World Symphony*, which drew on African American spirituals and indigenous American music and achieved international renown for itself and its writer. But despite the immigrant's success in canonizing distinctly American music, he would return to Europe within a year of setting the Psalms. Dvořák, though Catholic, chose the Protestant Bible of Kralice for his text, the first full translation of the Bible to Czech. The songs, of which will be heard numbers four, eight, and nine, draw drama from rich, open harmonies under simple, declamatory vocal melodies. Most notably in the fourth, "The Lord is my Shepherd," Dvořák creates a rustic and pastoral soundscape. Like the Czech sounds in the *New World Symphony*, we hear echoes of spirituals mulled with Bohemia in the composer's unique national style.

~ Nathan Ward

Salomon Sulzer (1804-1890) was a cantor and composer in Vienna for much of the 19th century. Widely acclaimed as a singer of great expressive capacity, he harmonized the traditional liturgy and composed new works consistent with the style of his contemporaries in Austria. As is evidenced in his work that you'll hear today, "Haleluyaw," Sulzer paid special attention to setting Hebrew text (Ashkenazic) in a natural and free manner. "Haleluyaw" was composed for a festive occasion honoring the wealthy landowners of Sulzer's temple.

Tarik O'Regan was born in London in 1978 but has lived in New York city since 2004. His work as a contemporary composer has been recognized with two GRAMMY nominations and two British Composer Awards and has been recorded

on over 30 albums. *Dorchester Canticles* was commissioned by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta Choir with funds from the Arts Council England and received its premier in St. Mary's Church, Dorchester, in May of 2004. Although the two movements share some musical material, each is conceived as an independent entity. Thus, this work can be either performed as a single standalone movement, or as one continuous composition. The (optional) harp and percussion are written with concert performances in mind (primarily for partnering the orchestration of Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*).

~ Julia Davids

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts, to Jewish immigrants from Russia. His life and works are sufficiently well-known that we need only mention the many fields this musical polymath excelled in: composing over an astonishing range of styles and idioms, from opera and symphony to Broadway musicals; conducting, most notably holding the directorship of the New York Philharmonic; lecturing; writing; producing television shows; and on and on. He was also the first American-born composer-conductor entirely taught and trained in America to establish an international reputation. His all too early death in 1990 has deprived us of one of the most energetic and dedicated musicians to have graced our musical world. His Chichester Psalms was commissioned for the 1963 Three Choirs Festival, an annual event held in Chichester, England. The first performance took place in New York in May of that year; the Chichester performance occurred three months later. The work, which employs the original Hebrew texts (Sephardic) begins with an exuberant setting of Psalm 100 ("Make a joyful noise unto the Lord"). The second movement, which features a boy soprano, draws on the words of Psalm 23, interrupted abruptly with the lines "Why do the nations rage?" from Psalm 2. The third movement continues with a peacefully flowing setting of Psalm 131 which quotes material from the opening movement, and it closes with a tranquil setting of the first verse of Psalm 133. Today's performance features a reduced instrumentation consisting of organ, harp, and percussion. The NSCS last performed this work in 2004.

[~] Donald Draganski

TEXT AND TRANSLATION

Showers of Blessings by Joseph Stone, Psalm 147:7-8

With songs and honors sounding loud,
Address the Lord on high,
Over the heav'ns He spreads His clouds,
And waters veil the sky.
He sends His show'rs of blessings down
To cheer the plains below.
He makes the grass the mountains crown,
And corn in valleys grow.

The Heavens Are Telling from The Creation by Franz Joseph Haydn, Psalm 19:1-2

The Heavens are telling the glory of God, The wonder of His work displays the firmament.

The day that is coming speaks to the day,
The night that is gone to following night.
The Heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of His work displays the firmament.

In all the lands resounds the word, Never unperceived, ever understood. The Heavens are telling the glory of God, The wonder of His work displays the firmament.

Der 23. Psalm by Franz Schubert

Gott ist mein Hirt, Mir wird nichts mangeln.

Er lagert mich auf grüne Weide, Er leitet mich an stillen Bächen, Er labt mein schmachtendes Gemüt, Er führt mich auf gerechtem Steige Zu seines Namens Ruhm.

Und wall' ich auchlm Todesschattens Tale.

So wall' ich ohne Furcht, Denn du beschützest mich, Dein Stab und deine Stütze Sind mir immerdar mein Trost.

Du richtest mir ein Freudenmahl Im Angesicht der Feinde zu, Du salbst mein Haupt mit Öle Und schenkst mir volle, Volle Becher ein.

Mir folget Heil und Seligkeit In diesem Leben nach, Einst ruh' ich ew'ge Zeit Dort in des Ew'gen Haus. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
For thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; My cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need arr. by Virgil Thomson, Psalm 23

My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is His Name. In pastures fresh He makes me feed beside the living stream. He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake His ways; He leads me for His mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, Thy presence is my stay; One word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away. Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread; My cup with blessings overflows, Thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days; O may Thy house be my abode, and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest while others go and come; No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

The Lord Is My Shepherd by Howard Goodall, Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: For You are with me, You will comfort me.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The 23rd Psalm by Bobby McFerrin

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I need, She makes me lie down in green meadows, Beside the still waters, She will lead.

She restores my soul, She rights my wrongs, She leads me in a path of good things, And fills my heart with songs.

Even though I walk, through a dark and dreary land, There is nothing that can shake me, She has said She won't forsake me; I'm in Her hand.

She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes, She anoints my head with oil, And my cup overflows. Surely, surely goodness and kindness will follow me, All the days of my life, And I will live in Her house, forever, forever and ever.

Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter, And to the Holy of Holies; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World, without end. Amen

Tantum Ergo by Gabriel Fauré

Tantum ergo sacramentum Veneremur cernui, Et antiquum documentum Novo cedat ritui; Praestet fides supplementum Sensuum defectui.

Genitori Genitoque
Laus et iubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio;
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio.
Amen.

Down in adoration falling, This great Sacrament we hail, O'er ancient forms of worship, Newer rites of grace prevail; Faith will tell us Christ is present, When our human senses fail.

To the Everlasting Father,
And the Son who made us free,
And the Spirit, God proceeding
From them Each eternally,
Be salvation, honour, blessing,
Might and endless majesty.
Amen.

Biblické Písně by Antonín Dvořák

IV Psalm 23:1-4

Hospodin jest můj pastýř, nebudu míti nedostatku.

Na pastvách zelených pase mne, k vodám tichým mne přivodí. Duši mou občerstvuje, The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters. He refreshes my soul, He vodí mne po stezkách spravedlnosti pro jméno své. Byť se mi dostalo jíti přes údolí stínu smrti, nebuduť se báti zlého, nebo Ty se mnou jsi; a prut Tvůj a hůl Tvá, toť mne potěšuje. leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even if I had to walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me.

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

VIII Psalm 25:16-18, 20

Popatřiž na mne, a smiluj se nade mnou, neboť jsem opuštěný a ztrápený.

Soužení srdce mého rozmnožují se, z úzkostí mých vyveď mne. Smiluj se nade mnou!

Viz trápení mé a bídu mou, a odpusť všecky hříchy mé.

Ostříhej duše mé, a vytrhni mne, ať nejsem zahanben, neboť v tebe doufám.

Behold me, and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and wretched.

The troubles of my heart are multiplying: bring Thou me out of my distresses. Have mercy upon me!

Look upon my pain and misery; and forgive all my sins.

Protect my soul, and deliver me; save me from shame, for I trust in Thee.

IX Psalm 121:1-4

Pozdvihuji očí svých k horám, odkud by mi přišla pomoc.

Pomoc má jest od Hospodina, kterýž učinil nebe i zemi.

Nedopustíť, aby se pohnouti měla noha tvá, nebo nedřímeť strážný tvůj.

Aj, nedřímeť, ovšem nespí ten, kterýž ostříhá Izraele. I lift up my eyes unto the hills, looking for help.

My help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let thy foot to stumble, for He that keepeth thee slumbers not.

Indeed, He neither sleeps nor slumbers, He who keepeth Israel.

Haleluyaw by Salomon Sulzer, Psalm 111

Hal'luyaw.

Odeh Adonoy b'chawl leyvawv, B'sod y'shawrim, v'ey daw.

G'dolim maasey Adonoy, Drushim l'chol chef tseyhem Hod v'hawdawr poalo v'tsidkawso Omedes lawad.

Zeycher awsaw l'nif losawv, Chanun v'rachum Adonov.

Teref nawsan liyreyawv, Yizkor l'olawm briso.

Koach maasawv higid l'amo, Lawseys lawhem nachalas goyim.

Maasey yawdawv emes umishpawt Neemawnim kawl pikudawv, Smuchim lawad l'olawm asuyim Beemes umishpawt.

P'dus shawlach l'amo, Tsivaw l'olawm briso, Kawdosh v'noraw sh'mo.

Reyshis chawchmaw yiras Adonoy, Seychel tov l'chawl oseyhem. T'hilawso omedes lawad.

Hal'luyaw.

Hallelujah.

Give thanks to the Lord with all your heart, the righteous shall praise Him with one voice.

How great are Thy works, O Lord our God, how pleasant for all Thy people.

Great and renowned are His deeds, His exaltation forever shall stand.

Worship the Lord for all His wonders, His kindness, and love.

He shall shine upon us. God grants the righteous their due; The righteous are safe in God.

Power and strength we know are Thine, the Lord shall shine His delight on us.

All His works are just, inspiring our love, all His decrees faithful and true, our strength forever and ever.

Trust the Lord to redeem.
Believe we are safe in God, and sanctify His name on high!
I stand in awe, I pray to understand.
Grant us knowledge, insight, and wisdom, that our voices may sing with great joy!
We shall sing his praise evermore.
Hallelujah.

Dorchester Canticles by Tarik O'Regan

I Cantate Domino, Psalm 98

Cantate Domino canticum novum, quia mirabilia fecit.

Salvavit sibi dextera eius: et brachium sanctum eius.

Notum fecit Dominus salutare suum: in conspectu Gentium revelavit justitiam suam.

Recordatus est misericordiae suae: et veritatis suae domui Israel.

Viderunt omnes termini terrae salutare Dei nostri: Jubilate Deo, omnis terra; cantate, exultate, et psallite.

Psallite Domino in cithara, in cithara et voce psalmi: in tubis ductilibus, et voce tubae corneae.

O Jubilate in conspectu Regis Domini: Moveatur mare, et plenitudo eius; orbis terrarum et qui habitant in eo.

Flumina plaudent manu, simul montes exultabunt a conspectu Domini: quoniam venit judicare terram.

Judicabit orbem terrarum in Justitia. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et O sing unto the Lord a new song: for he hath done marvellous things.

With his own right hand, and with his holy arm: hath he gotten himself the victory.

The Lord declared his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel: and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.

Shew yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands; sing, rejoice, and give thanks.

Praise the Lord upon the harp: sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving, with trumpets also and shawms.

Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is: the round world, and they that dwell therein.

Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord: for he is come to judge the earth.

With righteousness shall he judge the world: and the people with equity.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was

nunc, et semper: et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

II Deus Misereatur, Psalm 67

Deus Misereatur Deus misereatur nostri, et benedicat nobis: illuminet vultum suum super nos, et misereatur nostri. God be merciful unto us, and bless us: and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us.

Ut cognoscamus in terra viam tuam: in omnibus gentibus salutare tuum.

That the way may be known upon earth: thy saving health among all nations.

Confiteantur tibi populi, Deus: confiteantur tibi populi omnes: Terra dedit fructum suum.

Let all the people praise thee, O God. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase and God shall give us his blessing.

Laetentur et exultent gentes: quoniam judicas populos in æquitate: et gentes in terra dirigis. O let the nations rejoice and be glad: for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.

Benedicat nos Deus, Deus noster: et metuant eum omnes fines terrae.

God shall bless us: and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

Gloria Patri, et Filio: et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Chichester Psalms by Leonard Bernstein

I Psalms 108:2, and 100

Urah, hanevel, v'chinor! Awake, psaltery and harp: A-irah shaḥar! I will rouse the dawn!

Hari'u l'Adonai kol ha'arets.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye

Iv'du et Adonai b'simḥa
Bo'u l'fanav bir'nanah.
Du ki Adonai Hu Elohim.
Hu asanu v'lo anaḥnu.
Amo v'tson mar'ito.
Bo'u sh'arav b'todah,
Ḥatseirotav bit'hilah,
Hodu lo, bar'chu sh'mo.
Ki tov Adonai, l'olam ḥas'do,
V'ad dor yador emunato.

lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord, He is God. He made us, and not we ourselves. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Come into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His court with praise. Be thankful unto Him and bless His name.

For the Lord is good, His mercy everlasting,
And His truth endureth to all generations.

II Psalms 23 and 2:1-4

Adonai ro-i, lo eḥsar. Bin'ot deshe yarbitseini, Al mei m'nuḥot y'nahaleini, Naf'shi y'shovev, Yan'ḥeini b'ma'aglei tsedek, L'ma'an sh'mo.

Gam ki eilech B'gei tsalmavet, Lo ira ra, Ki Atah imadi. Shiv't'cha umishan'techa Hemah y'nahamuni.

Lamah rag'shu goyim Ul'umim yeh'gu rik? Yit'yats'vu malchei erets, V'roznim nos'du yaḥad Al Adonai v'al m'shiḥo. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters, He restoreth my soul, He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness, for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk
Through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil.
For Thou art with me.
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort
me.

Why do the nations rage,
And the people imagine a vain thing?
The kings of the earth set themselves;
And the rulers take counsel together
against the Lord and against His
anointed.

N'natkah et mos'roteimo, V'nashlichah mimenu avoteimo. Yoshev bashamayim Yis'ḥak, Adonai Yil'ag lamo!

Ta'aroch l'fanai shulchan Neged tsor'rai Dishanta vashemen roshi Cosi r'vayah.

Ach tov vaḥesed Yird'funi kol y'mei ḥayai V'shav'ti b'veit Adonai L'orech yamim.

III *Psalms 131 and 133:1*

Adonai, Adonai, Lo gavah libi, V'lo ramu einai, V'lo hilachti Big'dolot uv'niflaot Mimeni.

Im lo shiviti V'domam'ti, Naf'shi k'gamul alei imo, Kagamul alai naf'shi. Yaḥel Yis'rael el Adonai Me'atah y'ad olam.

Hineh mah tov, Umah na'im, Shevet aḥim Gam yaḥad. Saying, let us break their bands asunder,
And cast away their cords from us.
He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, and the Lord shall have them in derision!

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies, Thou anointest my head with oil, My cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Lord, Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty;
Neither do I exercise myself in great matters or in things, too wonderful for me to understand.

Surely I have calmed and quieted myself; As a child that is weaned of his mother, my soul is even as a weaned child. Let Israel hope in the Lord from henceforth and forever.

Behold how good, and how pleasant it is, for brethren to dwell together in unity.

PROFILES



Missourian tenor **Nathan Ward** comes from an eclectic musical background, drawing on study of piano, cello, and composition to inform his singing. He received his master's degree in 2016 at the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music while studying under Karen Brunssen. There he played Sam Polk in Carlile Floyd's *Susannah*, Basilio in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*, Howard Boucher in Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking*, and Richard Dauntless in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Ruddigore*, and also collaborated as a soloist in

Mozart's Requiem, Kile Smith's *Vespers* with the Bienen Contemporary/Early Vocal Ensemble, and Britten's *Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings*. In the summer of 2016, he sang Sheldon in *Later the Same Evening* as a Bonfils-Stanton studio artist in the summer of 2016. Other highlights include Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Chicago Summer Opera, Peter Quint in *The Turn of the Screw* with Chicago Fringe Opera, and Jimmy Reno in Opera for the Young's *Elixir of Love*. This summer he returns to Central City Opera as an apprentice, singing Remendado in *Carmen* and *Tom* in Amy Beach's only opera, *Cabildo*.



William Lewis is deputy boy head chorister at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Evanston, Illinois. He was most recently heard in public performance as the treble soloist singing "Thou tun'st this world," from Henry Purcell's ode, Hail! Bright Cecilia, with the Choir of St. Luke's, Bella Voce, and the period-instrument orchestra Ars Antigua on the Opus 327 Recital Series at St. Luke's. A regular soloist, William sings the soaring solo treble part in Allegri's Miserere mei, which includes repeated high C's, each year at the Good

Friday service at St. Luke's. William traveled with the choir to England for choral residencies at Gloucester and Lichfield Cathedrals, where the choir sang the world premiere of Gabriel Jackson's, *All shall be Amen*. William also plays the piano and trumpet, for which he received the Anna Marie Humer Scholarship

Award. He was also the top student in his 6th grade class, receiving the Academic Excellence Award. William's other avid interests include soccer, animal rights, Legos, family, friends, and starting businesses with his brothers in the basement of their home. William is sincerely grateful to his long-time friend Dr. Davids for this wonderful experience singing the *Chichester Psalms*.



Dr. Julia Davids has been the Music Director of the North Shore Choral Society since 2009. She enjoys a thriving career as a versatile musician. She is Associate Professor and the Stephen J. Hendrickson Chair of Choral Activities at North Park University, Chicago, where she directs the choirs and teaches conducting and music education. Julia also serves as Director of Music Ministries at Trinity United Methodist Church, Wilmette. Julia has been the Artistic Director of the Canadian Chamber Choir, Canada's national professional

chamber choir, since 2004. She has led the CCC on concert and workshop tours from coast to coast and conducted their Juno-nominated recording, *Sacred Reflections of Canada – A Canadian Mass*.

Julia is co-author with Stephen LaTour of the book *Vocal Technique – A Guide for Conductors, Teachers, and Singers* published by Waveland Press and winner of Choral Canada's award for Best Choral Publication, and is in demand as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor. She holds degrees in Education, Conducting, and Voice Performance from the University of Western Ontario (London, Ontario), the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, Michigan), and a D.M. from Northwestern University. Julia resides in Skokie with her husband, baroque violinist Martin Davids, and their two children, Judith and Solomon.



Pianist for the Chicago Symphony Chorus since auditioning as a college student in 1978, **Sharon Rich Peterson** continues as Rehearsal Pianist for the CSC as well as at Northwestern University, North Park University, and North Shore Choral Society. Sharon served as Accompanist for several years for Chicago Symphony Singers and CSC's ensembles and was Score Reader for the filming of Beethoven's 9th Symphony, performed by the CSO and CSC.

During the seven years spent living in Sweden and Norway, Sharon developed a specialty in Scandinavian Piano Repertoire and worked as Staff Accompanist at the Royal Academy of Music in Oslo, Norway. Studying with Elizabeth Buccheri at North Park College, BM degree, and Robert Weirich at Northwestern University, MM degree, Sharon accompanied the Lyric Opera Chorus for eight seasons, was Music Director of the Lyric's "Opera in the Neighborhood" touring production twice of *The Magic Flute*, and she worked as Ballet Accompanist for LOOC's 2014 production of Mozart's *La Clemenza di Tito*.

Sharon has been Staff Accompanist at Roosevelt University and North Park University, as well as accompanist in the studios of soprano Maria Lagios and saxophonist Frederick L. Hemke. She performed regularly with singers Kathleen and Peter van de Graaff (including touring Hawaii) and now with saxophonist Andrew Carpenter. After completing many years as Organist at North Park Covenant Church in Chicago, Illinois, Sharon is enjoying serving as Interim/Guest Organist in the Chicago area, among them St. James Cathedral, 1st United Methodist at the Chicago Temple, and The Village Presbyterian Church in Northbrook, Illinois. She coaches voice privately, specializing in Swedish and Norwegian languages and repertoire, teaches organ lessons, and accompanies saxophonists. She is currently Organist at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago and serves as Sub-Dean of the North Shore Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

About the NSCS Choral Scholars

Choral Scholars program targets university students who have a desire to pursue choral singing in their community. Choral Scholars have a strong background in music and choral singing and are auditioned for this program by Music Director Dr. Julia Davids. North Shore Choral Society provides Choral Scholars with music and waives their membership dues to enable their participation. Choral Scholars work directly with Music Director Dr. Davids and the Board of Directors on special assignments related to the operations of the Choral Society.

The Choral Scholars' experience provides students with an understanding of both the musical and business aspects of the choral organization. Participation in the program demonstrates that choral singing can be a lifelong pursuit.

We are currently accepting applications for Choral Scholars. Please contact General Manager Karen Rigotti at 773-741-6727 for more information.

North Shore Choral Society PSALMS, NEW and OLD Chorus

Soprano ·

Mei Aden Mary Johnson Ginny Roeder

Pam Anderson Jean Joslyn Karen Fish Schurder

Marcia Maus Bollo Sue Kim Dorothy Scott

Cristina Brown Martha Kinzel Phoebe Segal
Debbie Buesing Laura Koroski Kathryn Skelton
Beth Galfer Melissa Lindner Roxann Specht

Betsy Gladfelter Julie McDowell Kathleen Tolisano

Maria del Rosario Gomez Christine McGuire Carli Uphill

Ariana Gray Bé Mande Mischler Jacquie Wahlstrom Judith Greene Donna Nitahara Tiffany Williams-

Anne Harkonen Catherine Porter Cobleigh

Christine Hoffmeyer Claudette Rasmussen

Alto -----

Barbara Brantigan Jo Anne Gerules Karen Rigotti
Sharon Carlson Anne Heider Emily Rivera

Pam CosterJill HorwitzJane SchieberArlene CwynarLynn KendallJo Ann SeagerSusan DemareeInge KistlerCaitlin Sellnow

Barbara Dershin Marilyn Leipsiger Nancy Slichenmyer

Antje Draganski Olivia St. Clair Long Loretta Smith
Chris Erenberg Marjorie Lundy Joan Soper

Fusayo Errico Stephanie McDaniel Barbara Struthers

Fran Faller Joan Merchan Erica Sufritz
Linda Faller Pauline Michael Judy Taylor

Nancy Friday Lorena Neal Jan van Straaten Lucinda Fuller Elena Repp Amy Weller

Debbie Geismar Alicia Resnick Anne Zald

Tenor		
Douglas Aden	Chris Jensen	Nicholas Krupp
David Betzold	Eric Johnson	Sanna Longden
David Crumrine	Brian Keady	Tom Olkowski
John Darrow	Carl Kettler	Milly Silverstein
Bill Erenberg	Jeff Kinzel	David W. Taylor

Bass		
Terry Duchow	Thomas Keller	Dirk Walvoord
Andrew Fisher	Scott Paine	Steve Warner
Bruce Gladfelter	Eric Robison	Dan Woodard
David Hunt	Bob Smith	Yang Zhou
Ron James	Harry Vroegh	



Finding a common ingredient among North Shore Choral Society members is almost impossible – except, of course, their love of choral singing. We introduce two of our members in this space today.

Donna Nitahara lives in Des Plaines and was born and raised in Chicago. She and her husband Scott have been happily married for 36 years and have two sons, Ryan and and Danny. Their family welcomed a "daughter" last September when Ryan married Laura. Donna and Scott are looking forward to the time when they bless them with grandchildren!

Donna is a Registered Nurse and has worked many different roles in the hospital, on Medical-Surgical Units, in Obstetrics and the Newborn Nursery, as well as with Utilization Review. She now works in the insurance industry as a Nurse Consultant in Medical Disability.

Donna has always enjoyed all types of music, with an appreciation of classical music from piano lessons taken as a youth. She sang in her church's children's choir, in high school with the girls' chorus, and is a member of her church's choir.

Donna joined the NSCS in 2007, with members explaining it was a very special year to join as it would be Donald Chen's final year as conductor! Since then, under the direction of Julia Davids who has provided a wonderful variety of different styles of music, Donna has never enjoyed singing more than she does today. Never having had voice training, Donna feels honored to get the opportunity to be able to sing in a professional environment with such great soloists, talented musicians, and the dedicated members of the North Shore Choral Society.

Jane Schieber was born and raised in Evanston and lived there until her 20s, having then moved out to the northwest suburbs. She currently lives in Arlington Heights and is the proud grandmother of Liam age 5 and Eliza age 3, who is a special needs little girl. They are the joys of her life, and she happily babysits for them a few days a week.

Jane recently retired from Life Insurance Underwriting after 40 years, but still does some contract work on the side.

Music has always been her passion, playing guitar for years and currently singing in several ensembles besides NSCS, including a trio, a chamber group, a special quartet occasionally, as well as solo work. She also sings with her guitar at nursing homes, restaurants, and even at Mariano's in Arlington Heights for the last 3 Christmases! In addition, Jane has directed children and youth in singing at special events and in the Sunday morning church services for the last 15 years. All this without a music degree! She says her passion for music is because it is God's gift to us. Jane strives for excellence so that the message of whatever she is singing comes across clearly.

In her spare time, Jane serves on the Board at NSCS as the fundraising chair, facilitates women's Bible studies in her home, and serves on a Salvation Army task force working to end sexual exploitation of minors.

The North Shore Choral Society reaches out to ...

- ... other performing groups. NSCS featured the Chicago Bronze English Handbell Ensemble, directed by Andrea Handley, at our *GLORY!*, *New and Familiar Holiday Music for Choir, Bells, Percussion, and Organ* concert on November 20, 2016. NSCS joined the Evanston Symphony Orchestra in their traditional holiday program, *An Evanston Symphony Christmas*, on Sunday, December 4, 2016, and will again on Sunday, June 11, 2017, for Gustav Mahler's 2nd Symphony, *The Resurrection*. For our Saturday, April 22, 2017, *Missa Gaia* concert, we will be joined by members of Evanston based Enid Smith Dance, and the Evanston Children's Choir, Gary Geiger, director.
- ... area schools. On April 8, 2017, NSCS will help facilitate a choral workshop with students from several Golf, Illinois, District 67 schools.
- ... the arts community. NSCS is participating with the Evanston Symphony Orchestra, the Evanston Dance Ensemble, and Actors Gymnasium in the year-long Enrich Evanston initiative. The initiative is exploring racial inequity in Evanston with the goal of improving the diversity and inclusiveness of the respective arts organizations.
- ... talented young Chicago singers. The Donald Chen Young Artist Award was established to reward talented young singers with solo roles in one of our concerts each season. The 2016 DCYAA winner, tenor Nathan Ward, is a soloist in today's concert, *Psalms, New and Old*. This concert also features young local area talent William Lewis, treble.
- ... the Evanston community. NSCS participated in the 2016 Evanston Family Peace Festival, held in the Rotary Peace Garden on September 25, 2016. On October 19, 2016, NSCS participated in the Enrich Evanston Diversity Workshop which examined the question of the arts as a means of bringing communities together.
- ... music lovers in retirement communities. NSCS again presented a holiday concert on Sunday, December 11, 2016, at Three Crowns Park Retirement Community.
- ... university students. The NSCS Choral Scholars program targets university students who have a desire to pursue choral singing.

For information about any of these outreach programs, please call 773-741-NSCS/ 773-741-6727 or email northshorechoral@gmail.com

North Shore Choral Society COORDINATORS and VOLUNTEERS

In the November concert program booklet, the officers and section leaders were highlighted. Listed below are the names and positions of many others who help NSCS function so effectively.

Communications

Art — Milly Silverstein, Ginny Roeder

Donald Chen Young Artist Award — Anne Heider

Outreach — Pam Anderson

Publicity — Marj Lundy

Social Media — Stephanie McDaniel

Concerts

Box Office Manager — Jamie Godshalk

Concert Manager — Tom Keller

Concert Program Booklets — Marcia Bollo

House Manager — Joe Boyle

House Manager — Joe Boyle

Tickets Manager — Phoebe Segal, Tom Olkowski, Sanna Longden

Fundraising

Patrons — Lauren Bauerschmidt, Sally Ryan Program Advertising — Scott Paine Rebates — Harry Vroegh

Operations

Archivist — Melinda Kwedar, Jane Kenamore, Len Barker
Computer Services — Dan Woodard, Jim Miller, Ellen Pullin
Desktop Publishing — Dorothy Scott, Kathryn Skelton
Mailings — Amy Weller
Membership — Emily Rivera
Music Librarian — Bruce Gladfelter, Nancy Slichenmyer
Printing — Debbie Buesing
Social Events — Debbie Buesing
Webmaster — Jim Miller, Ellen Pullin

The North Shore Choral Society is partially funded by the City of Evanston in partnership with the Evanston Arts Council, and by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

our Renewal! season continues ...



Celebrate Earth Day with NSCS's Performance of Paul Winter's

Missa Gaia – Earth Mass

Saturday Evening, April 22nd, 2017, 7:00

Felicia Patton, soprano Thomas W. Jefferson, piano Evanston Children's Choir Enid Smith Dance whales and wolves, saxophone, and more!

Plus ... we continue our long-standing relationship with the Evanston Symphony Orchestra!

June 11, 2017, Gustav Mahler's 2nd Symphony, *The Resurrection*, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Evanston, IL, Tickets: evanstonsymphony.org – 847-864-8804

North Shore Choral Society – northshorechoral.org P.O. Box 103, Evanston 60204-0103 – Info 773-741-6727 – Tickets 773-956-8400