

The 2021-2022 Concert Series Presents...

THE POETRY OF EARTH AND THE RENEWAL OF SPIRIT



*Come, said the Muse,
Sing me a song
no poet yet has chanted,
Sing me the Universal.*

Sunday, April 24, 4:00 pm



Rev. Alex Lang, Pastor/Head of Staff

302 N. Dunton Ave | Arlington Heights, IL 60004 | firstpresah.org

Free will offering

THE POETRY OF EARTH AND THE RENEWAL OF SPIRIT

Presented by

The Choirs of First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights
Adam Lance Hendrickson, conductor

Welcome and Invocation

Adam Hendrickson

i thank You God for most this amazing day

Poetry by e.e. cummings

Music by Dan Forrest

*i thank You God for most this amazing
day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes*

*(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)*

*how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any-lifted from the no
of all nothing-human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?*

*(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)*

The Heavens Are Telling (from *The Creation*)

Joseph Haydn

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

Diana Richardson, soprano; Nick Pulikowski, tenor; Pete Wesoloski, bass

Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity (from *The Planets*)

Gustav Holst
arr. Vernon Leidig

The Orchestra

Look at the World

John Rutter

Look at the world, everything all around us. Look at the world and marvel every day. Look at the world, so many joys and wonders. So many miracles along our way. Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation. Give us thankful hearts that we may see all the gifts we share and every blessing. All things come of thee. Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flowers.

Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain. Look at the hills. Look at the trees and mountains, valley and flowing river, field and plain. Think of the spring. Think of the warmth of summer, bringing the harvest before the winter's cold. Everything grows. Everything has a season till it is gathered to the father's fold. Every good gift, all that we need and cherish comes from the Lord in token of his love. We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty. His is the earth and his the heavens above.

A reading of *In Time of Silver Rain*

Nancy Pardo

In Time of Silver Rain

Poetry by Langston Hughes

Music by Z. Randall Stroope

In time of silver rain the earth put forth new life again, Green grasses grow and flowers lift their heads and over all the plain the wonder spreads of life!

*In time of silver rain the butterflies lift silken wings
to catch a rainbow cry, and trees put forth new leaves to sing of life!*

A reading of *The Pasture*

Larry Olson

The Pasture

Poetry by Robert Frost; Music by Z. Randall Stroope

*I'm going out to clean the pasture spring;
I'll only stop to rake the leaves away
(And wait to watch the water clear, I may):
I sha'n't be gone long.—You come too.*

*I'm going out to fetch the little calf
That's standing by the mother. It's so young,
It totters when she licks it with her tongue.
I sha'n't be gone long.—You come too.*

Psalm 23

Katy Allen

The Lord is My Shepherd (adapted from Psalm 23)

Howard Goodall

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, 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.

Matthew 11:25-29

Alex Lang

Come to Me

Dan Forrest

*"Come to Me, all you who labor, Come to Me, and I will give you rest.
Come, My Child, Learn My heart, For I am gentle and lowly.
See how great My love for you, That I have called you My child."*

Nick Pulikowski, tenor; Malik Johnson, cello

◆Offering◆

A reading of *Grace Before Sleep*

Courtney Lang

Grace Before Sleep

Poetry by Sara Teasdale; Music by Susan Labarr

*How can our minds and bodies be
Grateful enough that we have spent
Here in this generous room,
This evening of content?*

*Each one of us has walked through storm
And fled the wolves along the road;*

*But here the hearth is wide and warm,
And for this shelter and this light
Accept, O Lord, our thanks tonight.*

Song of Myself

Poetry by Walt Whitman; Music by Michael John Trotta

*With music strong I come, my cornet and my drum, I play not marches for the victors only,
The wicked and the just, this meal is set for all, I make appointments with them all, No one
be left behind, this is one and all. One world is aware and the largest to me, and that is
myself, should I come to myself today, or in ten million years, I would gladly take it now or
with equal gladness wait. The conquered and the slain, I beat my drum for them, for them
I will now play my loudest song. Vivas to those who've failed to those who sank at sea, to
all the heroes never known, In all I see myself, in good and bad I see myself. I am larger, I
am better than I thought, I did not know that I held so much good. I exist as I am, and that
is enough, if no other in the world be aware then I shall sit content.*

Men's Chorus

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our
birth over and around us lies: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of
praise. For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree
and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful
hymn of praise. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on
earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our joyful hymn of praise. For each perfect gift of thine, to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven: Lord of all, to thee we
raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

A reading of *Things That Never Die*

Judy Hockenberry

Things That Never Die Poetry by Charles Dickens; Music by Lee Dengler

The pure, the bright, the beautiful, That stirred our hearts in youth, The impulses to wordless prayer, The dreams of love and truth; The longing after something's lost, The spirit's yearning cry, The striving after better hopes—These things can never die. The timid hand stretched forth to aid a brother in his need, A kindly word in grief's dark hour, That proves a friend indeed; The plea for mercy softly breathed, When justice threatens nigh, The sorrow of a contrite heart—These things shall never die. Let nothing pass for every hand, Must find some work to do; Lose not a chance to waken love—Be firm, and just, and true; So shall a light that cannot fade beam on thee from on high. And angel voices say to thee—These things shall never die.

Song of the Universal

Poetry by Walt Whitman

Music by Ola Gjeilo

*Come, said the Muse,
Sing me a song no poet yet has chanted,
Sing me the Universal.*

*In this broad Earth of ours,
Amid the measureless grossness and the slag,
Enclosed and safe within its central heart,
Nestles the seed Perfection.*

*By every life a share, or more or less,
None born but it is born—conceal'd or unconceal'd, the seed is waiting.*

*Give me, O God, to sing that thought!
Give me—give him or her I love, this quenchless faith
In Thy ensemble. Whatever else withheld, withhold not from us,
Belief in plan of Thee enclosed in Time and Space;
Health, peace, salvation universal.*

*All, all for Immortality!
Love, like the light, silently wrapping all!
Nature's amelioration blessing all!
The blossoms, fruits of ages—orchards divine and certain;
Forms, objects, growths, humanities, to spiritual Images ripening.*

THE CHOIRS

Soprano

Jan Ashley
Alison Harrald
Donna Holmes
Megan Hendrickson
Diana Richardson
Kathy Sobeski
Rosalie Stoike
JoAnn Thompson
Kris Ward
Karen Wilson

Alto

Jo Christian
Beena David+
Jenn Fick
Mary Hebden
Haven McClung
Joan Morrone
Lynn Stoike

Tenor

Roger Anderson^
Curt Chandler^
Alex Luke ^
Nick Pulikowski^
Chris Urban^

Bass

Ron Conner^
Ken Hockenberry^
Gary McClung^
Larry Olson^
Tom Pardo^
Richard Scott^
Rich Vane^
Pete Wesoloski+

^Men's Chorus
+Guest Singer

THE ORCHESTRA

Violin

Roy Meyer*
Christine Chon
Caroline Slack
Annarita Tanzi

Cello

Joshua Zajac
Malik Johnson

Flute

Leane Snyder

Horn

Courtney Lewis+
Phil Lewis+

Trumpet

Eric Allen+
Jered Montgomery

Organ

Chris Urban

Viola

David Beytas
Hanna Pederson

Oboe

Michelle Fielder+

Trombone

Kevin Carroll+
Todd Smith+

Piano

Pam Orals+
Chris Urban

*Concertmaster
+First Pres Member

MUSIC STAFF

Adam Hendrickson
Director of Music and
Worship

Christopher Urban
Associate Director of
Music & Organist

Nick Pulikowski
Director of Handbell and
Children's Choirs

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesdays *@ Noon*



May 4, 12:10 pm

Favorite Sacred Vocal Arias

Christopher Urban, organ

Adam Hendrickson, baritone

Dan Richardson, bass

Diana Richardson, soprano

Kathy Sobeski, soprano

THANK YOU CONTRIBUTORS!



As we close out the 2021-2022 season, we are grateful for the generosity of the seventy giving units that underwrote this completely self-sustaining series. Be on the lookout for the exciting 2022-2023 series line-up this summer.

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