

# Great Sacred Music

## Sunday, January 23, 2022

Kenneth Leighton: A Hymn of the Nativity  
St. Olaf Choir, Kenneth Jennings

Owain Park: Ave maris stella  
Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, Stephen Layton

William Byrd: Ave verum corpus  
Cambridge Singers, John Rutter

English composer Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988) composed A Hymn of the Nativity in 1960 using a text by 17th-century writer Richard Crashaw. Owain Park is a British choral composer and conductor, born in Bristol in 1993. "Ave verum corpus" is a motet composed for the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Philip Wilby: If ye love me  
St. George's Episcopal, Nashville, Wilma Jensen

Harold Friedell: Draw us in the Spirit's Tether  
Westminster Choir, Joseph Flummerfelt

Alexandre Guilmant: Allegretto in B minor, Op. 19 No. 1  
Robert Delcamp, organ  
1961/2004 Casavant organ, Op. 2654, in All Saints' Chapel, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee

English composer Philip Wilby (1949-) is noted for his sacred compositions and his works for brass band. Harold Friedell (1905-1958) was a native of Jamaica, New York. He was organist of Calvary Episcopal Church and then at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York City. French composer and organist Alexandre Guilmant was organist of Paris' Eglise de la Trinite from 1871-1901.

Commentary: Dr. Larry Abernathy

Benjamin Britten: Jubilate Deo  
Choir of St. John's College, Cambridge, George Guest

J.S. Bach and Charles Gounod: Ave Maria  
Vienna Symphony Orchestra, Helmuth Froschauer  
Placido Domingo, tenor

Benjamin Britten wrote his setting of Psalm 100 in 1961 for St George's Chapel, Windsor, at the request of H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh. Charles Gounod composed the melody for this Ave Maria and set it over J.S. Bach's first prelude from the Well-Tempered Clavier.

Anton Bruckner: Gradual: Christus factus est pro nobis  
Corydon Singers  
Matthew Best

Daniel E. Gawthrop: Show Me Thy Ways  
Utah State University Chamber Singers, Cory Evans  
Jonathan Rose, organ; Nicole Watts, violin; DJ Hesterman, cello

Sir Arthur Sullivan: The Lost Chord  
Noel Rawsthorne, organ  
Harrison & Harrison Organ at Coventry Cathedral

Christus factus est pro nobis ("Christ became obedient") is the gradual for Palm Sunday in many liturgical churches. American composer Daniel E. Gawthrop (1949-) has composed mainly choral and organ works. Sir Arthur Sullivan composed "The Lost Chord" in 1877. He considered it his most successful composition.

J.S. Bach: Cantata 156, "Ich steh mit einem Fuss im Grabe"  
Holland Boys' Choir; Netherlands Bach Collegium, Pieter Jan Leusink  
Ruth Holton, soprano; Sytse Buwalde, alto  
Nico van der Meel, tenor; Bas Ramselaar, bass

The German translates as "I stand with one foot in the grave". Despite the gloominess of its title, this cantata opens with a gorgeous sinfonia featuring a beautiful oboe melody which you may have heard in BWV 1056.

Felix Mendelssohn: Three Psalms, Op. 78  
Oslo Cathedral Choir, Terje Kvam  
Hakan Hagegard, baritone

The Three Psalms, Op 78, were composed between 1843 and 1844. Mendelssohn set Psalms 2, 43 and 22.

Johannes Brahms: For all flesh, it is as grass from A German Requiem, Op. 45  
Boston Symphony Orchestra; Tanglewood Festival Chorus, James Levine  
Christine Schafer, soprano; Michael Volle, baritone

Brahms used the words of 1 Peter 1:24 from the Lutheran Bible.

Jan Ladislav Dussek: Messe solemnelle  
Academy of Ancient Music, Richard Egarr  
Stephanie True, soprano; Helen Charlston, mezzo-soprano  
Gwilym Bowen, tenor; Morgan Pearse, baritone

English musicologist Richard Egarr obtained a score of Dussek's Mass and edited it for a performance in 2019.

Dan Locklair: Requiem  
Choir of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Winston-Salem; with members of the Winston-Salem Symphony Orchestra, Dr. John Cummins  
Dr. John Cummins, organ

This recording is from the Requiem's premiere performance, Nov. 1, 2015, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Winston-Salem. It was written in memory of Locklair's parents.

Joseph Callearts: Impromptu

Diane Bish, organ

Danion-Gonzales organ in Chartres Cathedral

Joseph Callaerts (1830–March 1901) was a Belgian organist, carillonneur, composer and music teacher.