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Master Singers of Milwaukee

Zack Durlam, Artistic Director

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## **The Promise of Living**

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**Sunday, February 27, 2022 4:00 PM**

North Shore Congregational Church  
7330 N. Santa Monica Blvd. • Fox Point, WI

# 🌿 The Promise of Living 🌿

## Master Singers of Milwaukee

Zack Durlam, Artistic Director • Jayne Latva, Pianist

### Ecce Sacerdos

### Anton Bruckner

*Organ: Rhonda Kwiecien*

Behold a great priest who in his days pleased God.  
Therefore by an oath the Lord made him to increase  
among his people.  
The blessing of all nations he gave to him, and his

covenant he confirmed upon his head.  
Glory to the Father and Son and Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning is now and always for  
generations and generations, Amen.

### Lift Every Voice and Sing

### J. Rosamond Johnson, arr. Roland Carter

*Piano: Jayne Latva • Organ: Rhonda Kwiecien*

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies.  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has  
taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has  
brought us;  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has

been watered;  
Oh, we have come treading our path through the blood  
of the slaughtered;  
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
Where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.  
God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;  
Thou who hast by Thy might led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we  
met Thee;  
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we  
forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land. Amen.



# ~ The Promise of Living ~

## O quam gloriosum

Tomas Luis de Victoria

O how glorious is the kingdom in which all the saints  
rejoice with Christ.

Clad in white robes, they follow the Lamb wherever  
He goes.

## Mangisondele Nkosi Yam

traditional isiZulu, arr. Michael Barrett

*Soloists: Graham Hartlaub and Katie Rutter*

Let me draw near to you Lord. Even when I suffer in  
pain, Lord,  
I thank you still and say draw me near to you now, Lord.

Even if bad things happen, Lord, if suffering occurs, Lord,  
In my dreams I always say draw me near to you now,  
Lord. Amen.



## David's Lamentation

William Billings

David, the king, was grieved and moved,  
He went to his chamber and wept;

And as he went he wept and said,  
"O Absalom, my son! Would to God I had died for thee."

## Bach (Again): Come Sweet Death

J.S. Bach, arr. Rhonda Sandberg

Come, sweet death! Come, soothing rest.  
Come and lead me homeward.  
I am weary of life and longing.

Come, I am waiting for thee, come now and set me free!  
My eyes at last are gently closing now.  
Come, blessed rest!

## Requiem

Eliza Gilkyson, arr. Craig Hella Johnson

Mother Mary, full of grace, awaken.  
All our homes are gone, our loved ones taken,  
taken by the sea.  
Mother Mary, calm our fears, have mercy,  
Drowning in a sea of tears, have mercy,  
hear our mournful plea.  
Our world has been shaken, we wander  
our homelands forsaken.  
In the dark night of the soul,  
bring some comfort to us all,  
O Mother Mary come and carry us in your embrace,  
that our sorrows may be faced.

Mary, fill the glass to overflowing.  
Illuminate the path where we are going,  
have mercy on us all.  
In funeral fires burning, each flame to  
your mystery returning.  
In the dark night of the soul, your shattered dreamers,  
make them whole.  
O Mother Mary find us where we've fallen out of grace,  
lead us to a higher place.  
In the dark night of the soul  
our broken hearts you can make whole,  
O Mother Mary come and carry us in your embrace,  
let us see your gentle face, Mary.

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## Rain Come Down

Shawn Kirchner

*Soloists: Trevor McDonald and Kaisa Herrmann • Dancer: Maggie Seer*

Come, rain, come down, heaven's tears of mercy come  
a-runnin' down.  
Say no words, it is too soon, say no words out loud.  
But wrap your quiet arms around, hide us in your cloud.  
Come, rain, come down, heaven's tears of mercy come  
a-runnin' down.  
Come wash away this grief and pain, and let all hearts  
be clean.

And bring the fairest flowers to meet the sorrows we  
have seen.  
Come, rain, come down, heaven's tears of mercy come  
a-runnin' down.  
A little lower than the angels we were born to be,  
Yet which of all the creatures knows this misery?  
Come, rain, come down, heaven's tears of mercy come  
a-runnin' down.

## I'll Be On My Way

Shawn Kirchner

*Soloists: Grant Wheeler, Lisa Maxfield, and James Barciz*

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 have left my feet of clay upon  
the ground,  
I will be glory bound, 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 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 have laid my frown and all my  
burdens down,  
I'll be puttin' 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 will lift my wings and soar into  
the air,  
There'll be glory everywhere, 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 puttin' on my crown, 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!

## INTERMISSION

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## I Gondolieri

Gioacchino Rossini

Let us go now on our agile sailboat. Beautiful is the sky.  
The moon is without veil; without storm the sea.  
To row, to rest upon the water;  
To the gondolier is given the greatest good thing among

all the good things.  
It doesn't matter whether the sun shines or the moon  
appears sad.  
On the lagoon, the gondolier is always king.

## Nyon Nyon

Jake Runestad



## Nature

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

*Reader: Janet Bashirian*

As a fond mother, when the day is o'er,  
Leads by the hand her little child to bed,  
Half willing, half reluctant to be led,  
And leave his broken playthings on the floor,  
Still gazing at them through the open door,  
Nor wholly reassured and comforted  
By promises of others in their stead,  
Which, though more splendid, may not please him more;

So Nature deals with us, and takes away  
Our playthings one by one, and by the hand  
Leads us to rest so gently, that we go,  
Scarce knowing if we wish to go or stay,  
Being too full of sleep to understand  
How far the unknown transcends the what we know.

## When Memory Fades

Jayne Southwick Cool, arr. Eric Nelson

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!

## ~ The Promise of Living ~

### Wanting Memories

Ysaye M. Barnwell

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me  
to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.  
You used to rock me in the cradle of your arms,  
You said you'd hold me till the pains of life were gone.  
You said you'd comfort me in times like these and now I  
need you, and you are gone.

So I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me  
to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.  
Since you've gone and left me, there's been so little  
beauty,  
But I know I saw it clearly through your eyes.  
Now the world outside is such a cold and bitter place,  
Here inside I have few things that will console,  
And when I try to hear your voice above the storms  
of life  
Then I remember that I was told.

Yes I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me  
To see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.

I think on the things that made me feel so wonderful  
when I was young,  
I think on the things that made me laugh, made me  
dance, made me sing,  
I think on the things that made me grow into a being  
full of pride;  
Think on these things, for they are truth.

And I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me  
to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.  
I thought that you were gone, but now I know you're  
with me;  
You are the voice that whispers all I need to hear.  
I know a "please," a "thank you," and a smile will take  
me far,  
I know that I am you and you are me and we are one.  
I know that who I am is numbered in each grain of sand,  
I know that I've been blessed again and over again.

### Smile

Charlie Chaplin

*Soloist: Autumn Schacherl*

Smile, though your heart is aching,  
Smile, even though it's breaking,  
When there are clouds in the sky, you'll get by,  
If you smile through your fear and sorrow,  
Smile and maybe tomorrow,  
You'll see the sun come shining through for you.

Light up your face with gladness,  
Hide every trace of sadness.  
Although a tear may be ever so near,  
That's the time you must keep on trying,  
Smile, what's the use of crying,  
You'll find that life is still worthwhile, if you just smile.

# ~ The Promise of Living ~

## Precious Lord

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to  
the light.  
Take my hand, Lord, and lead me home.

## Thomas A. Dorsey, arr. Arnold Sevier

When my way grows drear, precious Lord linger near,  
When my life is almost gone,  
At the river, Lord, I stand, guide my feet and hold  
my hand:  
Take my hand, Lord, and lead me home.

## The Promise of Living

## Aaron Copland

*Pianists: Rhonda Kwiecien and Jayne Latva*

The promise of living with hope and thanksgiving  
Is born of our loving our friends and our labor.  
The promise of growing with faith and with knowing  
Is born of our sharing our love with our neighbor.  
The promise of living, the promise of growing  
Is born of our singing in joy and thanksgiving.  
For many a year we've known these fields  
and known all the work that makes them yield,  
Are you ready to lend a hand?  
We're ready to work, we're ready to lend a hand.  
By working together we'll bring in the harvest, the  
blessings of harvest.  
We plant each row with seeds of grain,  
and Providence sends us the sun and the rain,

By lending a hand, by lending an arm,  
Bring out from the farm the blessings of harvest.  
Give thanks there was sunshine, give thanks there  
was rain,  
Give thanks we have hands to deliver the grain,  
O let us be joyful, O let us be grateful to  
(Come join us in thanking) the Lord for his blessing.  
(O let us sing our song, and let our song be heard.  
Let's sing our song with our hearts, and find a promise  
in that song.)  
The promise of ending in right understanding  
Is peace in our own hearts and peace with our neighbor.  
The promise of living, the promise of growing,  
The promise of ending is labor and sharing and loving.



# The Master Singers of Milwaukee

## **Soprano**

Janet Bashirian  
Jill Bruss  
Kaisa Herrmann  
Wendy Lambert  
Emma Lehker  
Cynthia Matchette  
Lisa Maxfield  
Nicole McCarty  
Maggie Seer  
Wendy Traeger  
Liz Weiland  
Melissa Zimmer

## **Alto**

Rhonda Anderson  
Suzanne Freshley  
Margy Girdzius  
Micaela Haggenjos  
Marilyn Henning  
Darien Hiller  
Jennifer Jakubowski  
Kadee Jankowski  
Dezarae Jones-Hartwig  
Katelynn Peterson

Katelynn Rutter  
Autumn Schacherl  
Bonnie Scholz  
Marna Tess-Mattner  
Carol Thiel

## **Tenor**

Dave Bate  
Jack Fischer  
Graham Hartlaub  
Lee Henning  
Bill Lieven  
Trevor McDonald  
Charis Mitchell  
Ed Richards  
Bruce Soto

## **Bass**

James Barciz  
Bill Busch  
Alex Fuller  
Albrecht Gaub  
Alex Heiting  
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## **The Master Singers of Milwaukee would like to thank**

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- ◆ North Shore Congregational Church and Music Director, Rick Kieffer for the performance space
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- ◆ Elizabeth Hockerman and Nicole Chartier of Gravity Marketing for support services
- ◆ Bill Busch, Lisa Maxfield, Katelynn Peterson, Ed Richards, and Wendy Traeger sectional rehearsal conductors
- ◆ Rhonda Kwiecien, guest accompanist
- ◆ Dave Bate for graphic art services
- ◆ Marj Coen for graphic artwork

## Zack Durlam, Artistic Director



Dr. Zachary Durlam serves as artistic director of the Master Singers of Milwaukee, Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, and choir director at Grace Lutheran Church in Grafton, Wisconsin. At UWM, Durlam leads multiple choirs and teaches graduate and undergraduate conducting and choral literature. He previously taught at Fresno Pacific University where his Concert Choir performed at the California Music Educators Association Conference and he was awarded the university's 2013 Faculty Distinguished Service Award. Prior to that, Durlam taught high school vocal music for twelve years—including nine at Iowa City West High where his Chamber Choir was chosen to perform at the North Central American Choral Directors Association (NCACDA) conference and the music department was one of seven programs in the

nation named a Gold Signature School by the Grammy Foundation. He received his bachelor's degree from Luther College, master's from the University of Iowa, and doctorate from Michigan State University. Durlam was awarded 3rd place in the college/university division of the 2018–2019 American Prize for Choral Conducting, and the UWM Concert Chorale and UWM combined choirs and orchestra were named national finalists in the same competition. The UWM Concert Chorale under his direction has been featured at the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association (WCDA) and Wisconsin Music Educators Association state conferences and the 2020 ten-state Midwestern ACDA conference. This fall they performed with Andrea Bocelli during the Milwaukee stop of his "Believe" tour, and in 2015 they performed with the Rolling Stones at Milwaukee's Summerfest. Durlam has presented at state and regional conferences of ACDA and the National Association for Music Educators, and he frequently works as a guest conductor and clinician, recently conducting or presenting in California, Oregon, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin where he directed the 2019 Wisconsin Honors High School All-State Mixed Choir. Durlam currently serves as president of WCDA, and his research on Handel and Mendelssohn is published in ACDA's Choral Journal.

## Jayne Latva, Pianist



Jayne Latva is a freelance keyboard player who enjoys a wide variety of assignments. As a staff accompanist for the Houston and Milwaukee Ballet companies, she was the soloist in over 20 productions. In 2012, Jayne presented a paper entitled *Robert Schumann's Six Fugues on B-A-C-H: Inner Workings, Inner World* at the national convention of the American Guild of Organists. A collection of her arrangements of Asian hymns is published by Augsburg. Jayne holds a doctorate in Piano Literature and Pedagogy from Indiana University.

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Master Singers of Milwaukee acknowledges the individuals, corporations, and foundations who provide support and whose generosity confirms the importance of choral music in our community. The following list contains names of those who have contributed between April 1, 2020 and February 15, 2022. Thank you for your support!

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## Up and Away!

**Saturday, May 14, 2022 7:30 PM**

All Saints Episcopal Cathedral  
804 E. Juneau Ave. • Milwaukee, WI

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