Sing For Joy is a production of the Office of Church Relations of St. Olaf College.

This month's newsletter article comes from Sing For Joy's Producer and Music Director, Jeff O'Donnell. – WBB

This month I thought I would take this opportunity to present a few of my favorite "hymn-centric" CDs. These particular recordings are featured quite frequently on SFJ with, I believe, good reason: they're good! If you'd like any more information about any of these CDs, please call 507-786-8596, or visit us online, *singforjoy.org.* – JPOD

HYMNS OF HEAVEN AND EARTH SAINT CLEMENT'S CHOIR / PETER RICHARD CONTE DORIAN RECORDINGS / DOR-90259 www.dorian.com

I've long considered this CD to be one of my "desert island" recordings; one that I'd choose to have if I had to list a top ten from our collection. This recording is notable for its wide variety of selections of both standard hymns and important pieces from the organ and choral repertoire. The performances are top-notch throughout. The fine recording engineering captures a warm and clear sound. Arrangements from Barry Rose and conductor Peter Richard Conte are welcome additions as well. I will admit to having great affection for music and choirs from the British Isles, and, indeed, this recording features composers such as Howells, Harris and Stanford, but it also presents American fare, like a soaring arrangement of "Jerusalem, My Happy Home" set to a traditional tune.

BEST LOVED HYMNS
CHOIR OF KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE /
STEPHEN CLEOBURY
EMI CLASSICS / CDC 7243 5 57026 2 3
www.emiclassics.com

There is much to be enjoyed on this CD. Another product of the always excellent King's College Choir, this recording is a "greatest hits" collection of hymns and hymn-based anthems. Of special note is the addition of the Wallace Collection brass ensemble and Sioned Williams on harp. Many arrangements of John Rutter are presented here, and they are tasteful and appropriate. The disc opens with a majestic version of "All my hope on God is Founded" and concludes with an all out blaster version of Ralph Vaughan Williams setting of "All People that on Earth do Dwell." The choir, organ and brass are

recorded in a skillful combination of clarity and sense of space, something not easily accomplished in the King's College chapel.

BLOW YE THE TRUMPET IN ZION Choirs of the Parish Church of Saint Luke, Evanston, Ill. / Richard Webster www.stlukesevanston.org

There are few things, in my opinion, more thrilling than organ, brass and full congregations singing at the tops of their collective lungs. This excellent CD captures these things spectacularly. The real star of the show here is Richard Webster's artful and elaborate arrangements. The introductions and interludes are expansive, giving the tunes ample time to breathe, be heard and appreciated. The organ at St. Luke's is something special: an E.M. Skinner that has been lovingly restored to its original condition. The noble sound rolls through the moderately reverberant church, and the strong 32' stops of the organ will give your speakers quite a work out. There's not a dud on this disc. Special note must be made of tunes such as STUTTGART, BRYN CALFARIA, GENERAL SEMINARY, Bromley, which are not as often recorded. I should also mention that this recording is notable for the clarity of the sung words, something with which we often struggle while selecting recordings for Sing For Joy.

THESE OUR HYMNS
THE RIVERTON SINGERS
www.mhsbc.com/sales.html

An excellent representation of the strong heritage of hymn singing and music making of the Mennonite tradition, this disc features hymns and arrangements of American and English origin. The accompaniments are of very high quality, especially the piano playing of Irmgard Baerg. The recording of "When Peace like a River" of Horatio Spafford and Philip Bliss is definitive. The words are crystal clear. With twenty-four selections this disc is an expansive survey of excellent hymns and theology.

Note: I've chosen to omit any St. Olaf ensemble recordings in an effort to be a little more "universal." My next article will feature some of my favorite St. Olaf College recordings.

July 1, 2007

Scriptures for Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 13):

(1R) 1 Kings 19:15–16, 19–21

(PS) Psalm 16

(2R) Galatians 5:1, 13–25

(G) Luke 9:51–62

Open Thou Mine Eyes – John Rutter (2R)

Cambridge Singers / John Rutter

(CD) Gloria: The Sacred Music of John Rutter / COLLEGIUM / COLCD 100

© 1984 Collegium Records USA, PO Box 31366,

Omaha, NE 68131

www.collegiumusa.com

"God's Son Has Made Me Free" from Four Hymns, Op. 74 (Excerpt) – Edvard Grieg (2R)

St. Olaf Choir / Kenneth Jennings

(CD) Beautiful Savior / ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-1260 © 1991 St. Olaf Records, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057

www.stolafrecords.com

"Simple Gifts" from *Old American Songs* (SIMPLE GIFTS) – Shaker Tune, arr. Aaron Copland and Irving Fine (2R) Vancouver Chamber Choir: Vancouver, Canada / Jon Washburn (CD) *Simple Gifts* / CBC RECORDS / SMCD 5097 © 1991 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, PO Box 500, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1E6 www.cbcshop.ca

Die Frucht des Geistes ist Liebe (The Fruit of the Spirit is Love) – Johann Christian Geisler (2R)

Boston Baroque: Boston, Mass. / Martin Pearlman (CD) Lost Music of Early America / TELARC / CD-80482 © 1998 Telarc International Corporation, 23307 Commerce Park Road, Cleveland, OH 44122 www.telarc.com

Freedom is Coming / Siyahamba – Collected and edited by Anders Nyberg (2R)
American Boychoir: Princeton, N.J. / James Litton (CD) By Request / ANGEL / 7243 5 55247 2 0
© 1996 EMI Records Ltd., 304 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010
www.emiclassics.com

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether (UNION SEMINARY) – Harold Friedell (2R, G)

St. Thomas Choir of Men and Boys: New York, N.Y. / Gerre Hancock

(CD) Praise the Lord / ARGO / 425 800-2

© 1990 Polygram Records and Jazz, New York, N.Y. www.deccaclassics.com

Be Thou My Vision (SLANE) – Irish Traditional (G) Choir of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church: Toronto, Canada / Catherine M. Palmer

(CD) Bless Ye The Lord / MARQUIS / 7 7471 –81243-2 6 © 1999 Marquis Records, Suite 460, 144 Front Street West, Toronto, Canada M5J 2L7

www.marquisclassics.com

July 8, 2007

Scriptures for Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 14):

(1R) Isaiah 66:10–14 (PS) Psalm 66:1–9

(2R) Galatians 6:[1–6] 7–16

(G) Luke 10:1–11, 16–20

"Zion's Walls" from *Old American Songs, Set 2* – American Traditional, arr. Aaron Copland, trans. Glenn Koponen (1R, G) Mormon Tabernacle Choir; Utah Symphony: Salt Lake City, Utah / Michael Tilson Thomas

(CD) Copland: Old American Songs / CBS / MK 42140 © 1987 Sony/BMG Entertainment, 550 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022

www.sonybmg.com

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (GENEVAN 42) –

Genevan Psalter, arr. John Ferguson (1R)

Massed Choirs of St. Olaf College; St. Olaf Orchestra / John Ferguson

(CD) O Come to Us, Abide in Us, Our Lord Immanuel / ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-2838/9

ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-2838/9 © 2006 St. Olaf Records, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue,

Northfield, MN 55057 www.stolafrecords.com

I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray – African American Spiritual, arr. Melanie Marshall (2R)

Willard White, bass; Graeme McNaught, piano

(CD) Copland: Old American Songs / MÜSICAL HERITAGE SOCIETY / 515064W

© 1998 Musical Heritage Society, 1710 Highway 35, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

www.musicalheritage.com

In the Cross of Christ I Glory (CROSS OF JESUS) – John Stainer,

arr. Catherine M. Palmer (2R) Choir of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church: Toronto, Canada. / Catherine M. Palmer

(CD) The Joy of God / MARQUIS CLASSICS / ERAD 175 © 1996 Marquis Records, Suite 460, 144 Front Street West,

Toronto, Canada M5J 2L7 www.marquisclassics.com

Beneath the Cross of Jesus (ST. CHRISTOPHER) –

Frederick C. Maker (2R)

Riverton Singers: Winnipeg, Canada / William Baerg (CD) *These Our Hymns* / RIVERTON PRODUCTIONS / RP1200CD

© Riverton Productions, 225 Riverton Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2L 0N1

There is a Balm in Gilead (BALM IN GILEAD) – African American Spiritual, arr. William L. Dawson (1R) St. Olaf Choir; Mavis Martin, soprano / Anton Armstrong

(CD) The Spirituals of William L. Dawson /

ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-2159

© 1997 St. Olaf Records, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057

Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven (PRAISE, MY SOUL) – John Goss, desc. Stephen Cleobury (1R)

Choir of King's College: Cambridge / Stephen Cleobury (CD) Best Loved Hymns / EMI CLASSICS / 7243 5 57026 2 3

© 2001 EMI Classics, 304 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010

www.emiclassics.com

Lord, If I Got My Ticket – African American Spiritual, arr. Robert Shaw and Alice Parker (G)

Robert Shaw Festival Singers; Tim Stalter, tenor / Robert Shaw (CD) Amazing Grace: American Hymns and Spirituals / TELARC / CD-80325

© 1993 Telarc International Corporation,

23307 Commerce Park Road, Cleveland, OH 44122 www.telarc.com

July 15, 2007

Scriptures for Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 15):

- (1R) Deuteronomy 30:9–14
- (PS) Psalm 25:1–10
- (2R) Colossians 1:1–14
- (G) Luke 10:25–37

The Great Commandment – Ralph M. Johnson (G) Calvin College Alumni Choir: Grand Rapids, Mich. / Anton Armstrong

(CD) Salvation is Created / CALVIN COLLEGE ALUMNI CHOIR / CD 2

© 1989 Calvin College Alumni Association, 3201 Burton SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 www.calvin.edu

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart (MORECAMBE) – Frederick C. Atkinson, arr. Robert Berglund (G) Bethel Choir: St. Paul, Minn. / Robert Berglund (CD) It is Good To Be Merry / BETHEL / E-1865

© 1997 Bethel College, 3900 Bethel Drive, St. Paul MN 55112 www.bethel.edu

Humble Service (BEACH SPRING and WONDROUS LOVE) -The Sacred Harp, and William Walker, arr. Larry L. Fleming (G) National Lutheran Choir: Minneapolis, Minn. / Larry L. Fleming (CD) The People's Song / NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR **RECORDINGS / NLCA-12**

© National Lutheran Choir, PO Box 6450, Minneapolis, MN 55406-6450

www.nlca.com

Teach Me, O Lord – Thomas Attwood (PS) Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral: London, England / John Scott (CD) The English Anthem, Vol. 4 / HYPERION / CDA66678 © 1997 Hyperion Records Limited, PO Box 25, London, England SE9 1AX www.hyperion-records.co.uk

More Love – Shaker Hymn, arr. Sid Davis (2R) Soli Deo Gloria Cantorum: Omaha, Neb. / Almeda Berkey (CD) Arma Lucis / SDG RECORDS / SDGCD 89 © 1989 SDG Records, 3402 Woolworth Avenue, Omaha, NE 68105 www.berkey.com

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling – Ned Rorem (G) Memphis Chamber Choir: Memphis, Tenn. / John Ayer (CD) Shout the Glad Tidings / PRO ORGANO / CD 7037 © 1992 Zarex Corporation, PO Box 8338, South Bend, IN 46660 www.zarex.com

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (BLAENWERN) -William Rowlands (G) Choir of St. John's College: Cambridge, England / Christopher Robinson (CD) Let All The World in Every Corner Sing: Hymns for Many Occasions / LINDENBERG / LBCD 58 © Lindenberg Boeken & Muziek, Slaak 4-14 3061 CS, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

July 22, 2007

Scriptures for Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 16):

(1R)Genesis 18:1-10a

(PS) Psalm 15

(2R) Colossians 1:15-28

Luke 10:38-42 (G)

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship (HOLY MANNA) -William Walker, arr. Alice Parker (G) Musicians of Melodious Accord: New York, N.Y. / Alice Parker (CD) Sweet Manna / GIA PUBLICATIONS / CD-434 © 1999 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 South Mason Avenue, Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com

Blessed Jesus, At Your Word (LIEBSTER JESU) -Iohann Rudolph Ahle (G)

Cantus Choro: Melbourne, Australia / Peter Chapman (CD) Songs and Praises / MOVE RECORDS / MD 3142

© 1992 Move Records, Box 266, Carlton South 3053, Australia

I Love to Hear the Story - Swedish Traditional, arr. Karle Erickson (G) Gustavus Choir: St. Peter, Minn. / Karle Erickson (CD) Favorite Swedish Hymns / DELTA DIGITAL / DRCD91-131 © Gustavus Adolphus College, 800 West College Avenue, St. Peter, MN 56082 www.gustavus.edu

Jesu, the Very Thought of Thee (ST. BOTOLPH) – Gordon Slater (G) Choir of Yorkminster Park Baptist Church: Toronto, Canada / Catherine M. Palmer (CD) The Joy of God / MARQUIS CLASSICS / ERAD 175 © 1996 Marquis Records, Suite 460, 144 Front Street West,

Toronto, Canada M5J 2L7 www.marquisclassics.com

Day by Day (BLOTT EN DAG) - Oskar Ahnfelt, arr. Mark Hayes (G) Magnum Chorum: Minneapolis, Minn. / David Dickau (CD) Home, Harvest and Healing: A Sing For Joy Hymn Festival / ST. OLAF RECORDS / E-2648 © 2003 St. Olaf College, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057 www.stolafrecords.com

O God, You Search Me and You Know Me -Bernadette Farrell (2R)

Choir of Wells Cathedral: England / Malcolm Archer (CD) The English Hymn 5: Lead, kindly Light: Hymns of Faith and Assurance / HYPERION / CDP12102 © 2004 Hyperion Records Limited, PO Box 25,

London, England SE9 1AX

www.hyperion-records.co.uk

Thee Will I Love – Kenneth Jennings (G) National Lutheran Choir: Minneapolis, Minn. / Larry L. Fleming (CD) A New Song / NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR RECORDINGS / NLCA – 92 © National Lutheran Choir, PO Box 6450, Minneapolis, MN 55406-6450 www.nlca.com

July 29, 2007

Scriptures for Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 17):

(1R) Genesis 18:20-32

(PS) Psalm 138

(2R) Colossians 2:6–15[16–19]

(G) Luke 11:1-13

The Lord's Prayer – Max Saunders (G) Florence Quivar, mezzo-soprano; Larry Woodard, piano (CD) *Ride On, King Jesus!* / EMI CLASSICS / CDC 7 49885 2 © 1990 EMI Records Ltd., 304 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010 www.emiclassics.com

The Lord's Prayer – Robert Stone (G) Cambridge Singers / John Rutter (CD) Hail, Gladdening Light / COLLEGIUM / COLCD 113 © 1991 Collegium Records, PO Box 31366, Omaha, NE 68131 www.collegiumusa.com

The Lord's Prayer - Albert Hay Malotte (G) Leontyne Price, soprano; St. Thomas Choir of Men and Boys: New York, N.Y. / William Self (CD) The Essential Leontyne Price / RCA VICTOR / 09026-68157-2 © 1997 Sony/BMG Entertainment, 550 Madison Avenue,

New York, NY 10022 www.sonybmg.com

"Notre Père" from *In terra pax* – Frank Martin (G) Brighton Festival Chorus; London Philharmonic / Matthias Bamert (CD) Martin: The Four Elements / In Terra Pax / CHANDOS / CHAN 9465

© 1996 Chandos Records Ltd., 1 Commerce Park, Commerce Way, Colchester, Essex CO2 8HX, United Kingdom www.chandos.net

Pater noster – Charles Villiers Standford (G) Choir of the Abbey School: Tewkesbury, England / Benjamin Nicholas (CD) Pater Noster: Settings of the Lord's Prayer / PRIORY / PRCD 787 © 2003 Priory Records, Ltd., 3 Eden Court, Eden Way, Bedfordshire, England LU7 4FY www.priory.org.uk

Notre Père – Maurice Duruflé (G) Voices of Ascension Chorus: New York, N.Y. / Dennis Keene

(CD) The Duruflé Album / DELOS / DE 3169 © 1995 Delos International, Inc., 1645 North Vine Street, Suite 340, Hollywood, CA 90028

www.delosmus.com

Our Father – Alexander Grechaninov (G) St. Olaf Choir / Anton Armstrong (CD) My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord / ST.OLAF / E-2396 © 2001 St. Olaf Records, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057



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