

*Lighten Our Darkness:  
A Choral Festival with Martin Neary*



*St. John's Choir   Randolph College Chorale   St. Paul's Choir  
Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia  
Peggy Haas Howell, organ*

**Sunday, October 23, 2016, at 3:00 p.m.**

**St. John's Episcopal Church  
Lynchburg, Virginia**

*Lighten our Darkness:*  
*A Choral Festival with Martin Neary*  
*Music for Evensong*

*Please reserve applause until the end of the program.*

Hail, gladdening light

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

*St. John's Choir, St. Paul's Choir*

Hail, gladdening light of his pure glory poured,  
Who is th'immortal Father, heavenly blest,  
Holiest of holies, Jesu Christ, our Lord.  
Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest,  
the lights of evening round us shine,  
We hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit divine.  
Worthiest art Thou at all times to be sung with undefined tongue,  
Son of our God, giver of life alone;  
Therefore in all the world thy glories, Lord, they own.

Text translated from the Greek by John Keble (1792-1866)

Magnificat in C, Opus 115

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

*St. John's Choir*

My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.  
He hath shewed strength with his arm.  
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham, and his seed forever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Nunc dimittis

Geoffrey Burgon (1941-2010)

*Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia*

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

to be a light that lightens the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be 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.

Litany to the Holy Spirit

Peter Hurford (b. 1930)

*Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia*

In the hour of my distress, when temptations me oppress,

And when I my sins confess, Sweet Spirit comfort me! Comfort me!

When I lie within my bed, sick in heart and sick in head,

And with doubts discomfited, Sweet Spirit comfort me! Comfort me!

When the house doth sigh and weep, and the world is drowned with sleep,

Yet mine eyes the watch do keep, Sweet Spirit comfort me! Comfort me!

Lamb of God, I look to thee: Thou shalt my example be:

Poem by Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

*St. John's Choir*

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.

God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

O let my soul live, and it shall praise thee.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forevermore.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee.

*Music for St. Cecilia*

*St. John's Choir*

Cantantibus Organis

Peter Philips (1560-1628)

Cantantibus organis,

Cecilia virgo, in corde suo,

soli Domino decantabat dicens:

Fiat Domine cor meum et corpus meum

immaculatum, ut non confundar.

Playing the organ,

the virgin Cecilia in her heart only

sang to the Lord saying:

Let my heart and body be spotless

so that I may not be put to shame.

Text:: Antiphon for the Feast of St. Cecilia, November 22

## A Hymn for St. Cecilia

Herbert Howells (1892- 1983)

*St. John's Choir, Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia*

Sing for the morning's joy, Cecilia, sing,  
in words of youth and phrases of the Spring.  
walk the bright colonnades by fountains' spray,  
and sing as sunlight fills the waking day;  
till angels, voyaging in upper air  
pause on a wing and gather the clear sound  
into celestial joy, wound and unwound,  
a silver chain, or golden as your hair.

Sing for your loves of heaven and of earth,  
in words of music, and each word a truth;  
marriage of heart and longings that aspire,  
a bond of roses, and a ring of fire.  
Your summertime grows short and fades away,  
terror must gather to a martyr's death;  
but never tremble, the last indrawn breath  
remembers music as an echo may.

Through the cold aftermath of centuries  
Cecilia's music dances in the skies,  
lend us a fragment of the immortal air,  
that with your choiring angels we may share,  
a word to light us thro' time-fettered night,  
water of life, or rose of paradise  
so from the earth another song shall rise  
to meet your own in heaven's long delight.

Hymn text: Ursula Vaughan Williams (1911-2007)

## *Hymn for the Choirs and Congregation*

*(The audience is invited to stand. The choirs will sing the first verse and refrain.)*

Make me a channel of your peace (Prayer of St. Francis) Sebastian Temple (1928-1997)  
arr. Martin Neary (b. 1940)

1. Make me a channel of your peace:  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love,  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

REFRAIN

O Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console,  
To be understood as to understand,  
To be loved, as to love with all my soul.

*(The audience sings with the choirs.)*

2. Make me a channel of your peace:  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope,  
Where there is darkness, only light,  
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

REFRAIN

3. Make me a channel of your peace:  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
In giving of ourselves that we receive,  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

REFRAIN

4. Make me a channel of your peace:  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love,  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

## *Music for All Saints Day*

Gaudent in coelis

Richard Dering (c. 1580-1630)

*Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia*

Gaudent in coelis animae sanctorum qui Christi vestigial sunt secuti, et quia pro eius amore sanguinem suum fuderunt sanguinem ideo cum Christo exsultant sine fine.	The souls of the righteous are in heaven rejoicing who faithful have followed in Christ's footsteps, and since they for love of their Savior readily outpoured their own lifeblood, now they are with Jesus forever!
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O quam gloriosum

Thomas Luis de Victoria (c. 1548-1611)

*St. John's Choir*

O quam gloriosum est regnum, In quo cum Christo, gaudent: Omnes Sancti, amicti stolis albis, Sequuntur Agnum quocumque ierit.	O how glorious is the kingdom wherein all the Saints rejoice with Christ! Clothed in white robes, they follow the Lamb wherever he goes.
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The souls of the righteous

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*Soloists: Michelle Ellinwood, soprano Jeff Scruggs, tenor Robert Ellinwood, bass*

*St. John's Choir, Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia*

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, and their departure is taken for misery; and their going from us to be utter destruction. But they are in peace. For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality; and having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded; for God proved them and found them worthy for himself.

Text: The Wisdom of Solomon III: 1-5

O how glorious is the kingdom

Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

*St. John's Choir, St. Paul's Choir*

O how glorious is the kingdom wherein all the Saints rejoice with Christ. Clothed in white robes, they follow the Lamb, whithersoever he goeth.

Text: Antiphon for the Feast of All Saints

## *Cantata for Choir, Soloists, and Organ*

Rejoice in the Lamb, Opus 30

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Text from *JUBILATE AGNO* by Christopher Smart (1722-1771)

*Soloists: Morgan Cook, treble Emily Howell, alto Randall Speer, tenor John East, bass  
St. John's Choir, Randolph College Chorale, Cantabile*

### CHORUS

Rejoice in God, O ye Tongues; give the glory to the Lord, and the Lamb.  
Nations, and languages, and every Creature in which is the breath of Life.  
Let man and beast appear before him, and magnify his name together.  
Let Nimrod, the mighty hunter, bind a Leopard to the altar  
and consecrate his spear to the Lord.  
Let Ishmail dedicate a Tyger, and give praise for the liberty  
in which the Lord has let him at large.  
Let Balaam appear with an ass, and bless the Lord his people  
and his creatures for a reward eternal.  
Let Daniel come forth with a Lion, and praise God with all his might  
through faith in Christ Jesus.  
Let Ithamar minister with a Chamois, and bless the name of Him  
that cloatheth the naked.

Let Jakim with the Satyr bless God in the dance.  
Let David bless with the bear – the beginning of victory to the Lord –  
to the Lord the perfection of excellence.  
Hallelujah from the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable,  
and from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty.

#### TREBLE SOLO

For I will consider my Cat Jeoffry.  
For he is the servant of the Living God, duly and daily serving him.  
For at the first glance of the glory of God in the East He worships in his way.  
For this is done by wreathing his body seven times round with elegant quickness.  
For he knows that God is his Saviour.  
For God has bless'd him In the variety of his movements.  
For there is nothing sweeter Than his peace when at rest.  
For I am possessed of a cat, surpassing in beauty,  
from whom I take occasion to bless Almighty God.

#### ALTO SOLO

For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour.  
For – this is a true case-- Cat takes female mouse – male mouse will not depart,  
but stands threat'ning and daring.  
....If you will let her go, I will engage you, as prodigious a creature as you are.  
For the Mouse is a creature Of great personal valour.  
For the Mouse is of an hospitable disposition.

#### TENOR SOLO

For the flowers are great blessings.  
For the flowers have their angels even the words of God's creation.  
For the flower glorifies God and the root parries the adversary.  
For there is a language of flowers. For the flowers are peculiarly the poetry of Christ.

#### CHORUS

For I am under the same accusation with my Savior –  
For they said, he is besides himself.  
For the officers of the peace are at variance with me,  
and the watchman smites me with his staff.  
For Silly fellow, Silly fellow, is against me,  
and belongeth neither to me nor to my family.  
For I am in twelve HARDSHIPS,  
but he that was born of a virgin shall deliver me out of all, shall deliver me out of all.

RECITATIVE (BASS SOLO) AND CHORUS

For H is a spirit And therefore he is God.  
For K is king And therefore he is God.  
For L is love And therefore he is God.  
For M is musick And therefore he is God.  
And therefore he is God.

CHORUS

For the instruments are by their rhimes,  
For the Shawm rhimes are lawn fawn and the like.  
For the Shawm rhimes are moon boon and the like.  
For the harp rhimes are sing ring and the like.  
For the harp rhimes are ring string and the like.  
For the cymbal rhimes are bell well and the like.  
For the cymbal rhimes are toll soul and the like.  
For the flute rhimes are tooth youth and the like.  
For the flute rhimes are suit mute and the like.  
For the bassoon rhimes are pass class and the like.  
For the dulcimer rhimes are grace place and the like.  
For the clarinet rhimes are clean seen and the like.  
For the trumpet rhimes are sound bound and the like.  
For the TRUMPET of God is a blessed intelligence  
and so are all the instruments in HEAVEN.  
For God the Father Almighty plays upon the HARP  
of stupendous magnitude and melody.  
For at that time malignity ceases and the devils themselves are at peace.  
For this time is perceptible to man by a remarkable stillness and serenity of soul.

CHORUS

Hallelujah from the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable,  
and from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty.

## *Acknowledgment*

This concert is sponsored by St. John's Concerts with assistance from Randolph College, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia. Your generous offering as you leave the church will help to defray the expenses of this and future programs.

## *Martin Neary*

MARTIN NEARY, a renowned English choral director, composer, and organist, is a leading exponent of contemporary British church music, and has introduced and championed many new church compositions by British composers, particularly John Tavener and Jonathan Harvey. Dr. Neary has been active as an organ recitalist and choral conductor throughout Europe and the United States, appearing at *Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Royal Festival Hall, the BBC Proms*, and other major concert venues. He has a considerable discography spread over a variety of labels, including *Sony Classical, EMI, ASV, and Gaudeamus*.

Born in London, Martin Neary was a chorister at the Chapel Royal and later studied organ and theology at Gonville and Caius Colleges, Cambridge University. Among his most important teachers were organist/conductor Geraint Jones, organist André Marchal, and conductors Adrian Boult and Erich Leinsdorf.

Martin Neary first captured attention when he was awarded a prize at the 1963 *St. Albans International Organ Festival*. In 1965 he began a six-year tenure at St. Margaret's, Westminster, as Organist and Choirmaster. From 1972-1987 he served as Organist and Master of the Choristers at Winchester Cathedral and held the same position at Westminster Abbey from 1988-1999.

By the time he took his post at Westminster Abbey, Martin Neary was recognized as one of England's finest organists and choral conductors. In 1994 Neary led the Westminster Abbey Choir in concert at the Kremlin, becoming the first foreign ensemble to perform there. A year later he appeared on two *BBC* television programs leading live performances to mark the tercentenary of Purcell's death.

Dr. Neary is remembered by people throughout the world for his work in selecting and directing the music at the 1997 funeral of Princess Diana. The Queen of England appointed him as Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order in appreciation of his services at the funeral. Among his other numerous awards are an honorary doctorate of music from the University of Southampton, a Grammy nomination for his recording of Purcell's "Music for Queen Mary", and a Lambeth Doctorate in Music awarded by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in October 2012, "In recognition of his outstanding contribution at national and international level as an organist and conductor and of his sensitive and dynamic interpretation of sacred and secular music in the choral tradition."

## *Peggy Haas Howell*

PEGGY HAAS HOWELL is the Organist and Choirmaster at St. John's Church and is the Music Director of Cantate Children's and Youth Choir of Central Virginia. She is well-known as an organ recitalist in the United States and Europe. This past July, she played at the International Organ Festival in Pelplin, Poland as well as concerts in Balatonlelle and Tihany, Hungary.

## *St. John's Choir*

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR is a mixed choir that sings every Sunday and for special services in addition to presenting occasional concerts. In the summer of 2015, they were in residence at Wells Cathedral, England, as well as St. Davids Cathedral, Wales. They are planning another choir residency at Gloucester Cathedral in July of 2018. Peggy Haas Howell is the Organist and Choirmaster at St. John's.

## *Randolph College Chorale*

THE RANDOLPH COLLEGE CHORALE frequently collaborates with community professional and volunteer ensembles in performing major works. The ensemble has performed in the Apollo Theater in Hermopolis, Greece, Carnegie Hall, Washington National Cathedral, and is one of the very few choirs to be invited to sing in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Dr. Randall Speer is the Director.

## *St. Paul's Choir*

ST PAUL'S CHOIR sings for each Sunday liturgy in the year as well as additional holy days. The choir also supports the musicians of the parish's Celtic Evensong liturgy held throughout the year. St. Paul's celebrates and upholds the wonderful tradition of choral music in the Anglican Church. Sumner Jenkins is the Organist and Choirmaster at St. Paul's, Lynchburg.

## *Cantate*

CANTATE CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CHOIR OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA is an organization dedicated to bringing classical choral music to the youth of Central Virginia. Directed by Peggy Haas Howell, the choir is in residence at St. John's Church. Cantate's other performances this semester will a Family Holiday Concert with the Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra on December 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Theatre, Jefferson Forest High School and St. John's Festival of Christmas Lessons and Carols (see next page). Spring performances will include an appearance at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Clifford, on February 12 at 4:00 p.m., participation in John Rutter's "Mass of the Children" with the Lynchburg Choral Union and chamber orchestra on April 22 at Snidow Chapel, and Cantate's annual spring concert on May 7th at 3:00 p.m. at St. John's Church. The 30 plus member group is open to children and youth from third grade through high school (boys with unchanged voices). Cantate meets on Monday afternoons from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in St. John's Choir Room. Cantabile includes the older and more experienced singers in the group. Funding for scholarships is provided by a grant from the Greater Lynchburg Community Trust. For more information or to arrange an audition for the spring semester, visit [Cantatechoir.net](http://Cantatechoir.net).

## *Today's Program*

The first portion of the concert will be music for "Evensong" - a special afternoon or evening worship service which consists almost entirely of liturgy sung by the choir, in a long-standing tradition of the British Isles. It's taking place with an eye to St. John's Choir residency at Gloucester Cathedral in 2018, and includes works by Charles Wood, Charles Villiers Stanford, Geoffrey Burgon, Peter Hurford, and Samuel Sebastian Wesley. Music for St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music, whose Saint's Day is celebrated on November 22nd, forms the next portion, and includes "Cantantibus Organis" by the Renaissance composer Peter Philips, and an equally rarely heard piece of the mid 20th-century, "A Hymn for St. Cecilia" by Herbert Howells with text by Ursula Vaughan Williams, the wife of the composer Ralph Vaughan Williams. The next portion is Music for All Saints Day, which takes place on November 1, and includes works by Richard Dering, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and the anthem "O how glorious is the kingdom" by Basil Harwood. The final work on the program is Benjamin Britten's stunning cantata for organ, choir, and soloists, "Rejoice in the Lamb", with 18th-century text by the Welsh-born poet Christopher Smart. Taken from Smart's poem "Jubilate Agno", "Rejoice in the Lamb" demonstrates Smart's belief that everything alive is connected to God. Smart was in an insane asylum when he wrote "Jubilate Agno".

## *Upcoming Concerts*

### Festival of Christmas Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 18, 5:00 p.m.

Cantate and St. John's Choir under the direction of Peggy Haas Howell will present this beloved service with carols old and new by Rutter, Willcocks, Berg, Gallina, Cherwien, and Lauridsen. A freewill offering will be taken.

### Gedymin Grubba, Organ Recital

Friday, February 17, 6:00 Pre-concert Reception

7:00 Concert

Renowned Polish concert organist Gedymin Grubba will present a varied program as part of an American tour in which he will play fifteen concerts in ten states. A freewill offering will be taken.

St. John's Episcopal Church  
200 Boston Avenue, Lynchburg, Virginia 24503  
[Stjohnslynchburg.org](http://Stjohnslynchburg.org)

# St. John's Episcopal Church, Lynchburg, Virginia

## Specifications of the organ

### Hauptwerk (Manual II)

Bourdon 16'  
Principal 8'  
Gedackt 8'  
Octave 4'  
Blockflöte 4'  
Quinte 2-2/3'  
Octave 2'  
Terz 1-3/5'  
Mixture IV/VI  
Trompete 8'

### Brustwerk (Manual I)

Holzgedackt 8'  
Quintadena 8'  
Rohrflöte 4'  
Principal 2'  
Quinte 1 1/3'  
Regal 8'  
Schalmei 4'

### Couplers

SW/HW                      SW/P  
BW/HW                      HW/P  
BW/P

### Swell (Manual III, enclosed)

Lieblich Gedackt 16'  
Geigen Principal 8'  
Chimney Flute 8'  
Viola da Gamba 8'  
Principal 4'  
Harmonic Flute 4'  
Gemshorn 2'  
Mixture III/IV  
Contra Oboe 16'  
Trompette 8'  
Hautbois 8'

### Pedal

Subbass 16'  
Bourdon 16' (from HW)  
Bassflöte 8'  
Choralbass 4'  
Fagott 16'  
Trompete 8' (from HW)

Tremulant (affecting entire organ)

Mechanical key action of the suspended type  
Electric stop and combination action, 128 memory levels  
56 notes on the manuals    30 notes on the pedal  
2063 pipes of lead/tin alloys and wood  
Case of quarter-sawn Appalachian white oak  
Carving of pipe shades by Fred Wilbur in Pacific yellow cedar  
Proportions of upper main case and carvings inspired by the organ in  
Kiedrich, Germany, built around 1500

**Richard Howell, Opus 4      Lynchburg, Virginia**

**Howellorgans.com**

*Cover art: "Evensong" (1897) by John Melhuish Strudwick (1849-1937)*