

## From the Director

### Hymns: Old and New, 5

This Fall we are looking at some new and less-known hymns to be included in the College Church hymnal. I hope you won't tire of these unfamiliar texts, nor worry that you'll miss the well-known, loved, tried-and-true. They'll be there, trust me!

Today's hymn combines words old, older, and newer, for a common confession that is even older. It is a hymn version of The Apostle's Creed. The Creed, though not in its present form until the 8th century, was in use from the 4th century and understood then to be derived from the teachings of the Apostles. While we sometimes stumble over the phrase "catholic church," this Creed is itself an example of what is meant by that very phrase! That is, The Apostles' Creed is affirmed by the church, worldwide and across the centuries, to be a fitting summary of core Christian belief. In C.S. Lewis' words, it is "mere Christianity."

Luther translated the Latin Creed into German, and adapted the *Credo* chant for congregational use. And so the Lutherans sang, and have for centuries, "We all believe in one true God." Today's hymn clearly derives from that tradition and practice, but is from the pen of a German Lutheran pastor of the 17th century, translated by an English woman of the 19th century, and augmented by new English text from 1982. Now, that's "catholic!"

#### We Believe in One True God

We believe in one true God,  
 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
 ever-present help in need,  
 praised by all the heav'nly host;  
 by whose mighty power alone  
 All is made and wrought and done.

We believe in Jesus Christ,  
 Son of God and Mary's son,

who descended from his throne  
 and for us salvation won;  
 by whose cross and death are we  
 rescued from sin's misery.

We believe he rose again;  
 raised to rule at God's right hand;  
 he'll return to be our Judge,  
 reigning Lord of every land.  
 Dead and living rise to meet  
 at his glorious judgment seat.

We confess the Holy Ghost,  
 who from both fore'er proceeds,  
 who upholds and comforts us  
 in all trials, fears, and needs.

Blest and holy Trinity,  
 praise forever be to thee!  
 We confess the holy church  
 catholic in every way,  
 here on earth and kept in heaven,  
 waiting for that glorious day;  
 we confess forgiving grace  
 freely giv'n to our lost race.

And with expectation high  
 we await that glorious morn  
 when the dead shall rise again  
 and creation be reborn,  
 light and life forevermore  
 on that brighter heav'nly shore.

Tobias Clausnitzer 1668  
 trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863  
 Howard Hageman, 1982 (stanzas 3, 5, 6)

A metrical version of the Creed presents the same challenges as metrical versions of the Psalms. If we make a text fit the limits of a set meter, it will necessarily say either more or less than the original. In this sung version of the Creed what is "added" contributes to our greater understanding of what the Creed outlines. More than that, the hymn text more clearly brings together affirmation and affection, proclamation and praise, theology and doxology. May these pairings mark all our music as we

**Sing on!**

*Chuck*

#### Calendar Corner:

*Friday and Saturday, September 22 and 23*—Concert Series presents "Bastien and Bastienne" with Comic Intermezzo, accompanied by Camerata Chicago. Fri., 7:30PM includes a Mozart piano concerto; Sat. 3PM for kids  
*Sunday, September 24*—morning services: Jubilation Bells, Chancel Choir  
*Sunday, October 1*—morning services: string ensemble; College Church Singers  
*Sunday, October 8*—Missions Festival; children's choirs sing in the Evening Service, "Missionary Christmas"

THE PRAYER COLUMN  
LEE HOFFNER, CHOIR CHAPLAIN

*Serving Lives*

God's saints have left us a "tapestraic" (yes, I made it up...) example of flexible lives of service.

Moses sought nothing in particular and was called to lead a nation. He was subsequently admonished (by his father-in-law) to call others to service, in order that neither he nor the people would be stretched "too thin".

Matthew happily collected taxes. He was called to a higher service: that of keeping the company of Jesus and doing what his Lord asked of him.

Peter looked for the conquering victory of Jesus at the time of his earthly ministry, but was cast instead as "the rock on which I will build my church" and promised that he would end his service by being led where he did "not want to go".

Paul: who, more than he, experienced a complete reversal of what *he thought* his mission was?

We have a mission in our singing and leading of corporate worship. But, the Lord calls us individually to specific service that he has prepared for each one of us. Unless you are dead, you are constantly growing – as God enables you. Has anyone asked you to consider a new area of service? Are you "getting ready" for a possible new chapter in your life of service? Ask God to lead you and order your thoughts as you consider where and how you presently serve. There may not be anything new in the immediate offing. But, none of the above mentioned thought there was either.

"So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'" (Luke 17:10)

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**Chancel Choir Rehearsal Music:**

Voice Building

This is the Day/Think on these things Oct. 8  
something from *St. Paul*

Psalm 150 (Harper) Sept. 24

Psalm 150 (Franck)

Ain'a That Good News

some Christmas music

**Choir Calendar:**

Next Thursday, Sept. 28: we will record during rehearsal. September birthdays celebrated at the end of rehearsal.

Sunday, October 1: Choir Sunday Off

Thursday, October 5: Rehearsal from 7—9 PM

*St. Paul* workshop

**Jubilation Bells Rehearsal**

*Wednesday 6:45 PM in the Choir Room*

Paul Wrobbel, director

**Brass Ensemble Rehearsal**

*Wednesday 8:15 PM in the Old Balcony*

**String Ensemble Rehearsal**

*1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 PM  
in the Sanctuary, September through May*

**Concert Series**

**College Church Sanctuary**

**September 22 & 23, 4:00 PM**

***Comic Intermezzo***

***"Bastien and Bastienne"***

**fully staged operetta by Mozart**

**Friday, 7:30PM**

**also includes a Mozart piano concerto**

**Saturday, 3:00PM**

**specially for children/families**

**matinee**

***supported by a grant from the IL Arts Council***