FROM CROSS TO CROWN

Who there my cross has shared...

...finds here a crown prepared.



ST. CROIX LUTHERAN ACADEMY SACRED CHORAL CONCERT MARCH 27, 7:00 P.M. CHAPEL



Who there my cross has shared...

From Cross to Crown

...finds here a crown prepared.

A Sacred Choral Concert The Choirs of St. Croix Lutheran Academy March 27, 2024, 7:00 pm

Please hold your applause until the conclusion of the concert.

CONCERT CHOIR **Kyrie**, from *Mass No. 2 in G-Major Franz Schubert (1797-1828)* (Choral Public Domain Library)

Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy. Christe eleison. Christ, have mercy. Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy.

Living in a transition time between the Classical period and Romantic period of music, Franz Schubert is best known for his chamber works, especially lieder or "art songs." This Kyrie, written when he was 18 years old, comes from his Mass No. 2 in G Major, a missa brevis or "short mass" and reveals the influence on him by Classical composers such as Salieri, Haydn, and Mozart. The opening section begins in G major with a repetition by the choir of the first line of text, "Lord, have mercy." The modulation into E-minor introduces a soprano solo for the second line of text, "Christ, have mercy" bringing a more plaintive mood. We return to G-major for the final line of the Kyrie. The Christian cries out to God to have mercy, but is confident of his status before God and rests in the sure hope of deliverance.

CONCERT CHOIR **Set Me as a Seal,** from *A New Creation René Clausen (b. 1953)* (Shawnee Press Inc.) Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm,

for love is strong as death. Many waters cannot quench love; Neither can the floods drown it.

-Song of Songs 8:6-7

René Clausen, recently retired conductor of the Concordia Choir in Moorhead, MN, wrote Set Me as a Seal as part of a choral cantata called A New Creation, dressing the poetry of Song of Songs in exquisite and expressive harmony. Song of Songs gives us an allegory comparing the love between a man and his betrothed with God's love for his Church. To our modern ears, comparing God's love with death might seem incongruous, but the power and inevitability of death, and the fact that it is merely sleep for the Christian, serves as an apt comparison for God's love for us.

ASSEMBLY He Will Hold Me Fast 0 fear my faith will Christ will hold me fast; 1 When Ι fail, 2 Those he saves are his de - light; Christ will hold me fast; 3 For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast; θ when the tempt - er would pre - vail, will hold he me fast. pre-cious in his ho - ly will hold sight, he me fast. jus - tice has been sat - is - fied; he will hold me fast. 0 00 thro' life's fear - ful path, I could nev - er keep my hold He'll not let my soul be lost; his prom - is - es shall last; Raised with him to end - less life, he will hold me fast (cue notes v. 3) e σ for my love is of - ten coldhe must hold fast. me bought by him at such he will hold a cost, me fast. till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last! (Refrain 2X) Refrain 0 0 He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast; 0 0 for my Sav-ior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

> Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. Psalm 139:7-10

Cantate Choir Children of the Heavenly Father

TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA Arr. Dan Forrest (Beckenhorst Press)

Children of the heavenly Father, Safely in his bosom gather; Nestling bird or star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish; In his holy courts they flourish. From all evil things he spares them; In his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord his children sever; Unto them his grace he showeth, And their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh; His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

-Caroline Sandell (1832-1903)

Caroline Sandell, sometimes referred to as the Swedish Fanny Crosby, wrote this poetry, as well as many others, as a way of coping with the trauma of witnessing her father's drowning. Children of the Heavenly Father, paired with a simple Swedish folk tune, is set gently here by Dan Forrest, building to a climax on the words, "Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh."

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:35-39

CANTATE CHOIR Yesu Kwetu Ni Rafiki (What a Friend We Have in Jesus)

Charles Converse (1832-1918) Kenyan Hymn Arr. Mark Burrows (Choristers Guild)

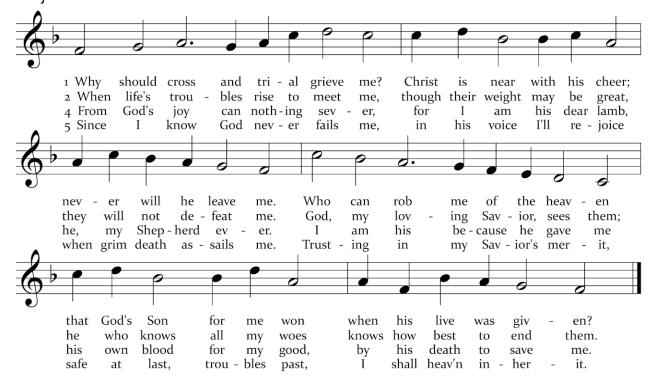
Yesu kwetu ni Rafiki What a friend we have in Jesus. Maombi asikia Take it in prayer.

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! Oh what peace we often forfeit, oh what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

-Joseph M Scriven (1819-1886)

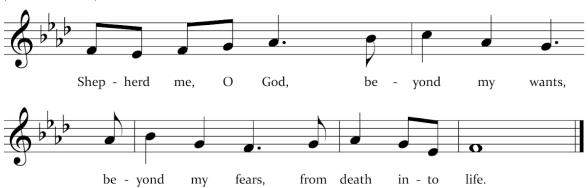
Founder of a music academy in Kenya, Mark Burrows, upon learning that What a Friend We Have in Jesus is a popular hymn among Kenyan Christians, sought to create a piece that brought the English and the Swahili translation of the hymn together. Joseph Scriven's text has resonated with the faithful for generations as we see that through our crosses in life, we can find relief in taking them to our Lord in prayer.

Assembly Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me



CHORALE Shepherd Me, O God

Marty Haugen (b. 1950) (GIA Publications)



God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace. *Refrain*

Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, My spirit shall sing the music of your name. *Refrain*

Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, Your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. *Refrain*

You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, Crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. *Refrain*

Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. *Refrain*

-Psalm 23, adapt. Marty Haugen

A native of Zumbrota, MN, Marty Haugen wrote this well-known adaptation of Psalm 23. The refrain asks our Lord to get us beyond our wants and our fears, both of which remove from us the realization that our cup indeed overflows and we have true contentment. Of the Psalms, Haugen states, "The more time I spend in prayer and reflection upon the psalms, the more I realize how they have formed the core of my sung and silent prayer. All of human life is there--thanksgiving and praise, lament and loss, anger and fear and always, hope."

CHORALE AND CROIXALIERS

Be Gone, Unbelief

Wesley D. Peters (b. 1988) (Beckenhorst Press)

Begone unbelief, My Savior is near, And for my relief Will surely appear: By faith let me wrestle, and he will perform, With Christ in the vessel, I smile at the storm.

Though dark be my way, since he is my guide, 'Tis mine to obey, and His to provide; Though cisterns be broken, And creatures all fail, The word he has spoken shall surely prevail.

How bitter his death, No heart can conceive, He drew his last breath That sinners might live! His way was far rougher And darker than mine; This, Jesus did suffer, With sorrow divine.

Since all that I meet will work for my gain, The bitter is sweet, The rough places plain; Though painful at present, will cease before long, And then, O! how blessed, The conqueror's song!

-John Newton (1725-1807)

After a tumultuous stint as a recalcitrant seaman in the Royal Navy, John Newton got involved in the Atlantic slave trade and became captain of a slave ship. After a brush with death during a furious storm that battered his vessel off the coast of Ireland, he recognized his need for a Savior and the "amazing grace" that he was shown in his survival in that storm. Newton's familiarity with the sea is evident in his hymn, Be Gone Unbelief, as he pens his most striking line of the hymn, "With Christ in the vessel, I smile at the storm." Wesley Peters pairs this text with his original tune in the style of a sea shanty, portraying the confidence of the "conqueror's song."

CROIXALIERS When Memory Fades

Eric Nelson (b. 1959) (Morning Star Music Publishers Inc.)

When memory fades and recognition falters, when eyes we love grow dim and minds confused, speak to our souls of love that never alters; speak to our hearts by pain and fear abused. O God of life and healing peace empower us with patient courage by your grace infused.

As frailness grows, and youthful strengths diminish, in weary arms, which worked their earnest fill. Your aging servants labor now to finish their earthly tasks as fits your mystery's will. We grieve their waning, yet rejoice believing, your arms, unwearied, shall uphold us still.

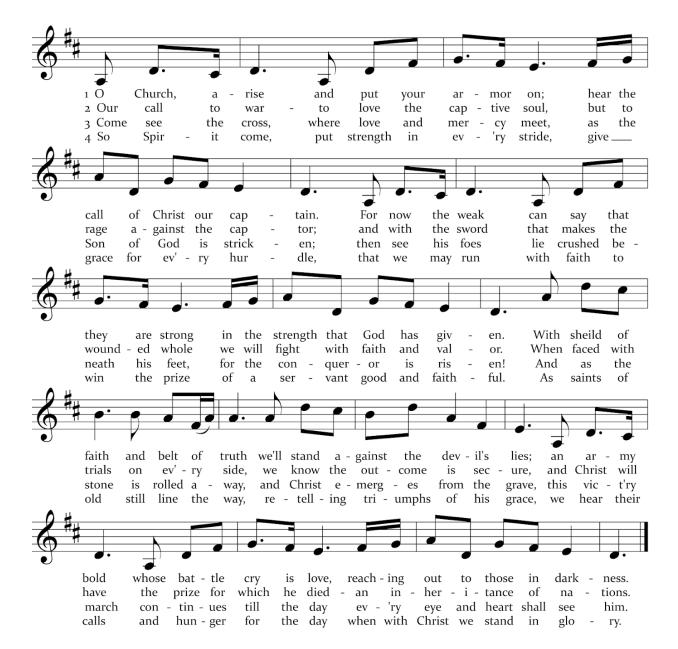
Within your Spirit, goodness lives unfading. The past and future mingle into one. All joys remain, unshadowed light pervading. No valued deed will ever be undone. Your mind enfolds all finite acts and offerings. Held in your heart, our deathless life is won.

-Mary Louise Bringle (b. 1953)

Disarming in its simplicity and gentle beauty, When Memory Fades gives voice to the everyday struggle not only of those who care for loved ones with dementia, but to all who have elderly loved ones who "labor now to finish their earthly tasks." Eric Nelson describes Mary Bringle's poetry as "tremendously comforting and devastatingly difficult to ponder." The first five notes of the melody are quoted in the accompaniment several times throughout the piece until the ending, when it is iterated three times in a row, each time with one fewer note, as though struggling to remember.

> Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:28-31

Assembly O Church, Arise



CONCERT CHOIR A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther (1483-1546) Arr. Kyle Pederson (b. 1971) (Galaxy Music)

A Mighty Fortress is our God, a refuge never failing. Our helper He amid the flood of mortal winds prevailing. For still our spirit's foes doth seek to work us woe; They lure with pow'r so great, with judgment and with hate; Shield us e'er, guard us as Thy own.

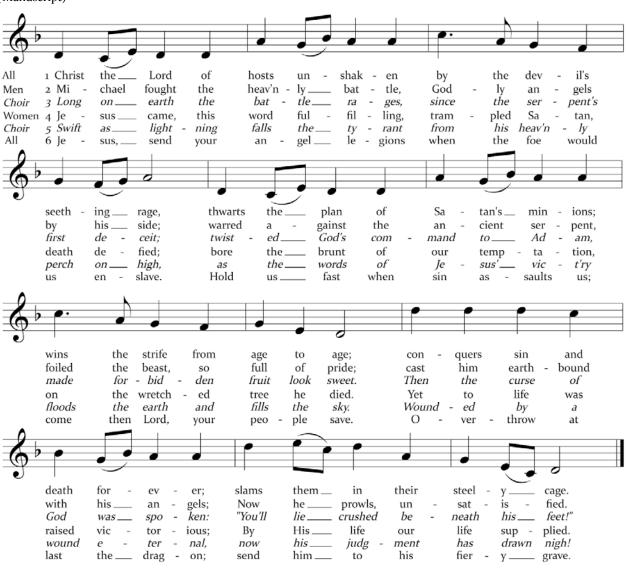
If we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing. Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing. You ask who this may be? Christ Jesus it is He. Emmanuel His name, from age to age the same; Who was, Who is, Who e'er shall be.

Thy Word above all earthly pow'r; Thy Love above all earthly pow'r; Thy Hope above all earthly pow'r; My God above all earthly pow'r. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also. The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still. The Kingdom is forever.

-Martin Luther, adapt. Kyle Pederson

Kyle Pederson, popular choral composer and church musician from Burnsville, MN, includes jazz, rock, and blues among the genres that influence his compositions. Pederson reimagines Martin Luther's iconic hymn with a fresh translation and harmonic color to accompany the classic melody. The recasting of this hymn does not suggest to replace the original but to give the listener and singer alike a fresh perspective on this heritage hymn. In Christian Worship, A Mighty Fortress Is Our God is appropriately appointed as the Hymn of the Day for the First Sunday in Lent to accompany the account of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, where Christ demonstrated his active obedience to the law in our place, showed his power over Satan's temptations, and how he is our fortress and refuge against every attack from the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. Psalm 46:1-3 Carl Schalk (1929-2021) Arr. Benjamin Culli (b. 1975) (Manuscript)

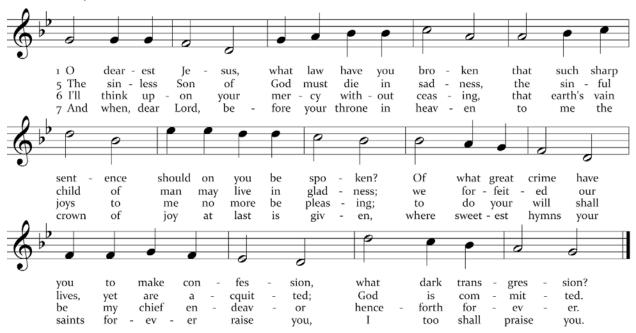


-Peter Prange (b. 1972)

In 1999, WELS Pastor Peter Prange, when serving in Jacksonville, FL, wrote a masterful, Christocentric text in preparation for his congregation's celebration of the festival of St. Michael and All Angels. Prange recounts how he sought to "weave the biblical accounts of Jesus, St. Michael, and Satan together, and the applications that the Scriptures make to us with respect to the implications of Satan's fall for God's people in this world, our ultimate victory over him, and our proclamation of the gospel." Benjamin Culli's concertato setting, with its martial beat and vivid text painting, captures with an almost cinematic quality the epic battle of Christ and his heavenly hosts against Satan and his demons.

Assembly

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Have You Broken



COMBINED CHOIRS **Indodana** (Sung in isXhosa) Traditional South African Hymn Arr. Michael Barrett and Ralf Schmitt (b. 1955) (Santa Barbara Music Publisher)

Ngob'umthathile umtwana wakho

You took your own Son

Uhlale nathi.

Who lived among us.

Hololo ho helele he

(a wordless expression of grief)

Indodana ka Nkulunkulu

The Son of God Bayi 'bethelela *Was crucified*. Hololo ho helele he

O Baba, Jehovah O Father, Jehovah! Hololo ho helele he

-Traditional isiXhosa

Michael Barrett is a conductor and lecturer at the University of Pretoria in South Africa, and Ralf Schmitt is an African choral music specialist. They collaborated on a striking setting of this traditional isiXhosa hymn, sung in the isiXhosa language, which is an official language of South Africa and spoken by nearly 20 million people in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Lesotho. It includes wordless expressions of grief in the female voices (hololo ho helele he) and drum-like sounds in the male voices. (Zjem, zjem, zja baba).

Assembly and Combined Choirs

Awake, My Heart, with Gladness

Johann Crüger (1598-1662) Arr. Kevin Hildebrand (b. 1973) (Concordia Publishing House)



Interlude

Festive Overture

Melody Bober (Neil A Kjos Music Company) CROIXALIERS **Jubilate Deo** (sung in Latin) Peter Angela (b. 1988) (Hinshaw Music)

Jubilate Deo, omnis terra; *Rejoice in the LORD, all the earth* servite Domino in laetitia. *serve the LORD with gladness.* Introite in conspectus ejus *Come before his presence* in exultatione. *With singing.*

Quoniam suavis est Dominus; For the LORD is gracious. In aeternum misericordia ejus, His mercy endures forever, et usque in generationem and his truth endures et generationem veritas ejus from generation to generation.

-Psalm 100:1-2, 5

Martin Luther wrote of Psalm 100, "Psalm 100 is a prophesy of Christ. It calls on all the world to rejoice, praise, and give thanks. We do that by serving God, by entering his throne room and his courts and praying to him with all confidence. For his grace is an everlasting kingdom that remains certain forever and ever. Peter Angela, said of his setting of this psalm, "I decided upon an asymmetrical meter (10/8) for this piece because it brings energy and exuberance to the music and because it fits the declamation of the text perfectly."

CROIXALIERS

Abendlied (Evening Song, sung in German) Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901) (Choral Public Domain Library)

Bleib bei uns, Stay with us, denn es will Abend werden, For it will be evening, und der Tag hat sich geneiget. And the day has crept away.

-Luke 24:29

Josef Rheinberger was born in Lichtenstein and spent most of his life in Bavaria composing for the royal chapel in Munich. Abendlied, composed when he was 15 years old, two weeks before Easter in 1855, is his best-known work. Using the text from the familiar account of Jesus appearing to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus on the first Easter Sunday, Rheinberger uses lush harmonies to evoke a burst of color at sunset, and imitative polyphony on the words, O bleib by uns (O stay with us) as an urgent plea for our God to remain with us.

COMBINED CHOIRS

I Will Rise

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Louie Giglio, and Matt Maher Arr. Craig Courtney and Lynda Hasseler (Beckenhorst Press)

There's a peace I've come to know though my heart and flesh may fail. There's an anchor for my soul. I can say "It is well."

Jesus has overcome and the grave is overwhelmed. The victory is won, he is risen from the dead.

And I will rise when He calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain, I will rise on eagles' wings. Before my God fall on my knees and rise. I will rise.

There's a day that's drawing near when this darkness breaks to light. And the shadows disappear and my faith shall be my eyes.

And I hear the voice of many angels sing, "Worthy is the Lamb!" And I hear the cry of every longing heart, "Worthy is the Lamb!"

And I will rise when He calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain, I will rise on eagles' wings. Before my God fall on my knees and rise. I will rise

- Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Louie Giglio, and Matt Maher

When challenged by frequent collaborator, Pastor Louie Giglio, to write a song for the Church that would speak to people at the most difficult times of their lives, going through serious illness, or standing near the casket of a loved one, Chris Tomlin held on to Giglio's phrase "the grave is overwhelmed" as his source of inspiration. He identifies the bridge, "And I hear the voice of many angels sing, 'Worthy is the Lamb" as his favorite point of the song, as the one thing that Christians all long for, to be among the throngs of people singing in the presence of God for all eternity, after enduring the crosses in life to receive the Crown of Life.

Acknowledgments

Kyrie	
	Aoi Inoue, solo Bethany Spike, violin Lydia Meyer, violin Alyssa Inniger, viola Aric Reim, cello
He Will I	Hold Me Fast
	April Marquardt, piano
Children	of the Heavenly Father Ellie Ross, flute Aric Reim, cello April Marquardt, piano
Yesu Kwe	etu Ni Rafiki (What a Friend We Have in Jesus) Samantha Bjerke, piano
Why Sho	uld Cross and Trial Grieve Me? Sarah Sauer, organ
Shephera	l Me, O God Cora Smith, solo Brady Schindeldecker, solo Bethany Spike, violin Lydia Meyer, violin Alyssa Inniger, viola Aric Reim, cello April Marquardt, piano
Be Gone,	<i>Unbelief</i> Jonah Stelljes, piano Will Wakeman, snare drum
When M	emory Fades April Marquardt, piano
O Churci	h. Arise

April Marquardt, piano

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Alexandra Park, guitar Lydia Schaefer, piano

- Christ, the Lord of Hosts Unshaken Matthew Beekman, trumpet John Fenske, trumpet Abigail Guldberg, trumpet Will Wakeman, timpani Sarah Sauer, organ
- O Dearest Jesus, What Law Have You Broken Samantha Bjerke, organ

Indodana Will Wakeman, djembe

- Awake, My Heart, With Gladness Matthew Beekman, trumpet Abigail Guldberg, trumpet John Fenske, trumpet SeEun Sohn , French horn Carson Stehr, trombone Andrew Beekman, trombone Harvey Prodahl, tuba Emma Frey, timpani
- Festive Overture Lydia Schaefer, piano

Jubilate Deo Samantha Bjerke, piano

I Will Rise

Rio Nomura, solo Chris Zhao, solo Hannah Isenberger, solo Bethany Spike, violin Lydia Meyer, violin Alyssa Inniger, viola Aric Reim, cello Lydia Schaefer, piano

Special thanks to the SCLA maintenance crew and Pastor Dustin Sievert for concert set-up, Mr. Paul Weihing and Drew Mildebrandt for sound engineering, Hunter Johnston and David Hoang for live stream recording, and Lisa Streckert for graphic design and promotion.

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Croixaliers President Secretary/Librarian Social Coordinator Section Leader

SOPRANO Nelly Clayton Emma Frey* Natalie Krueger Rio Nomura Lydia Schaefer Delia Walters

Concert Choir

SOPRANO Nelly Clayton Amelia Converse Violet Enter Emma Frey Alivia Grahl Hannah Gullickson Aoi Inoue Hannah Isenberger Hee-Won Jeong Natalie Krueger Sofiia Lutsiv Rio Nomura Marie Pietsch Lydia Schaefer Gabriella Trudel **Delia** Walters Soleil Walters

Chorale

SOPRANO Isabella Barth Addelynn Blumer Cora Coburn Lydia Enter Violet Flynn NaYoung Kang Chau (Sophia) Le Kailey Quast Cora Smith Lydia Tembreull Alexandria Twaddle Maina Yasui

Cantate Choir

Connor Aumann Jamie Biehn Lindsey Fox Natalie Gerber Colt Kloss Annalies Krueger Sophia Mitsch Sophie Krueger Grace Lassonde Meiyi (Melissa) Liu Hanna Myrlie♠ Claire Peterson Naomi Valleau�*

ALTO

ALTO Sophie Anderson Alexis Gosch Serenna Hartsock Anabelle Kinsley Grace Kinsley Sophie Krueger Grace Lassonde Meivi (Melissa) Liu Hanna Myrlie Ella Oberer Mayah Otto Chenyu (Emily) Ou Claire Peterson Kiera Quast Kaitlyn Smart Naomi Valleau

TENOR Owen Burkart* Elijah Frey Isaiah Luepke Noah Schmeling Yi (Chris) Zhao

TENOR Ayden Bilitz Owen Burkart Elijah Frey Isaiah Luepke Elijah Matzke Noah Schmeling Yi (Chris) Zhao

BASS Seth Halverson Silas Krueger‡* Shingai Magaya Martin Paulsen Jonah Stelljes

BASS Seth Halverson Hsiang Cheng (Ben) Hsu Silas Krueger Samuel Lewerenz Shingai Magaya Oliver McAghon Martin Paulsen Jonah Stelljes Korban Thrasher

ALTO Maria Caauwe Riley Coburn Stephanie Dickson Jayda Ellingson Lillian Hartsock Ava Hoffman Callie Oakland Elizabeth Paulsen Ruth Schultz Madeline Sims Koraphan Tienviwat Emma Twaddle

Mikayla Nelson

Grace Pekarek

Grant Peterson

Dakota Rahn

Alayna Rydel

Cavden Smart

Leilani Sprick

TENOR Colin Avery

Malachi Cooper Joseph Harper Taehoo (Chris) Hong Maximus Hoppe Nathanael Hunt George Kuncl Han (Adam) Li Peng (Tom) Li Noah Miller Cameron Oakland Grady Peterson Daniel Pietsch Jr. Brady Schindeldecker Nelson Weekes

Andie Stachowiak

Andy Tsz Fung Wei

Amelia Storm

Tristan Subra

Antie Walters

BASS Evan

Evan Ellison Hunter Foss Evan Frey Thomas Hermann Ethan Karbon Noah Little Maxwell Mildebrandt Bernard Muske Phat (Steve) Nguyen Siuk (Jayden) Park Gideon Paulsen Andrew Risley Owen Schmeling Lawrence Swanson

Mr. Michael Marquardt, Choral Director

Mrs. Samantha Bjerke, Student Teacher

About St. Croix Lutheran Academy

St. Croix Lutheran Academy is a Christian school of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) serving young men and women in grades six through twelve. Established in 1958, the school offers Bible-based experiential and college-prep curriculums including STEM, accelerated, advanced placement, and college-credit courses. 95% of graduates pursue higher education after graduation. SCLA offers 27 interscholastic activities and competes at the championship level as a member of the Skyline Conference. In addition to athletics, students have opportunities in a wide variety of fine arts, service, and leadership programs. The on-site 152-bed dormitory houses American and 100 international students from 21 countries worldwide. SCLA is committed to training students who know their Savior Jesus and live lives of exemplary Christian service.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, April 13 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Grade School Fine Arts Festival

Sunday, April 14 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Croixaliers at Living Hope Lutheran Church, Shakopee

Sunday May 12 8:30 a.m. Croixaliers at Christ Lutheran Church, North St. Paul

Thursday, May 9 7:00 p.m. Middle School Band Concert Middle School Musical - *The Sound of Music*

Friday, May 10 7:00 p.m. Middle School Musical - *The Sound of Music*

> Wednesday, May 15 7:00 p.m. Croixaliers Showcase

> > Friday, May 17 8:00 p.m. Night of Jazz

Friday, May 24 7:00 p.m. High School Spring Concert

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