

## Great Sacred Music Sunday, June 19, 2022

John Goss: Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven  
Choir of Westminster Abbey, Martin Neary  
Martin Baker, organ

John Hopkins: Psalm 27  
Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, John Scott  
Andrew Lucas, organ

Don Carlo Gesualdo: Ave Regina coelorum  
Oxford Camerata, Jeremy Summerly

English organist and composer Sir John Goss (1800-1880) was organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, where his mission was to raise the standards of music. The text of "Praise my soul, the King of Heaven" was written by Henry Francis Lyte. Edward J. Hopkins (1819 – 1901) was organist of Temple Church, London, from 1843 until his death. Don Carlo Gesualdo was an Italian nobleman who was also a brilliant composer, lutenist and murderer.

William Mathias: Let the people praise Thee, O God  
Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, John Scott  
Andrew Lucas, organ

Henry Purcell: Hear my prayer, O lord  
Chanticleer, Joseph Jennings

W.A. Mozart: Church Sonata in B flat, K. 212  
Amsterdam Mozart Players: Peter Hurford, organ  
1976 K. B. Blank organ in Bethlehemkerk, Papendrecht, Holland

Welsh composer William Mathias wrote his anthem "Let the people praise the, O Lord" for the wedding of HRH The Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer. English composer Henry Purcell's anthem "Hear my prayer, O Lord" dates from 1683, about fourteen years after he succeeded John Blow as Organist of Westminster Abbey. Mozart's church sonatas are short works for organ and strings written to be played between the reading of the Epistle and Gospel during the Mass.

Commentary: Lynn Huber

Traditional American folk tune, arr. by Mack Wilberg  
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
The Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square; Orchestra at Temple Square, Craig Jessop, Mack Wilberg

John Rutter: Open thou mine eyes  
Atlanta Sacred Chorale, Eric Nelson

Eric Whitacre: Lux aurumque (Light of Gold)  
Elora Festival Singers, Noel Edison

Text by Edward Esch; Latin translation by C.A. Silvestri

18th century pastor and hymnist Robert Robinson wrote the text for Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing. The hymn is commonly sung to the tune Nettleton. John Rutter was commissioned by the Texas Choral Directors Association to write Open thou mine eyes. The text was written by Lancelot Andrews (1555-1626). California native Eric Whitacre has captured the hearts and imagination of young singers worldwide with his music.

Josef Haydn: "Most beautiful appear" (Trio) from The Creation  
Vienna Boys' Choir; Chorus Viennensis; Vienna Opera Orchestra, Peter Marschik  
Max Emanuel Cencic, soprano; Christian Bauer, tenor; Ernst Jankowitsch, bass

Jean Langlais: Hymne d'Action de Grace "Te Deum"  
James Lancelot, organ  
Willis/Harrison & Harrison organ in Durham Cathedral, England

Apparently Haydn was inspired to write The Creation after hearing Handel's oratorio Israel in Egypt whilst in London. Whatever the inspiration, The Creation is considered by most musicians to be one of his finest compositions. James Lancelot was Organist of Durham Cathedral from 1985-2017.

J.S. Bach: Cantata 39, "Bricht dem Hungrigen dein Brot"  
Monteverdi Choir; English Baroque Soloists, Sir John Eliot Gardiner  
Gillian Keith, soprano; Wilke te Brummelstroete, alto  
Paul Agnew, tenor; Dietrich Henschel, bass

The German translates as "Give bread to the hungry." This cantata was first performed in Leipzig on June 23, 1726. Scholars think that Bach borrowed some of the musical ideas in this cantata from his older cousin Johann Ludwig Bach. Duke Ernst Ludwig wrote the libretto.

William Boyce: Lord, thou hast been our refuge  
Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral; Parley of Instruments, John Scott

English composer William Boyce wrote "Lord, thou hast been our refuge" for the 1755 Festival of the Sons of the Clergy. The Sons of Clergy is a charity which raises money for the families of needy clergy.

John Stanley: Organ Concerto in B flat, Op. 10 No. 3  
Northern Sinfonia, Gerald Gifford  
Gerald Gifford, organ

Blind English composer John Stanley (1712-1786) could accompany a Handel oratorio after hearing it played through once.

Frank Martin: Mass for two unaccompanied choirs  
The Sixteen, Harry Christophers

Swiss composer Frank Martin (1890-1974) was largely self-taught. His 1922 Mass for Double Choir is unaccompanied. It is widely considered one of the finest 20th-century choral works.

Andre Campra: Te Deum  
Le Concert Spirituel, Herve Niquet  
Veronique Gens, soprano; Jean-Paul Fouchecourt, counter-tenor  
Douglas Nasrawi, tenor; Peter Harvey, bass

French baroque composer Andre Campra was organist at the Cathedrals in Arles and Toulouse before becoming director of music at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

George Frideric Handel: Chandos Anthem No. 08, "O come, let us sing unto the Lord" Psalm 95  
The Sixteen Choir and Orchestra, Harry Christophers  
Patrizia Kwella, soprano; James Bowman, alto; Ian Partridge, tenor

Cannons was the country estate of the Duke of Chandos who employed Handel when his opera productions were running into financial distress. Handel wrote eleven instrumentally accompanied anthems for the Duke between 1717-1718. These were performed in the chapel at Cannons.

Giuseppe Verdi: Te Deum from Four Sacred Pieces  
Ernst Senff Choir/Berlin Philharmonic, Carlo Maria Giulini  
Sharon Sweet, soprano

Italian opera composer Giuseppe Verdi wrote four sacred motets in the last decades of his life. "Te Deum" dates from 1886-1889.