Soaring Sounds
IN A SACRED SPACE
2019-20 Music Season

Christ Church
Grosse Pointe
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Choir photos courtesy of RobinM Photography
WWW.ROBINMPHOTOGRAPHY.COM
Welcome to the 2019-2020 Musical Season at Christ Church Grosse Pointe

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2019-2020 season of Soaring Sounds in a Sacred Space at Christ Church Grosse Pointe. Our brochure lists the concerts and special musical services featuring all of the Christ Church Choirs. Music is at the heart of our Christ Church community and is one of the primary ways that we worship, love, and serve our Lord Jesus Christ. Additionally, each concert and service provides the listener an opportunity to experience a vitally important part of the musical history of the Church. The richness of the Anglican choral tradition is reflected in the variety of music presented in this series.

Glorious music has always been an integral part of Christ Church’s evangelism to the greater community. With an imaginative series of events – including Vaughan Williams’ Dona nobis pacem, Haydn’s Stabat Mater, the recently composed work Lux: The Dawn from on High by Dan Forrest, special services with choir, weekly evensong, and a concert featuring the music of Germany, to name a few – this promises to be another hallmark season in our almost 90-year musical history.

The Christ Church music program, with its roster of talented choirs and extensive musical offerings, is a treasured ministry of our community. We are able to continue providing first-rate music only through the assistance of our supporters. To bring world-class music to Christ Church and the community, we rely on your generosity. Please consider supporting our offerings with your presence and, if possible, by making a contribution in the attached envelope. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Scott Hanoian
Season Overview

CONCERTS

Sunday, October 27, 2019 | 3 PM
Oktoberfest – Choral Masterpieces from Germany
Christ Church Schola

Sunday, November 17, 2019 | 3 PM
Dona nobis pacem – Ralph Vaughan Williams
Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Sunday, December 15, 2019 | 3 PM
Christmas Concert
Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020 | 3 PM
Stabat Mater – Franz Joseph Haydn
Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Sunday, May 3, 2020 | 3 PM
Resurrection Light
Combined Choirs and Orchestra

Saturday, July 25, 2020 | 7 PM
Bon Voyage Concert
Christ Church Choirs

There will be a pre-concert lecture before each Concert at 2 pm hosted by Scott Hanoian.
SPECIAL SERVICES

Sunday, November 3, 2019, 3 pm
All Souls’ Requiem

Sunday, December 1, 2019, 3 pm
Advent Procession

Sunday, December 22, 2019, 4:30 pm
Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Doors open at 3:45 pm. Pre-service organ recital at 4 pm.

Sunday, January 5, 2020, 3 pm
Epiphany Procession

Sunday, February 2, 2020, 3 pm
Feast of the Presentation

Sunday, April 26, 2020, 3 pm
Easter Lessons and Carols

Thursday, May 21, 2020, 7 pm
Feast of the Ascension
Oktoberfest
Choral Masterpieces from Germany
Sunday, October 27, 2019 | 3 PM

Pre-concert lecture at 2 pm

Christ Church Schola

In our first concert of the season, the Christ Church Schola will celebrate the rich musical heritage of Germany, whose music has spanned over 800 years. Highlights include the chant of Hildegard von Bingen, the intricate counterpoint of Bach, the Romantic harmonies of Brahms and Mendelssohn, and much more. Join us on this musical tour of Germany.

Freewill offering
Dona nobis pacem
Ralph Vaughan Williams

Requiem da Camera
Gerald Finzi

Sunday, November 17, 2019 | 3 pm

Pre-concert lecture at 2 pm

Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Join the Christ Church Chorale in their performance of Ralph Vaughan Williams’ Dona nobis pacem, a cantata written in 1936 when England was slowly awakening to the possibility of a second European conflict. Vaughan Williams sets three poems of Walt Whitman amongst other texts in this heart-wrenching plea for peace. The concert also features Gerald Finzi’s achingly beautiful Requiem da Camera, written for his composition teacher who was killed at the end of the First World War.

Tickets $25
Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 15, 2019 | 3 pm

Pre-concert lecture at 2 pm

Christ Church Chorale and Orchestra

Celebrate the joy of the Christmas season in this festive afternoon of traditional favorites and choral masterpieces. This year’s concert features selections from Handel’s *Messiah* and Vaughan Williams’ *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*. The audience will be invited to join and sing some favorite Christmas carols and the *Hallelujah Chorus*.

*Tickets $25*
Stabat Mater
Franz Joseph Haydn

Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020 | 3 pm

Pre-concert lecture at 2 pm

Christ Church Chorale with Orchestra

Begin the journey of Holy Week with a performance of Haydn’s Stabat Mater, a setting of the 13th century Christian hymn to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Portraying the suffering of Mary during the crucifixion of Jesus, Haydn brings the text to life through his colorful use of the chorus and orchestra. Often considered his most beloved sacred work, Haydn masterfully captures the grief, despair, pain, fear, and hope of a mother witnessing the death of her son.

Tickets $20
Resurrection Light

Sunrise Mass - Ola Gjeilo
Lux: The Dawn from on High - Dan Forrest

Sunday, May 3, 2020 | 3 pm
Pre-concert lecture at 2 pm

Combined Choirs and Orchestra

Join all of the Christ Church Choirs in the final concert of the season celebrating the light of the Resurrection. This concert features Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo’s Sunrise Mass and American composer, Dan Forrest’s Lux: The Dawn from on High. These two 21st-century masterpieces explore the spiritual facets of light, from the rising of the sun to the promise of a radiant future.

Tickets $20
Bon Voyage Concert

Saturday, July 25, 2020 | 7 PM

Christ Church Choirs

Spend a summer evening with the Christ Church Choirs as they sing music from their upcoming pilgrimage to Germany. As they prepare to offer concerts and services in Berlin, Wittenberg, Leipzig, and Munich, hear the choir sing some of their favorite music spanning several centuries.

Freewill Offering
**Special Services**

_Free and Open to the Public_

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**All Souls’ Requiem**

_Sunday, November 3, 2019, 3 pm_

A service in remembrance of all the faithful departed (featuring Maurice Duruflé’s *Requiem*).

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**Advent Procession**

_Sunday, December 1, 2019, 3 pm_

A service of readings and music celebrating the Advent of Our Lord.

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**Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols**

_Sunday, December 22, 2019, 4:30 pm_

A service of lessons and music celebrating the Nativity of Our Lord. Doors open at 3:45 pm. Pre-service organ recital at 4 pm.

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**Epiphany Procession**

_Sunday, January 5, 2020, 3 pm_

A service of readings and music celebrating the Manifestation of God in the form of Jesus Christ.

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**Feast of the Presentation**

_Sunday, February 2, 2020, 3 pm_

A Candlemas procession followed by a Solemn Holy Eucharist celebrating the Presentation of Jesus Christ in the Temple.

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**Easter Lessons and Carols**

_Sunday, April 26, 2020, 3 pm_

A service of readings and music celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord.

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**Feast of the Ascension**

_Thursday, May 21, 2020, 7 pm_

Solemn Holy Eucharist celebrating the Ascension of Jesus to heaven.
Other Choral Services
Free and Open to the Public

All Saints’ Sunday
November 3, 2019, 9 am

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2019, 4 pm, 8 pm & 11 pm
10:30 pm Choral Prelude

Christmas Day
December 25, 2019, 10 am

Ash Wednesday
February 26, 2020, 7 pm

Palm Sunday
April 5, 2020, 9 am

Holy Monday & Tuesday
April 6 & 7, 2020, 7 pm

Tenebrae
April 8, 2020, 7 pm

Maundy Thursday
April 9, 2020, 7 pm

Good Friday
April 10, 2020, 12 pm & 7 pm

The Great Vigil of Easter
April 11, 2020, 7 pm

Easter Day
April 12, 2020, 9 am & 11:15 am

Pentecost
May 31, 2020, 9 am
Our Heritage
A Choir of Men and Boys was founded in 1930 by Beecher Aldrich to lead the congregation in liturgy. In 1955, Robert Hawksley organized a Choir of Men and Girls to provide music leadership for an additional service on Sunday morning. Since the inception of both choirs, music has been an integral part of the life of the Christ Church parish. In 2009, Christ Church introduced the Schola as an advanced choir to compliment the fine tradition of the Choirs of Men and Boys and Men and Girls and to expand the repertoire of sacred music offered at Christ Church.

Commitment and Benefits
The Christ Church Choirs strive for musical excellence through significant music offerings including challenging works by master composers, training in vocal technique, skill development in music reading, the inspiration and joy of shared musical expression, and the fulfillment that comes from public performances.

At Christ Church, choristers pursue a professional level course of musical training and play an important role in the life of both the Church and the Grosse Pointe community. In order to achieve the desired excellence in worship and formation, Choristers rehearse three times per week, and the choirs are responsible for leading Sunday morning and afternoon services and presenting concerts throughout the season.

The benefits of such a program extend well beyond the beauty of worship and song. Being a part of a church choir during an individual’s formative years builds reliable musical habits, encourages spiritual growth, and teaches the discipline necessary to function efficiently in a group. The values of confidence, dependability, self-esteem, responsibility, stamina, courage, cooperation, and self-reliance are instilled in each of the choristers from rehearsal to service. The hard work of each chorister contributes to the enhancement of the life of the parish, the community, and beyond. This training has provided a number of choristers with the foundation to continue their musical education and occasionally pursue musical careers.
**Choir Tours**
Our choirs frequently travel nationally and internationally. These tours provide our choristers opportunities to build and deepen friendship, celebrate the excellence and success of their work throughout the past year, expand their horizons as they experience new communities and cultures, and deepen their experience and understanding of their spiritual lives. Past tours have included England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France, Italy, Spain, and Australia.

**Music Education**
In addition to the training received in rehearsals, each chorister is provided music theory instruction and has the opportunity to study individual voice with professional musicians from the greater Detroit area. Voice lessons are invaluable not only from the point of view of developing technique, but also for managing the substantial workload placed upon young voices.

**Boys & Girls Choir**
The choir consists of boys from 4th to 8th grade, girls from 4th to 12th grade, and professional singers who sing alto, tenor and bass to complete the traditional choral sound.

All our boy and girl choristers excel at musical performance, learning to read music, and perform at a level well beyond their peers in age.

**Christ Church Schola**
Founded in 2009, Schola is made up of select girls and boys in 9th-12th grade and professional singers from Grosse Pointe and the surrounding area. As an advanced choir for senior girls, the Schola also affords choristers an opportunity for musical excellence and performance unique in Detroit. With a repertoire that includes over 250 anthems and motets spanning seven centuries and ranging from plainsong chant to 21st-century compositions, the Christ Church Schola is among the finest choirs in Detroit and the Midwest.

**Christ Church Chorale**
The Christ Church Chorale is a community oratorio society of volunteer adults offering concerts each year. Performing with an orchestra, the Christ Church Chorale is known for its excellence in presentations of the great choral/orchestral masterworks. Recent performances have included Bach’s *Mass in B minor*, Mendelssohn’s *Elijah*, Brahms’ *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, and Haydn’s *The Seasons*.

For more information about any of the Christ Church Choirs, where to buy tickets, or how to join *Friends of Music* (thereby receiving complimentary concert tickets according to your level of membership), contact Scott Hanoian, 313-885-4841 ext.102 or shanoian@christchurchgp.org.
The service of Evensong (or sung Evening Prayer) is drawn almost entirely from the Bible: Psalms, lessons from the Old and New Testaments, and Canticles (songs of praise from the Scriptures). Music is an integral part of this service, and the choirs offer sung prayers to God on behalf of the people of God.

Free and open to the public. A reception follows each service.

**Sept. 29, 2019** – Schola

**Oct. 6, 2019** – Combined

**Oct. 13, 2019** – Schola

**Oct. 20, 2019** – Boys and Girls

**Nov. 10, 2019** – Schola Trebles

**Nov. 24, 2019** – Schola

**Dec. 8, 2020** – Schola

**Jan. 26, 2019** – Schola

**Feb. 9, 2020** – Schola

**Feb. 16, 2020** – Congregational

**Feb. 23, 2020** – Schola

**Mar. 1, 2020** – Combined

**Mar. 8, 2020** – Schola

**Mar. 15, 2020** – Professionals

**Mar. 22, 2020** – Schola

**Mar. 29, 2020** – Schola

**Apr. 19, 2020** – Congregational

**May 10, 2020** – Schola

**May 17, 2020** – Combined Choirs with Installation and Valediction of Choristers

Please note there is no Evensong on December 29, January 12, January 19, and April 12.
Christ Church Grosse Pointe
Location and Contact Information

For information: 313-885-4841 or
www.christchurchgp.org/concerts

61 Grosse Pointe Boulevard
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

- Ample, free, lighted parking adjacent to the Church
- Wheelchair accessible
- Assisted-listening devices available
2019-20 Music Season at Christ Church Grosse Pointe

IN A SACRED SPACE

Singing Sounds

For information: 313-885-4841 or www.christchurchgp.org/concerts

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