ST. OLAF CHAPEL CHOIR
TESFA WONDEmagegnehU, CONDUCTOR

MEDITATIONS ON LIGHT AND LOVE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2018  |  7:30 P.M.

BOE MEMORIAL CHAPEL
MEDITATIONS ON LIGHT AND LOVE

† Indicates the congregation shall stand as able.

CHORALE PRELUDE  This Little Light of Mine  arr. Moses G. Hogan
Darrius Morton ’19, *soloist*

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
All through the night, I’m gonna let it shine.
My God gave it to me,
I’m gonna let it shine, children.
My God gave it to me,
I’m gonna let it shine, Hallelujah, children.
In my home, all over the world,
Let it shine.

—Traditional spiritual

WELCOME  Tesfa Wondemagegnehu, *conductor*

† HYMN #561  Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory  JOYOUS LIGHT

ANTHEM  I See the Heaven’s Glories Shine  Andrea Ramsey

No coward soul is mine.
No trembler in this world’s storm-troubled sphere:
I see the Heaven’s glories shine,
And faith shines equal, arming me from fear.

O God within my breast,
Almighty, ever-present Deity!
Life – that in me has rest,
As I – Undying Life – have pow’r in Thee!

With wide-embracing love
Thy Spirit animates eternal years,
Pervades and broods above,
Changes, sustains, dissolves, preserves, creates,
revives, and rears.

Though earth and man were gone,
And suns and universes ceased to be,
And Thou wert left alone,
Ev’ry existence would exist in Thee.

There is not room for Death,
Nor atom that his might could render void:
Since Thou – Thou art Being and Breath,
And what Thou art may never be destroyed.

—Emily Bronte

REFLECTION  Benjamin Christiasan ‘20
ANTHEM

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

Hope Carey ’19, Madeline Miller ’20, Julia Porter ’19, trio
Mitchell Taylor ’19, Gabbie Holtzman ’19, soloists
Noah Livingston ’19, flute

arr. Craig Hella Johnson ’84

It’s been a long dark night,
and I’ve been waiting for the morning.
It’s been a long hard fight,
but I see a brand new day a-dawning.

I’ve been looking for the sunshine
’cause I ain’t seen it in so long.
Ev’rything’s gonna work out fine.
Ev’rything’s gonna be alright, it’s gonna be okay.

I can see the light of a clear blue morning.
I can see the light of a brand-new day.
I can see the light of a clear blue morning.
Ev’rything’s gonna be alright, it’s gonna be okay.

— Dolly Parton

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READING

Excerpts from “The Beatitudes”

Morgan May ’19

adapted by Nadia Bolz-Weber

ANTHEM

O Love

O Love, that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thy ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

Elaine Hagenberg

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

—George Matheson

READING

Psalm 139:1-12

Adrienne Wessel ’20

New International Version

1 You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.

2 You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

3 You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

4 Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.

5 You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.

7 Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,

10 even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.

11 If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,”

12 even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

† HYMN #666

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE
REFLECTION

Sally Olmstead ’20

ANTHEM

Love Is

Tesfa Wondemagegnehu

REFLECTION

Alekzandra Thom's '20

ANTHEM

Let My Love Be Heard

Jake Runestad

Angels, where you soar
up to God's own light,
Take my own lost bird
on your hearts tonight;

And as grief once more
mounts to heaven and sings,
Let my love be heard
whispering in your wings.

—Alfred Noyes

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*All observe a moment of silence*

† HYMN #563

O Light Whose Splendor Thrills

ST. CLEMENT

READING

I am huddled in
the chill,
coated beneath flecks of snow
on eyelashes and
insulated like
the earth
in hibernating heat.
I live in night,
where black slowly
zips up each short day
at the horizon, and ice
forms at the seam,
casting some mystical spell
that silences all life.

Yet still, within
the freeze cough-frosted air,
I trust the distant cracking of the ice,
that last handful of minutes
that stretch our daylight out.
The earth melts
through
song,
fogged by human breath and
breaking life into fresh pastel air.
Eyes wide open,
my world is
new--
colored with sacred laughter where
ache and shiver lay for ages.
I am wrapped in
unending dawn, dappled with
the sights and sounds of God.

—Madeline Miller ’20
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Almighty God is light.
God lives in us as True Light.

In the beginning out of the darkness
God created True Light.
Almighty God is light.
God lives in us as True Light.

Don't let the light that You've given me die,
And don't desert my mind.
But let the one who serves You
Praise You again and again.

You are the one who judges right from wrong.
Your glory excites no envy.
But let the one who serves You
Praise You again and again.

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go,
I want the world to know.
God gave the world True Light!

—Traditional spiritual; Keith Hampton; Grigor Narekatzi
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Organist – Dr. Catherine Rodland '87
Collaborative Pianist – Nicholas Love '19

Founded by Oscar Overby as the St. Olaf Church Choir in 1925, the St. Olaf Chapel Choir began as one of two mixed choruses at St. Olaf College following the dissolution of the Choral Union. The choir led worship weekly at one of the two Sunday services at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Northfield, and participated in many of the on-campus music festivals held every year in addition to concerts of choral/orchestral masterworks. Sigurd Fredrickson, Miles “Mity” Johnson, Kenneth Jennings, Robert Scholz, Christopher Aspaas, and Mark Stover all led the ensemble before the arrival of its current conductor, Tesfa Wondemagegnehu.

Specializing in the performance of oratorio and larger works, the St. Olaf Chapel Choir frequently collaborates with the St. Olaf Orchestra, St. Olaf Philharmonia, and instrumentalists and soloists from the St. Olaf community. Recent repertoire includes the Fauré Requiem, Louis Vierne’s Messe Solenelle, W. A. Mozart’s Te Deum, Samuel Barber’s Prayers of Kierkegaard, Leonard Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms, the Herbert Howells Requiem, Felix Mendelssohn’s Psalm 42 and the grand oratorio, Elijah, Johannes Brahms’ Ein Deutsches Requiem and Schicksal, and most recently, Dan Forrest’s Requiem for the Living, Francis Poulenc’s Gloria, Justin Merritt’s The Path, and works by Forsberg and Lauridsen.

Special thanks to guest clinicians Andrea Ramsey, Elaine Hagenberg, Adam Reinwald ’00, and Anton Armstrong ’78