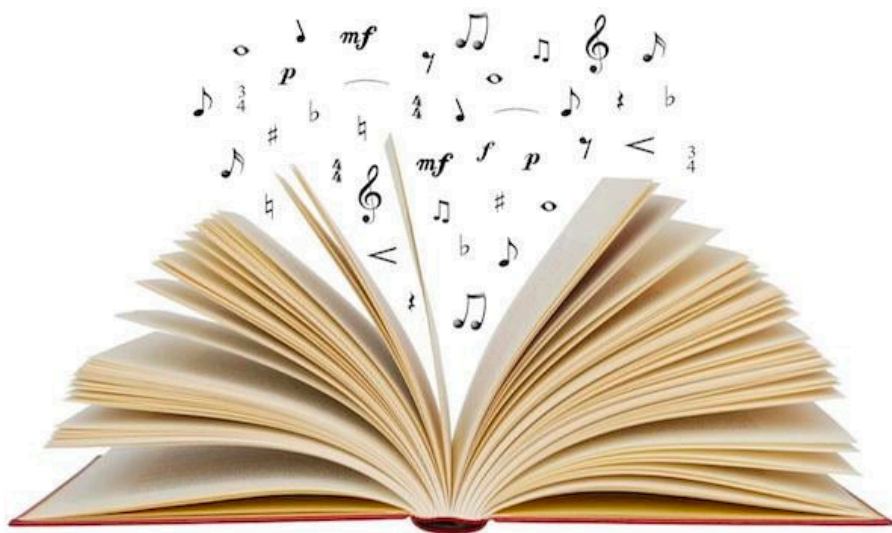


American Heritage School presents

Word studies

9–12 Grade Curricular Spring Choral Concert
Friday, April 28, 2023
7:00 p.m.



American Heritage School presents

Word studies

Rob Swenson, director

Dixie Choque, accompanist

Welcome and Introduction
Opening Prayer

Liz Acuña
Ryah Crandall

Patriot Chorale The words of Christ

Baba Yetu (The Lord's Prayer)

Evan Mitchell, soloist; Dallin Jepsen, djembe

Christopher Tin

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis (ca. 1505–1585)

Lord, Lord

Clark Miner, upright bass

Thomas More Scott

Shalom

Autumn Callister, violin

Dan Forrest

Chamber Choir A word to the wise

Os Justi (The Mouth of the Righteous)

Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)

Things that Never Die

Lee Dengler

A Reason to Sing

Rob Swenson

Good Day

Nik Day
arr. Dixie Choque

Annalee Buck, soloist; Caleb Randall, vocal percussion

A Cappella Choir
Parting words

The Last Words of David Randall Thompson (1899–1984)

Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen
(*How Lovely Are Thy Dwelling Places*) Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)
Nancy Mellor, piano primo

The Music of Stillness Elaine Hagenberg

So Long, Farewell/Edelweiss Richard Rogers (1902–1979)
Harvest Hale, Caleb Randall, Hailey Todd, Nancy Mellor,
Mya Holyoak, and Hava Lambert, soloists
Clark Miner, bass; Dallin Jepson, drum set

I'll Be On My Way Shawn Kirchner
Ariana Bell, Jace Pulley, and Maxwell Rimington, soloists
Eliza Harmon, fiddle; Clark Miner, bass; Dallin Jepsen, drum set

Combined Choirs
An encouraging word

It is Well With My Soul arr. Mack Wilberg

Closing Prayer Spencer Larsen

This recital is presented as partial fulfillment for the requirements for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

Patriot Chorale

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
LaureLyn Bradford	Hazel Barlow	Cooper Brown	Scott Holmstead
Vivian Bradford	Clara Boren	Max Buer	Adam Lee
Autumn Callister	Ryah Crandall	Bradford Hale	Sam Longhurst
Hannah Christiansen	Vanessa Faerber	Derek Hunsaker	Spencer Plouzek
Brielle Draschil	Ella Gibson	Evan Mitchell	Luke Skaggs
Sierra Green	Avery Goslin	Nolan Spackman	Cole Taylor
Elinor Howard	Liza Jorgensen	Charles Quinn	
Naomi Pinson	Kealohi Lung		
Marlee Richman	Kara Nelson		
Leah Way	Aubrey Rowen		
	Kamryn Seamons		

A Cappella Choir

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Serenity Bailey*	DixieMarie Banks*	Timothy Andersen	Benjamin Anderson
Ariana Bell*	Eva Batchelor	Finley Boyer	Ryan Boris*
Emily Curzon	Bethany Braddy*	Hyrum Brimhall*	Peyton Boyer
Elizabeth Fisher	Isabella Bradford	Txanton Chertudi	Logan Brown*
Kenzie Gray	Holly Brockbank	Andrew Fee*	Ollie Buer*
Harvest Hale*	Natalie Bryner	Logan Hunsaker*	John Bushman
Eliza Harmon	Annalee Buck*	Spencer Larsen	Benson Christiansen*
Maylin Hill	Shirley Graham*	Mason Longhurst	Sam Clark
Hava Lambert	Emily Grow	Ryan Mitchell*	Benson Hale*
Heidi Lasson	Emma Holmes*	Jace Pulley*	Rain Jiayu Sun
Kelsey McClain	Mya Holyoak*	Caleb Randall*	Tyson Ker
Nancy Mellor	Sophie Hunter	Joshua Randall	Benson Lee
Noelle Pace*	Emma Hymas	Jack Reed*	Kenneth Lewis
Sophia Pace	Abby Johnson*	Maxwell Rimington*	Noah Lewis
Nora Redding*	Sarah Joy Rowley	Jordan Rowley	Jeffrey Logan*
Julie Riboldi*	Elena Larsen*	Daniel Soeung	Zion Ong
Bailey Sampson	Addy LeCheminant	Christian Uhl	Aaron Pinson
Ella Scriber	Aubrey Mason	McKay Webb*	Nathan Schmidt
Annika Southern*	Katelyn Merten*		Brant Schuenman
Hailey Todd	Brynlee Murray		Joseph Weyland*
Eden Waite*	Celeste Price		Kyle Zufelt*
Elizabeth Ware	Sophie Reed		
	Kelli Smith*		

*Chamber Choir member

Song Texts and Translations

Baba Yetu

Baba yetu, yetu uliye
Mbinguni yetu, yetu amina!
Baba yetu yetu uliye
Jina lako e litukuzwe.

Utupe leo chakula chetu
Tunachohitaji, utusamehe
Makosa yetu, hey!
Kama nasi tunavyowasamehe
Waliotukosea usitutie
Katika majaribu, lakini
Utuokoe, na yule, muovu e milele!

Ufalme wako ufike utakalo
Lifanyike duniani kama mbinguni.
(Amina)

If Ye Love Me

If ye love me,
keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may bide with you forever,
e'en the spirit of truth.

(paraphrase of John 14:15–17)

Shalom

Peace I leave with you,
peace I give to you:
Peace. Peace. Shalom.

Not as this world gives, I give to you,
Do not be afraid.
Peace. Peace. Shalom.

(paraphrase of John 14:27)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art
in Heaven. Amen!
Our Father,
Hallowed be thy name.

Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us of
our trespasses,
As we forgive others
Who trespass against us
Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from the evil one forever.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
On Earth as it is in Heaven.
(Amen)

(paraphrase of Matthew 6:10–13)

Lord, Lord

Save us, Lord! Save us, Lord!
We are not worthy,
but we long for your love.

Not ev'ry one who cries, "Lord, Lord,"
is gonna walk into the kingdom of God.

But ev'rybody that heeds His will,
and keeps the commandments too;

Not ev'ry one who cries, "Lord, Lord,"
is gonna walk into the kingdom.

Listen to me like a sensible man:
You can hold life in the palm of your hand.
Listen to me; eternal life can be yours,
If you just follow me.

(paraphrase of Matthew 7:21–23)

Os Justi

Os justi meditabitur sapientiam:
et lingua ejus loquetur iudicium.
Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius:
et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus.
Alleluia.

The Mouth of the Righteous

The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom,
and his tongue talketh of judgement.
The law of his God is in his heart:
none of his steps shall slide.
Alleluia.

(Psalm 37:30–31)

Things That Never Die

The pure, the bright, the beautiful
That stirred our hearts in youth,
The impulses to wordless prayer,
The streams of love and truth,
The longing after something lost,
The spirit's yearning cry,
The striving after better hopes --
These things can never die.

The timid hand stretched forth to aid
A brother in his need;
A kindly word in grief's dark hour
That proves a friend indeed;
The plea for mercy softly breathed,
When justice threatens high,
The sorrow of a contrite heart --
These things shall never die.

Let nothing pass, for every hand
Must find some work to do,
Lose not a chance to waken love,
Be firm and just and true.
So shall a light that cannot fade
Beam on thee from on high,
And angel voices say to thee --
"These things shall never die."

—Charles Dickens (1812–1870)

A Reason to Sing

A fleeting taste of immortality,
A small speck of light,
Is all that you are.

Generations past are silent,
Suspended in lifeless memory,
But yours is the moment
To live and be alive,
To love and to be loved,
And to shine!

Now yours is the moment
To share and give your light
So that future specks will shine out brighter
And do more with their moment—
'Til we shine on eternally!

Speak now, for your light is quickly fading.
Shout love! They won't always hear your voice.
Cry out with a song of hope and peace,
And give to those who follow you
a reason they should sing.

—Rob Swenson

Good Day

I think I know better
I think I know how it should be
I got it all planned out
But He's got a plan for me.
When it's bad weather
sometimes I yell up at the sky,
"Today was supposed to be dry!"
But that's not what I need.

(chorus)

Life's so unpredictable
And things might not be goin' my way,
But it's gonna be a good day
Though things are goin' sideways
I got a smile on my face
And nothing's gonna bring me down
'Cause I know
Whatever happens, He knows
He'll never leave me alone
I'll be okay and it's gonna be a good day

He made all the planets,
He made all the stars in the sky.
He knows what he's doing,
And he's gonna make it all right.
So when the wind's blowin'
There might a be reason it is:
Somethin' I'm learning,
Somethin' I'll never forget.

—Nik Day

The Last Words of David

He that ruleth over men must be just,
ruling in the fear of God.

And he shall be as the light of the
morning, when the sun riseth, even a
morning without clouds; as the tender
grass springing out of the earth by clear
shining after rain.

(2 Samuel 23:3–4)

The Music of Stillness (There Will Be Rest)

There will be rest, and sure stars shining
Over the roof-tops crowned with snow,
A reign of rest, serene forgetting,
The music of stillness holy and low.

I will make this world of my devising
Out of a dream in my lonely mind.
I shall find the crystal of peace, – above me
Stars I shall find.

—Sara Teasdale (1884–1933)

Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen

Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen,
Herr Zebaoth!
Meine Seele verlanget und sehnet sich
nach den Vorhöfen des Herrn;
mein Leib und Seele freuen sich
in dem lebendigen Gott.
Wohl denen, die in deinem Hause wohnen,
die loben dich immerdar.

How Lovely Are Thy Dwelling Places

How lovely are thy dwelling places,
O Lord of hosts!
My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth
for the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh crieth out
for the living God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:
they will be still praising thee.

(Psalm 84:1-4)

So Long, Farewell

There's a sad sort of clanging from the clock in the hall
And the bells in the steeple too
And up in the nursery an absurd little bird
Is popping out to say "cuckoo"
Regretfully they tell us But firmly they compel us
To say goodbye to you

So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, good night
I hate to go and leave this pretty sight

So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, adieu
Adieu, adieu, to yieu and yieu and yieu!

So long, farewell, au revoir, auf wiedersehen
I'd like to stay and taste my first champagne

So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, goodbye
I leave and heave a sigh and say goodbye -- Goodbye!

I'm glad to go, I cannot tell a lie
I flit, I float, I fleetly flee, I fly

The sun has gone to bed and so must I
So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, goodbye
Goodbye, goodbye, Goodbye!

Edelweiss

Edelweiss, Edelweiss
Every morning you greet me
Small and white clean and bright
You look happy to meet me
Blossom of snow may you bloom and grow
Bloom and grow forever
Edelweiss, Edelweiss
Bless my homeland forever.

—Oscar Hammerstein II (1895—1960)

I'll Be On My Way

When I am gone,
don't you cry for me,
don't you pity my sorry soul.
What pain there might have been
will now be past
and my spirit will be whole.

I'll be on my way,
I'll be on my way.
I'll have left my feet
of clay upon the ground,
I will be glory bound,
I'll be on my way

When I am gone,
please forgive the wrongs
that I might have done to you.
There'll be no room
for regrets up there,
high above, way beyond the blue.

I'll be on my way,
I'll be on my way.
I'll have laid my frown
and all my burdens down
I'll be putting on my crown
I'll be on my way.

When I am gone,
don't you look for me
in the places I have been;
I'll be alive
but somewhere else,
I'll be on my way again.

I'll be on my way,
I'll be on my way.
I'll lift my wings
and soar into the air
There'll be glory everywhere,
I'll be on my way.

—Shawn Kirchner

It Is Well With My Soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul!"

Though Satan should buffet,
though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His Cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

—Horatio Gates Spafford (1828–1888)

Program Notes

I didn't know what a 'word study' was until I began teaching at AHS in 2009. At the time, I thought the whole exercise seemed a little absurd. I mean, who really looks *that* closely at *words*? Since then, I have come to understand just how powerful words can be. They are imbued with deep meaning, colored by the lenses of history, geography, and social context. Choral music is special because it can pair deeply meaningful words with deeply meaningful sounds, giving new and sometimes ineffable significance to the words themselves. All of the music for this concert has been chosen with this in mind.

The Patriot Chorale begins the concert with some of the most important words spoken by Christ. *Baba Yetu* is a Swahili paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6. The oscillating drum rhythms and sweeping choral harmonies in this setting provide an unusual energy to the text, which is more often paired with subdued, "reverent" music.

Thomas Tallis' setting of *If Ye Love Me* was penned at the height of the English reformation and reflects a compositional style that placed more emphasis on text expression than that of earlier church music. He uses elements of pitch and rhythm to emphasize specific words in this simple yet beautiful setting.

Dan Forrest's *Shalom* uses elegant harmonies and a flowing piano line to convey the unspeakable peace that the Savior promised. Christ said that this peace would be accessible to his disciples long after his death and resurrection. Representing this musically, the piano suddenly stops—as if the piece has concluded—but then continues with a beautiful violin obligato over a cappella voices.

Lord, Lord is a unique setting that pairs Christ's very direct words from Matthew 7 with jazz rhythms and harmonies: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

The Chamber Choir continues the program with a selection of pieces containing words of wisdom. Anton Bruckner's *Os Justi* introduces the set with a psalm text proclaiming, "the mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and...the law of God is in his heart." Bruckner was a prolific Austrian composer of the late 19th century. The grandeur and brilliance of this iconic choral setting belies the reputation of its composer, who was known as a humble, insecure church musician.

Things That Never Die is a poem by Charles Dickens with some important words of wisdom for our day: "Let nothing pass, for every hand must find some work to do; Lose not a chance to waken love..." This same charge is echoed in the text for *A Reason to Sing*: "Speak now, for your light is quickly fading. Shout love! They won't always hear your voice." This song speaks of the finite nature of our mortal lives and how important it is to make the most of the fleeting "speck of light" that we have each been given...by loving those who live with us and by making the world a better place for future generations.

Good Day has always been one of my favorite songs. It reminds me that even though things don't always go the way I plan them, "He has a plan for me"...and knowing that means *every* day can be a good day! This song was specially arranged for the AHS Chamber Choir by Dixie Choque, who recently graduated in Commercial Music from UVU.

The A Cappella Choir continues the program with words of parting. *The Last Words of David* is a setting of King David's final sermon, recorded in 2 Samuel. Based on his own experience, David speaks of the need for rulers to "be just and rule in the fear of God." Some biblical scholars have interpreted the latter part of David's speech as a Messianic prophecy: "And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even

a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.”

Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen is a German translation of Psalm 84 and the fourth movement of Brahms’ *Ein deutsches Requiem*. A requiem is a special kind of mass sung for someone who has passed on. The Psalmist cries out, “My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord.”

Likewise, *The Music of Stillness* is a first-person text describing a state of peace and tranquillity in the hereafter: “There will be rest and sure stars shining...a reign of rest, serene forgetting.” Sara Teasdale, who struggled with depression for most of her life, tragically took her own life just months after penning these words.

Two songs from the Broadway musical *The Sound of Music* evoke the theme of “parting words” on many levels: First (and perhaps most obvious), *So Long, Farewell* is a playfully ‘goodbye’ song from the musical. Second, the story is about a musically gifted family who makes their escape from Nazi-occupied Austria. Third, *Edelweiss* was the last of hundreds penned by Oscar Hammerstein II before he succumbed to cancer in 1960. In honor of the remarkable contributions that he and his songwriting partner, Richard Rogers made to the musical theater world, the lights were dimmed in both Times Square and London’s West End for a full minute.

Many songs about saying goodbye—especially when someone we love has passed on—are sad and somber. This is, at least in part, because they are written from the perspective of those left behind. *I’ll Be On My Way* is unique because it is written from the perspective of someone who has moved on: “When I am gone, don’t you look for me in the places I have been. I’ll be alive but somewhere else, I’ll be on my way again!” A restored-gospel understanding provides support for this perspective of death as a joyful, necessary step on our eternal progression.

We close with Mack Wilberg’s setting of *It is Well With My Soul*. The full weight of Horatio Spafford’s text can only be appreciated with some understanding of his life: Horatio was a prominent American lawyer from New York. He had accumulated a considerable amount of wealth in Chicago real estate, which was suddenly reduced to nothing during the Great Fire of 1871. Two years later, his wife and daughters were crossing the Atlantic on a family trip when their steamship sunk, killing all four daughters and leaving behind a greiving mother. She later gave birth to three more children, but lost one of them (Horatio Jr.) at age four to scarlet fever. In the weeks after this last tragedy, Horatio Sr. penned these words:

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

We hope that you enjoy tonight’s performance and find significance in these words for your own life. We also hope that of the 1216 words that you will hear sung tonight, the refrain of this last song will become your new motto, bringing you comfort, joy, and peace long after the performance has ended. Thank you for coming!

—Rob Swenson

High School Curricular Choir Auditions May 1–4

(Chamber Choir call-back audition at 7:00 a.m. on May 5)

For *all* students entering grades 9-12.

Sign up to get your free Crumbl cookie!



SCAN ME

