

MESSIAH  
UNIVERSITY

CONCERT CHOIR  
AND  
CHAMBER SINGERS

*Joy Elizabeth Meade, conductor*

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**Saturday, March 21, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.**

*Calvin and Janet High Center for Worship  
and Performing Arts, Parmer Hall*



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

# PROGRAM

## Horn Prelude

Oliver Paris, Annie Rizzo, Amelia Weller, Nate Winton

### I.

**Sing Praise to God** .....Johann Schütz  
(1640-1690)  
arr. Brent Wells

Oliver Paris, Annie Rizzo, Amelia Weller, Nate Winton, horns

*Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.  
With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled.  
To God all praise and glory!*

*What God's almighty power hath made His gracious mercy keepeth.  
By morning glow or evening shade His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.  
Within the kingdom of His might, lo! all is just and all is right.  
To God all praise and glory!*

**Peace Song** ..... Tim Brent  
(b. 1975)

*Beati pacifici quoniam filii Dei  
vocabuntur.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they  
shall be called the children of God.*

*Beati misericordes quia ipsi  
misericordiam consequentur.*

*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall  
obtain mercy.*

*Beati mundo corde quoniam ipsi Deum  
videbunt*

*Blessed are the pure of heart, for they  
shall see God.*

~ Matthew 5:7-9

**Beati Quorum Via** ..... Charles Viller Stanford  
(1852-1924)

*Beati quorum via integra est;  
Qui ambulant in lege Domini.  
~ Psalm 119:1*

*Blessed are those whose way is blameless;  
Who walk in the law of the Lord.*

**Simple Gifts**..... Shaker Folksong  
arr. René Clausen  
(b. 1953)

*'Tis the gift to be simple, tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.*

*When true simplicity is gained, to bow and to bend, we shan't be ashamed.  
To turn, turn will be our delight, 'till by turning, turning we come round right.  
~ Joseph Brackett (1797–1882)*

**Amazing Grace**..... Traditional American Hymn  
arr. Ēriks Ešenvalds  
(b. 1977)

Anne McIlvaine and Eliana McFate, soloists

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch, like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see!*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!  
The Lord hath promised good to me; His word my hope secures!  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun!  
~ John Newtown (1779)*

II.

**Haec Dies** ..... William Byrd  
(c. 1540-1623)

*Haec Dies, quam fecit Dominus.  
Exultemus et laetemur in ea.  
Alleluia.  
~ Psalm 117:24*

*This is the day the Lord has made:  
let us rejoice and be glad in it,  
Alleluia.*

**Sing, My Child** ..... Sarah Quartel  
(b. 1982)

Emily Evans, Josiah Evans, Elizabeth Lebo, Elijah Palmer, soloists

*Sing for the promise in each new morning. Sing for the hope in a new day dawning.  
All around is beauty bright! Wake in the morning and sing, my child.*

*Dance in the joy of the day unfolding.  
Dance as you work and dance as you're learning.  
All around is beauty bright! Take in the day and dance, my child.*

*But when troubles come and worry is all that can be found,  
Gather your strength and hear your voice. Sing, my child.*

*Laugh in the cool and the fresh of the ev'ning.  
Laugh in your triumph, laugh in succeeding.  
All around is beauty bright! Rest in the evening and laugh, my child.  
Peace in the stillness and dark of the night. Peace in your dreams and your silent delights.*

*All around is beauty bright! Sleep in the night and peace, my child.*

**There is a Balm** ..... African-American Spiritual  
arr. Joseph Jennings  
(b. 1954)

Tiah Masood, Daniel Micsion, Eliana McFate, Anne McIlvaine,  
Kristin Nolt, soloists

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.*

*Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.*

*If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."*

**It's You I Like** from "Mister Roger's Neighborhood" .....Fred Rogers  
(1928-2003)  
arr. David Van Kampen

Deacon Shearer, trumpet

*It's you I like, it's not the things you wear,  
It's not the way you do your hair but it's you I like.  
The way you are right now, the way down deep inside you  
Not the things that hide you, not your toys, they're just beside you.*

*But it's you I like. Every part of you.  
Your skin, your eyes, your feelings whether old or new.  
I hope that you'll remember even when you're feeling blue  
That it's you I like, It's you yourself, It's you.  
It's you I like.*

### III.

**Be Still My Soul**.....FINLANDIA Jean Sibelius  
(1865-1957)  
arr. Paul Cohen '09

Oliver Paris, Annie Rizzo, Amelia Weller, Nate Winton, horns  
*Be still, my soul! the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.  
Leave to thy God to order and provide; in ev'ry change, He faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul! thy best, thy heav'nly Friend, thru' thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

*Be still, my soul! thy God doth undertake to guide the future as He has the past.  
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still my soul! the waves and winds still know, His voice who ruled them while He  
dwelt below.*

*Be still, my soul! the hour is hast'ning on when we shall be forever with the Lord!  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys  
restored.*

*Be still, my soul! when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed, we shall meet at  
last.*

~ Katharina von Schlegel, 1697

**Jumalo** ..... Latvian Folksong  
arr. Laura Jēkabsons  
(b. 1985)

*Zirgs pie zirga, rats pie rata jumalo, jumalo  
Viss uz Rīgu aizripoja jumalo, jumalo  
Tie atvede Kurzemē jumalo, jumalo  
Visus Rīgas dārgumiņus jumalo, jumalo*

*Horse to horse, wheel to wheel, jumalo  
It all rolled to Riga, jumalo  
They brought to Kurzeme, jumalo  
All of Riga's treasures, jumalo*

*Kur tu nēmi tēva dēls jumalo, jumalo  
Tik raženu kumeliņu jumalo, jumalo  
Rīgā pirku naudu devu jumalo, jumalo  
Ar tiem zelta iemauktiem jumalo, jumalo  
Pavadiņas galiņā rīta zvaigzne ritināj*

*Where did you get it, father's son? jumalo  
A colt this big, jumalo  
In Riga I bought and gave money, jumalo  
For those golden bridles, jumalo  
At the end of the leash, the morning star  
rolled*

**Taaveti laul 104** ..... Cyrillus Kreek  
(1889-1962)

*Pāeval ei pea pāikene sind vaevama,  
ega öösel kuu.  
Ma tōstan oma silmad ūles māgede poole,  
kust minu abi tuleb.  
Mu abi tuleb Jehoova käest,  
kes kõik taeva, maa on teinud.  
~ Psalm 121:1-2, 6*

*The sun shall not smite thee by day,  
nor the moon by night.  
I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,  
from whence cometh my help.  
My help cometh from the Lord,  
which made heaven and earth.*

**Duido** ..... Latvian Carol  
arr. Ilone Rupaine  
(b. 1966)

IV.

**Down By The Riverside.....** African-American Spiritual  
arr. Stacey V. Gibbs

*Lord, I'm gonna lay down my burdens down by the riverside.  
I'm gonna lay down my burdens down by the riverside and study war no more.  
I ain't gon' study war no more, ain't gon' study war no more!  
Lord, I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield down by the riverside.  
Lord, I lay my burdens down by the riverside and study war no more.*

**Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel .....** African-American Spiritual  
arr. Moses Hogan

*Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, then why not every man?  
He deliver'd Daniel from the lion's den, Jonah from the belly of the whale,  
And the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace, and why not every man?*

*The wind blows east and the wind blows west, it blows like the judgement day,  
And ev'ry poor soul that never did pray will be glad to pray that day.*

*I set my foot on the Gospel ship, and the ship, it begin to sail,  
It landed me over on Canaan's shore, and I'll never come anymore.*

**Salutation.....** Ēriks Ešenvalds  
(b. 1977)

*In one salutation to thee, my God  
let all my senses spread out and touch this world at thy feet.  
Like a raincloud of July hung low with its burden of unshed showers  
Let all my mind bend down at thy door in one salutation to thee.*

*Let all my songs gather together,  
their diverse strains into a single current and flow to a sea -  
flow to a sea of silence in one salutation to thee.  
Like a flock of homesick cranes, flying night and day back to their mountain nests,  
let all my life take its voyage to its eternal home in one salutation to thee.  
~ Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)*

**The Lord Bless You and Keep You..... Peter Lutkin  
(1858-1931)**

*The Lord bless you and keep you.*

*The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

*The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you.*

*The Lord be gracious unto you. Amen.*

~ Numbers 6:24-26

**MESSIAH UNIVERSITY  
CONCERT CHOIR AND CHAMBER SINGERS**

*Joy Meade, Conductor*

**Soprano 1**

Mandy Bevenour\* – Mechanicsburg, PA, treasurer  
Julia Laessig – Newtown Sq, PA  
Eliana McFate+\* – New Market, MD, social media coordinator  
Seneca Mikesell – Mechanicsburg, PA  
Madilyn Potteiger\* – Mechanicsburg, PA  
Kay Reyburn – Cochranville, PA  
Macy Wright – Vienna, VA

**Soprano 2**

Hope Adedokun – Phoenixville, PA  
Clara Bellot – Englewood, CO  
Gloria Casey – Plum, PA  
Orphie Hartman\* – Hollidaysburg, PA  
Kyra Hojnicky – Mechanicsburg, PA  
Elizabeth Lebo+\* – Lancaster, PA, secretary  
Hanne Rydqvist – Nanuet, NY  
Kacie Watkins – Telford, PA  
Amelia Weller – Grove City, PA

**Alto 1**

Anna Clement – Quakertown, PA  
Emily Evans\* – Duncannon, PA  
Nadia Griffith\* – Newville, PA  
Tiah Masood+\* – Robertsdale, PA, fundraising coordinator  
Isa Pagana – Campbell Hall, NY  
Grace Pearce – York, PA  
Annie Rizzo – Royersford, PA, fundraising coordinator  
Jordan Rodgers\* – Colchester, CT, concert coordinator  
Kiley Shirk – Broadway, VA

**Alto 2**

Shelby Beadle – Harrisburg, PA, concert coordinator  
Rachel Landes – Lancaster, PA  
Samaya Janssen – Long Valley, NJ  
Anne McIlvaine\* – Lancaster, PA, vice-president  
Ashley Murtoff – Mechanicsburg, PA

Kristin Nolt+\* – Ephrata, PA, choir chaplain  
Ellen Smith – Bristow, VA  
Erin Weaver – Elizabethtown, PA

**Tenor 1**

Brayden Dudinyak – Hazleton, PA  
Ian Gibson – Clearfield, PA  
Elijah Palmer+\* – Mechanicsburg, PA  
Will Painter – Newtown Square, PA  
Oliver Paris – Mechanicsburg, PA  
Jaron Witmer\* – Richland, PA

**Tenor 2**

Ryan Anderson – Londonderry, NH  
Matthew Harris – Prospect Park, PA  
Daniel Lin+\* – Westwood, NJ, choir chaplain  
Mark Martin – Lancaster, PA  
Deacon Shearer\* – Myerstown, PA

**Bass 1**

Tyson Bomberger – Middletown, PA  
Josiah Evans\* – Lancaster, PA  
Benjamin Fulks – Hebron, OH  
Will Glatfelter – York, PA  
Daniel Micsion+\* – Souderton, PA, president  
Clint Miller\* – Mechanicsburg, PA  
Byrant Rohrer\* – Duncannon, PA  
Nathan Wieseman – Mechanicsburg, PA  
Nate Winton – Jenkintown, PA  
Jack Zagwoski – Hatfield, PA

**Bass 2**

Nathan Bowman – Lancaster, PA  
Ryan Cascarella\* – Lititz, PA  
Nicholas Epps+ – Trenton, NJ  
LaVarr Fuller – Rochester, NY  
Eli Matthews – West Grove, PA  
Dekenon Pollock\* – Mount Union, PA

\* Chamber Singers

+ Section Leader

For details on the 2025-2026 Performing Arts Series and Concerts  
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## PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

*Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Louis Armstrong's "Hot Five" Recordings*  
April 22 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

### CONCERTS

***Messiah University Jazz Combo***

*Todd Goranson, director*

March 24 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Spring Choral Showcase***

*Women's Ensemble*

*Rachel Cornacchio, conductor*

*Men's Ensemble*

*Matthew Topping, conductor*

April 10 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Chamber Ensembles***

April 13 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Symphonic Winds***

*Travis Weller, conductor*

***Messiah University Brass Choir***

*William Stowman, director*

April 14 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Chamber Ensembles***

April 20 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Piano Ensemble***

*Olivia Ellis, director*

April 24 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Handbell Choir***

*Daniel Brownell, director*

April 25 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 1:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Jazz Ensembles***

*William Stowman and Todd Goranson, conductors*

April 25 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Wind Ensemble***

*George Clements, conductor*

April 29 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Musica Nova: Student Compositions***

April 30 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.

***Messiah University Guitar Ensemble***

*Gavin Horning, director*

May 2 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 1:00 p.m.

***Messiah University United Voices of Praise***

*Brandon Booth, director*

May 2 • High Center, High Foundation Recital Hall, 4:00 p.m.

***Messiah University Percussion Ensemble***

*Erik Forst, conductor*

May 2 • High Center, Parmer Hall, 7:30 p.m.

*Performing Arts Series require tickets • To purchase, please contact the Messiah University Box Office at 717-691-6036 or online at [messiah.edu/tickets](http://messiah.edu/tickets).*

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**A WORD ABOUT CHILDREN**

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**IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY**

Please take a minute now to locate the exits closest to your seat. During an emergency evacuation, an alarm will sound. If this happens, proceed calmly to that exit. Once you are out of the building, move to a location that is out of the path of emergency response vehicles.