

EVENING PRAYER – VESPERS

Boe Memorial Chapel — Sunday, October 7th

ON MY JOURNEY HOME

St. Olaf Chapel Choir — Christopher Aspaas '95, *conductor*

† Indicates stand if you are able

CHORAL INTROIT *The Call from Spiritual Songs*

Kenneth Jennings

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a Way, as gives us breath;
Such a Truth, as ends all strife;
Such a Life as killeth death.*

*Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a Light, as shows a feast;
Such a Feast, as mends in length;
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a Joy, as none can move;
Such a Love, as none can part;
Such a Heart, as joys in love.*

† **SERVICE OF LIGHT**

† **HYMN OF LIGHT**

† **THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT**

please be seated

PSALMODY ELW page 312 sung by All

on my journey ...

REFLECTION Conflict

ANTHEM *i am the great sun*

Jussi Chydenius

HYMN ELW 606 Our Father, We Have Wandered

HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN

READING Matthew 11:28-30

ANTHEM *Poor Wayfarin' Stranger*

arr. Christopher Aspaas

*I'm just a poor wayfarin' stranger a-trav'lin' through this world of woe,
And there's no sickness, toil or danger in that fair land to which I go.
I'm goin' there to meet my Savior, I'm goin' there no more to roam.
I'm only goin' over Jordan, I'm only goin' over home.*

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
if Jesus my Savior did come for to die
for poor, ord'n'ry people like you and like I?
I wonder as I wander out under the sky*

*No more a poor wayfarin' stranger a-trav'lin' through this world of we,
And there's no sickness, toil or danger can ever harm me where I go.
I found Him there within the manger, my Holy Savior, God and friend.
The journey's long but I am ready, my Savior's with me through the end.*

- traditional adapted; John Jacob Niles

† **GOSPEL CANTICLE** ELW pp. 314-315 sung by All
please be seated

home

READING Isaiah 40:27-31

ANTHEM *Walk Together Children*

arr. Moses Hogan

*There's a great camp meetin', Lord, a great camp meetin' in the Promised Land.
Oh, walk together children don't you get weary,
there's great camp meetin' in the Promised Land.
Gonna walk an' never tire.
Gonna sing an' never tire.
Gonna shout an' never tire.
There's great camp meetin' in the Promised Land.*

REFLECTION Home

HYMN ELW 608 Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

THOMPSON

ANTHEM *No Time*

arr. Susan Brumfield

*Home.
Rise, oh fathers rise, let's go meet 'em in the skies,
we will hear the angels singing in that morning.
Oh I really do believe that just before the end of time,
we will hear the angels singing in that morning.
Rise, oh mothers rise ...
No time to tarry here, no time to wait for you,
no time to tarry here, for I'm on my journey home.
Brothers, oh fare ye well, for I'm on my journey home.
Sisters, oh fare ye well, for I'm on my journey home.
No time to tarry here, no time to wait for you,
no time to tarry here, for I'm on my journey.
Home.*

† **PRAYERS** ELW page 316

† THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

† BLESSING ELW page 319

† HYMN ELW 543 Go My Children, With My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

REFLECTION Journey

ANTHEM *The Song of Simeon*

Christopher Aspaas

*Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word:
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.
- Luke 2:29-32*

Leaders in the Liturgy

Organist — James Bobb; **Pianists, Cantors, Readers, Candle Bearers** — members of
the St. Olaf Chapel Choir, Christopher Aspaas, *conductor*

Acknowledgments

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Vespers, or evening prayer, has been a part of Christian worship for centuries. In 525 A.D. Saint Benedict established his Rule, which included the hours of the Divine Office, and specifically the order of the Divine Office at Night. This service, also known as *lucernarium*, was marked by the ceremonial lighting of lamps.

In the 1549 edition of the *Book of Common Prayer*, Lauds (Morning Prayer) and Evensong (Evening Prayer) share the same liturgical structure of psalms, scripture and prayer with the main variants being the proper texts and canticles. No formal provision for the anthem was included until the 1662 revision of the *Book of Common Prayer*, confirming the earlier practice of singing anthems or antiphons at the end of the Office.

The tradition of Vespers/Evensong is alive and well in England and across the United States. This evening's liturgy intends to combine the musical vibrancy of that tradition with the contributions of our modern Lutheran practice. With these intentions, and guided by the words of Saint Benedict, "Let us stand to sing the psalms in such a way that our minds are in harmony with our voices."

Notes from the conductor

Our theme this evening, *On my journey home*, is intended to artistically reflect the experiences and transitions in life as individuals and as a community. Even in the few short weeks since arriving on campus, we are different now that we are together again. Thoughts of home, community and mission have inspired much of this program.

We begin with the words of metaphysical poet George Herbert set by Professor Emeritus Kenneth Jennings. We begin with the text, "Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life, Such a Way as gives us breath ..." There is immense and intimate faith in these words, and Dr. Jennings' lyrical and flowing setting emanates the joy, promise and hope delivered by the text.

Despite these strong feelings, however, we sometimes falter along the way. The poem, *i am the great sun*, by Charles Causley, published in the 1950s and adapted from a Normandy crucifix of 1632, tells a different story than our opening — the text portrays a God who has been ignored, betrayed, forgotten ... It is an imagining of a Creator who rebukes creation and proclaims, "I am your life, but if you will not name me, Seal up your soul with tears, and never blame me." The musical setting by Finnish composer, Jussi Chydenius, begins with mysterious whispers and a cacophony of sounds that mirrors our inability to recognize God's everlasting presence in this world. As the music begins to align and emerge, we hear the dramatic declaration of each line of text that increases in intensity with each moment, ultimately bringing us to a powerful but disconcerting end.

We respond congregationally with a text by Kevin Nichols set to a Bach chorale harmonization, "Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from your face ..." and follow with an arrangement written for the Chapel Choir of "Poor Wayfarin' Stranger" that weaves in the text and tune of John Jacob Niles, "I Wonder As I Wander." You will hear the two melodies intertwine in the second verse to reflect the questioning nature of the text. I hope that the final verse will allow for a feeling of long-needed arrival and peace.

The iconic American composer of gospel and contemporary spirituals, Moses Hogan, shifts our mood to celebration and promise of a better day in his setting of "Walk Together Children." This rousing anthem calls out for unification through a shared journey towards tomorrow.

I heard Susan Brumfield's arrangement of two camp meeting songs, "Rise, oh fathers, rise" and "No Time" while working in Canada last spring. After adjudicating over eighty choirs in seven days, the last ensemble to perform shared this piece as a closing that moved many to tears. The idea of 'home' is one that the members of the Chapel Choir have spent a good deal of energy examining, and you will hear some of their own reflections on 'home' before we sing.

We offer a sending anthem with the words of the *Nunc Dimittis* (from Luke 2) set here as "The Song of Simeon." In this Gospel passage, the Holy Spirit promises Simeon that he should not die until he has seen the Lord's Christ. Mary and Joseph bring the infant Jesus to the temple, and as Simeon holds the child he delivers our text, "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace ..."

ST. OLAF CHAPEL CHOIR

CHRISTOPHER ASPAAS, CONDUCTOR

SOPRANO I

Lauren Cummins, *Stillwater, Minn.*
Liz Hawkinson, *Plymouth, Minn.*
Candice Jones, *Edina, Minn.*
Gillian Koch, *Valrico, Fla.*
Kristin Lange, *Topeka, Kan.*
Chelsea Lloyd, *Spring Valley, Minn.*
Kari Nelson, *Minnetonka, Minn.*
Emma Ostby, *Spicer, Minn.*
Kaia Preus, *Excelsior, Minn.*
Kayleen Seidl, *Joplin, Mo.*
Sarah Wineman, *St. Paul, Minn.*

SOPRANO II

- Lauren Anderson, *Eau Claire, Wis.*
Sophia Butler, *Burnsville, Minn.*
Hannah Hanssen, *Burnsville, Minn.*
- † Katherine Lewiston, *Mondovi, Wis.*
Katie Miller, *Plymouth, Minn.*
Nicole Newell, *Clive, Iowa*
Cassie Paulsen, *Eden Prairie, Minn.*
Natalia Romero, *Katy, Texas*
Greta Shull, *Washington, Ill.*
Sarah Beth Sivanich, *Mequon, Wis.*
Kari Swanson, *Appleton, Wis.*
Stephanie Tyler, *New Milford, Conn.*
Caitlin Woolums, *Denver, Colo.*

ALTO I

- Abby Buuck, *Edina, Minn.*
B Crittenden, *Dekalb, Ill.*
Claire Cummins, *Stillwater, Minn.*
Kelsey Fleming, *Austin, Minn.*
Rebecca Frank, *Seattle, Wash.*
- † Emily Haller, *Centennial, Colo.*
Becca Hart, *Tulsa, Okla.*
Katherine Kennedy, *Vienna, Va.*
 - † Eileen King, *Oak Park, Ill.*
Sarah Kretschmann, *Verona, Wis.*
Stina Nesbit, *Northfield, Minn.*
Bridget Novak, *Iowa City, Iowa*
Kirsten Overdahl, *Fort Wayne, Ind.*
Catie Yokan, *Sioux Falls, S.D.*

ALTO II

- Katrina Atkinson, *Evergreen, Colo.*
Rebecca Cooper, *Florence, Mass.*
- Audrey Craft, *Dover, N.H.*
Abigail Enockson, *Fargo, N.D.*
Halle Foss, *Plymouth, Minn.*
Katie Hindman, *Pullman, Wash.*
Anna Horner, *Wichita, Kan.*
Annie Ketcham, *Red Wing, Minn.*
Kim Moren, *North St. Paul, Minn.*
Hannah Sorrells, *Weaverville, N.C.*
Olivia Wiedenhoef, *Beaver Dam, Wis.*

TENOR I

Nick Bohrer, *Eau Claire, Wis.*
Daniel Bynum, *Salt Lake City, Utah*
Thomas Case, *Philadelphia, Pa.*
William Goforth, *Vancouver, Wash.*
David Gottfried, *Roseville, Minn.*
Gregory Hilleren, *Willmar, Minn.*
Nathan Knutson, *Chaska, Minn.*
Mac Leydon, *Highlands Ranch, Colo.*
Ned Netzel, *Duluth, Minn.*
Daniel Sacerio, *Rosemont, Pa.*

TENOR II

- Maxwell Collyard, *Shoreview, Minn.*
Drew Dittmann, *Stillwater, Minn.*
George Fergus, *Fort Worth, Texas*
Andrew Hoisington, *Bloomfield Hills, Mich.*
Bjorn Hovland, *Iowa City, Iowa*
Zachary Jackson, *Matteson, Ill.*
- Kellen McMillen, *Chanhassen, Minn.*
Alec Noll, *Lakeville, Minn.*
Zach Rice, *North Oaks, Minn.*
Thomas Scott, *La Grange, Ill.*
Ned Ullring, *Decorah, Iowa*

BARITONE

- David Anderson, *Oak Park, Ill.*
Bobby Barjasteh, *Northfield, Minn.*
Brandon Berger, *Worthington, Minn.*
Carsten Bosselman, *Grand Island, Neb.*
Andy Curtis, *Springfield, Mo.*
Alex Gerleman, *Marion, Iowa*
Alex Girardot, *Washington, D.C.*
David Hahn, *Bexley, Ohio*
Spencer Hodgson, *Anchorage, Alaska*
Nick Kovach, *Zionsville, Ind.*
Chris Lazo, *La Cañada Flintridge, Calif.*
Andrew O'Neill, *Appleton, Wis.*
- †• Josh Woolfolk, *Elizabethtown, Ky.*

BASS

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Michael Betz, *Mason City, Iowa*
Sam Bosak, *White Bear Lake, Minn.*
Marcus Eeman, *St. Louis Park, Minn.*
Patrick Faunillan, *Shakopee, Minn.*
Alex Kirstukas, *Ames, Iowa*
Paul Liesmaki, *Maple Grove, Minn.*
David Niccolai, *Burlington, Wis.*
Sam Peters, *Eau Claire, Wis.*
Cole Swanson, *Sioux Falls, S.D.*

† Officer

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