

# Seven Whole Days Not One in Seven



**I Will Praise Thee!**

**The Grand Rapids Choir  
of Men & Boys**

**Dr. Richard Webster – Guest Director**

**Dr. Kenneth Bos – Organ**

**Scott Bosscher – Director of Music**

**St. Andrew's Cathedral, Grand Rapids**

**Friday, May 18, 2018 – 7 PM**

**Saturday, May 19, 2018 – 7 PM**

**St. John Cantius, Chicago - Illinois**

**Sunday, May 20, 2018 – 4:30 PM**

~ Silent Procession of the Choir ~

**Prologue: The Sounding of the Seasons**

Malcolm Guite (b.1957)

Tangled in time, we live with hints and guesses  
turning the wheel of each returning year.  
But in the midst of our failures and successes  
we sometimes glimpse the Love that casts out fear.  
Sometimes the heart remembers its own reasons  
and breathes a *Sanctus* as we sing our story,  
tracing the tracks of grace, sounding the seasons  
that lead at last through time to timeless glory.  
From the first yearnings for a Saviour's birth  
to the full joy of knowing sins forgiven  
we gather as His church on God's good earth  
to share an echo of the choirs of heaven.  
We share these hints, returning what was lent,  
turning to praise each moment's monument.



**How Lovely Are the Messengers**

Words: Isaiah 52:7

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

How lovely are the Messengers that preach us the gospel of Peace.  
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,  
throughout all the lands their glad tidings.  
How lovely are the Messengers that preach us the gospel of Peace.

## God the Creative Artist

Allen Hackett

He who paints the sky is an artist beyond compare  
His masterful strokes expand the universe  
Down thru the depths of the sea  
He creates...He plants...He harvests and He reaps  
All to express His love and kindness within you and me  
His mercy endures forever.



## Vision of the Last Judgement

William Blake (1757-1827)

I assert for myself that I do not behold the outward Creation.  
When the Sun rises, do you not see a round disk of fire?  
No, I see an innumerable company of the heavenly host crying  
'Holy Holy Holy is the Lord God Almighty!'



## Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.



~ Introit ~

### Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Words: Liturgy of St. James  
Habakkuk 2:20 adapted

Edward C. Bairstow (1874-1946)

Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
and stand with fear and trembling,  
and lift itself above all earthly thought.

For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God,  
cometh forth to be our oblation,  
and to be given for food to the faithful.

Before Him come the choirs of angels  
with every principality and power;  
the Cherubim with many eyes, and winged Seraphim,  
who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn: Alleluia!

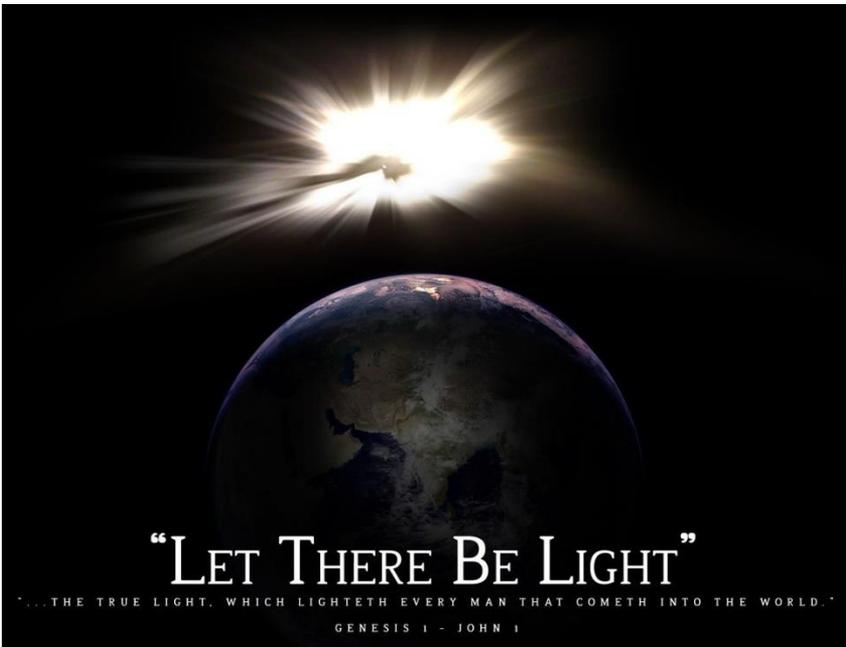
## ~ Day One: Let There Be Light! ~

Malcolm Guite

Let there be light as I begin this day  
To draw me from the darkness and the night,  
To bless my flesh, to clear and show my way  
Let there be light!

Strong in the depth and shining from the height,  
Evening and morning's interplay,  
Blessing and enabling my sight.

Lighten my soul and teach me how to pray,  
Lighten my mind and teach me wrong from right,  
In all I do and think and see and say  
Let there be light!



### **Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace**

Words: Isaiah 26:3, Psalm 139:11      Samuel S. Wesley (1810-1876)  
I John 1:5b, Psalm 119:175a

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee.  
The darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as clear  
as the day. The darkness and the light to Thee are both alike.  
God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.  
Oh let my soul live and it shall praise Thee.

## ~ Day Two: Let There Be Sky! ~

Malcolm Guite

The firmament, the vast curve of the sky  
The breath and weave of every element  
Unending blue, wherein we long to fly,  
The firmament.

Your Love has pitched the heavens like a tent  
And delved the depth where hidden treasures lie,  
From whose rich womb our life has its ascent.

Out of those depths I hear my spirit cry  
As height and depth give praise with one assent  
To that great form that orders low and high;  
The firmament.



### **The Holy City** (from “Visions”)

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Emma Bieniewicz – Violin

I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem: Alleluia!  
And the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.  
And I saw no temple therein:  
for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.  
And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon,  
to shine in it: for the glory of God did shine in it,  
and the Lamb is the light thereof.

Hymn: O Jerusalem the blessed, Vision that can never fade;  
Built of living stones in heaven, There in splendor bright displayed;  
Crowned in glory with God’s angels, As a royal bride arrayed.

## ~ Day Three: Let Waters and Dry Land Be Separated! ~

Malcolm Guite

The earth will yield her still-unfolding seed,  
And barley sheaves grow golden in the field,  
The vineyard and the fruit trees, all we need  
The earth will yield.

A soft wind sends the summer through the weald,  
In valley folds the sheep and cattle feed.  
The shoreline shines, Your wonders are revealed.

The waters are unbound, the ocean freed to thunder praise,  
in whose depths are concealed Your mysteries.  
Your praise in word and deed  
The earth will yield.



### Let Us With a Gladsome Mind

Words: John Milton (1608-1674)  
Psalm 136

Charles V. Stanford (1810-1876)

Let us, with a gladsome mind,  
Praise the Lord, for He is kind;  
For His mercies aye endure,  
Ever faithful, ever sure.

Let us blaze His name abroad,  
For of gods He is the God.  
For His mercies aye endure,  
Ever faithful, ever sure.

## ~ Day Four: Let Light and Dark be Separated ~

Malcolm Guite

Lights in the night, the lucid moon and sun,  
The lesser and the greater share your light  
And lift my heart to you when day is done,  
Lights in the night.

And lonely souls are gladdened by the sight,  
For those who dwell in darkness hope is born.  
The scattered stars still tingle with delight.

Treading the dance, the seasons in their turn  
Salute the lights of heaven in their flight.  
In our dark hearts your praises shine and burn;  
Lights in the night.



### **Cantique De Jean Racine**

Words: Jean Racine (1639-1699)

Gabriel Faure (1845-1924)

English Translation: John Rutter (b. 1945)

O divine Word above, our hope and consolation,  
Eternal light of the heav'ns and the earth.  
Our voices greet the morning: Look down, O Lord,  
And hear Thy people's prayer!

Inspire us, Lord, we pray, With the pow'r of Thy Spirit,  
That hell may flee before Thy mighty word.  
From slumber waken us, our weary souls reviving,  
That we may never forget Thy laws!

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on Thy congregation  
Now gathered in the sight of Thy throne;  
Receive the hymns they offer to Thy endless glory;  
Renewed by Thy gifts may they go forth in peace.

## ~ Day Five: Creatures for the Sky and for the Sea ~

Malcolm Guite

With open wings a seagull skims the spray,  
Sounding the depth below, a great whale sings,  
Your Spirit moves amongst them as they play  
With open wings.

Now open me to all your Spirit brings,  
Move in me too as I begin to pray,  
That love may ripple out in shining rings.

Speak to my soul through all You made this day,  
Through all that swims and flies and swoops and swings,  
And let your Spirit lift the words I say  
With open wings.



# O God, Thou Art My God

Words: Psalm 63:1-5 & 8

Henry Purcell (1845-1924)

O God, Thou art my God: early will I seek Thee.  
My soul thirsteth for Thee, my flesh also longeth after Thee  
in a barren and dry land where no water is.  
Thus have I looked for Thee in holiness,  
that I might behold Thy power and glory.  
For Thy loving kindness is better than life itself:  
my lips shall praise Thee.  
As long as I live I will magnify Thee on this manner  
And lift up my hands in Thy name.  
Because Thou hast been my helper, therefore under  
Thy shadow of Thy wings will I rejoice. Alleluia.

## ~ Day Six: God Made Us ~

Malcolm Guite

You made us new and beautiful today  
Your Spirit softened us like morning dew,  
Your Image shining from us through the clay,  
You made us new.

You woke us and we knew ourselves in You  
We walked together at the close of day  
You trusted us and called us to be true.

When we forsook your love, and turned away  
You came and sought us, where we hid from You  
And on the cross, in darkness, on this day  
You made us new.



## O For a Closer Walk with God

Words: William Cowper (1731-1800)

Charles V. Stanford

O, for a closer walk with God! A calm and heavenly frame!  
A light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy dove, return, sweet messenger of rest!  
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn, and drove Thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God, calm and serene my frame;  
So purer light shall mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

## Ave Verum

Words: 14<sup>th</sup> Century

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Ave verum corpus,  
natum ex Maria Virgine,  
Vere passum, immolatum  
in cruce pro homine.

Hail, true body,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
having truly suffered, sacrificed  
On the cross for mankind.

Cuius latus perforatum  
Vero fluxit sanguine;  
Esto nobis praegustatum,  
Mortis in examine.

From whose pierced side  
water and blood flowed;  
Be for us a foretaste,  
In the trial of death.

O clemens, O pie,  
O dulcis Jesu, File Mariae.

O clement, O merciful,  
O sweet Jesus, son of Mary.

## O Taste and See

Words: Psalm 34:8

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:  
blest is the man that trusteth in Him.

## If Ye Love Me

Words: John 14:15-17

Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

If ye love Me, keep My commandments.  
And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Comforter,  
that He may abide with you for ever, even the Spirit of Truth. Amen

## ~ Offertory ~

### "Two Voluntaries"

William Croft (1678-1727)

*(Grand Rapids Only)*

### Rise Up, My Love, My Fair One

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

*(Chicago Only: Combined Choirs of GRCMB & St. John Cantius Church)*

Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away. For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear upon the earth. The time of singing of birds is come. Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.



GRCMB receives no state, city or corporate sponsorship. The Choir continues to sing only through your prayerful and generous support which keeps the ministry of the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys strong and vibrant.

Look at the boys standing in front of you tonight. Help us to continue to teach and inspire them so that they will inspire generations to come. Be moved and make this investment with us.

For future concert information, please sign our email registry as the boys pass the books down each row. Then remember to always invite and bring friends with you to our next event!

The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys is now hearing individual auditions for the 2018-2019 season.

All voice parts – boys and men.

Ask about our 2018 *Chorister Summer Camp*.

Contact Director of Music - Scott Bosscher to find out how you might become part of the choir.

616.460.0598    [scottbosscher@grcmb.org](mailto:scottbosscher@grcmb.org)

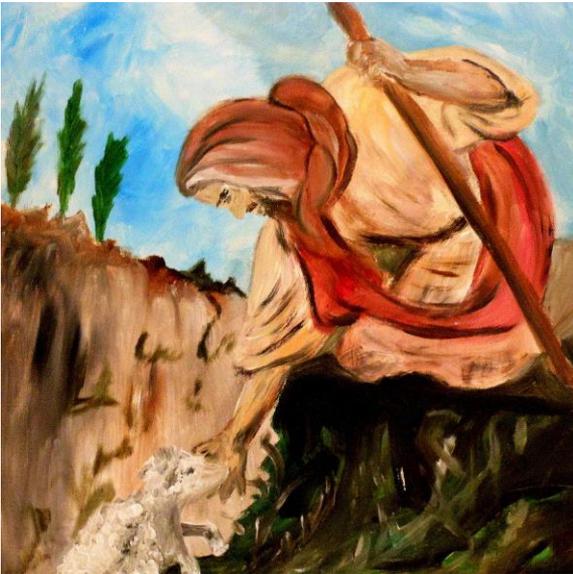
## ~ Day Seven: Delight & Rest ~

Malcolm Guite

Blessing and rest, delight in everything  
Sustained by your strong love and richly blest  
This is the the gift you give, the day you bring  
Blessing and rest.

This is indeed 'the gladness of the best',  
From first lines in the east where linnets sing,  
To where the last light lingers in the west.

You lift the cares to which I used to cling,  
As You Yourself descend to be my guest  
And show me how to find in everything  
Blessing and rest.



### **The Lord is My Shepherd**

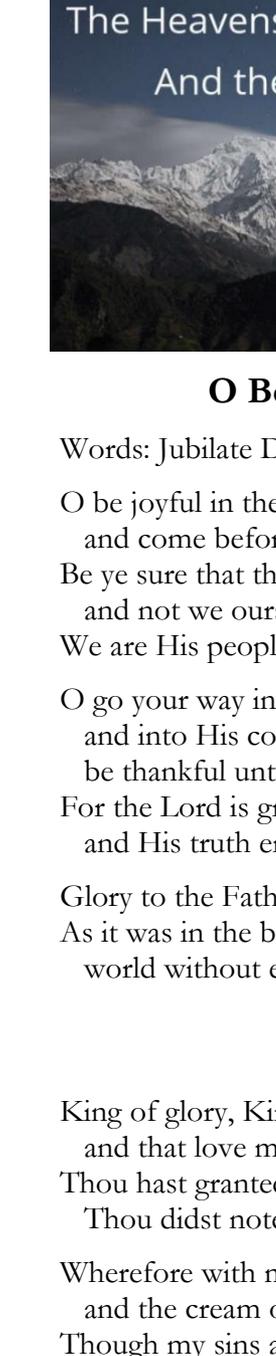
Words: Psalm 23

Howard Goodall (b. 1977)

The Lord is my Shepherd, I'll 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 for ever.



The Heavens Declare the Glory of God,  
And the Sky Above Proclaims His Handiwork.

Psalm 19:1 ESV

## O Be Joyful in the Lord All Ye Lands

Words: Jubilate Deo - Psalm 100

Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands; serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before His presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is He that hath made us  
and not we ourselves.

We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

O go your way into His gates with thanksgiving  
and into His courts with praise;  
be thankful unto Him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious; His mercy is everlasting;  
and His truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory 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.

~ **Praise (ii)** ~

George Herbert (1593-1633)

King of glory, King of peace, I will love Thee;  
and that love may never cease, I will move Thee.

Thou hast granted my request, Thou hast heard me;  
Thou didst note my working breast, Thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing Thee,  
and the cream of all my heart I will bring Thee.

Though my sins against me cried, Thou didst clear me;  
and alone, when they replied, Thou didst hear me.

Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise Thee;  
in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise Thee.  
Small it is, in this poor sort to enroll Thee:  
e'en eternity's too short to extol Thee.



### **Thou, O God, Art Praised in Sion**

Words: Psalm 65:1, 2 & 4

Malcolm Boyle (1902-1976)

Psalm 26:3 & 4 and 67:3, 6 & 7

Thou, O God, art praised in Sion,  
and unto Thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.  
Thou that hearest the prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come.  
Blessed is the man whom Thou chooseth and receivest unto Thee.  
He shall dwell in Thy courts and shall be satisfied with the pleasures  
of Thy house, e'en of Thy holy temple.  
Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stay'd on Thee:  
Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace because he trusteth in Thee.  
Trust ye in the Lord forever,  
for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

Let the people praise Thee, O God, yea, let all the people praise Thee.  
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase:  
and God shall give us His blessing.

### **~ Recessional Postlude ~**

#### **“Toccata Brevis”**

Daniel E. Gawthrop (b.1949)