

VOICEGIVERS CHOIR PRESENTS

A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR HOLY FAMILY INSTITUTE

***HELP AND HOPE FOR
VULNERABLE CHILDREN***



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2020, 7:00PM

HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL

 **HOLY FAMILY
INSTITUTE**
Restoring Hope, Transforming Lives

Help and Hope for Vulnerable Children

I. Seeking, Separation, and Community

Seek Him That Maketh the Seven Stars

Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)

Abide with Me

William H. Monk (1823-1889)

Stand By Me

Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller, Ben King
arr. Mark De-Lisser

David Knouse, Teresa Steigerwalt

Dancing in Buses

Melissa Dunphy (b. 1980)

VIGNETTE: MARNIE WESTON

Abendlied

Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

II. Separation and Reconciliation

Great Day

African American Spiritual, arr. Warren Martin

Ben Filippone, Matt Dooley, Julianna Grabowski

De Colores

arr. Vicente Chavarria

Julianna Grabowski

Sólo le Pido a Dios

León Gieco (b. 1951)

arr. Marcelo Rabelo, Mario Buzatto

Ben Filippone, Deborah Dimasi,

Matt Dooley Timothy Marquette

Pasar la Vida

Jorge Cózatl (b. 1973)

***Julianna Grabowski, Julie Galati,
Andrew Bloomgarden, Timothy Marquette***

VIGNETTE: HANNAH GODWIN

Away and in Danger

William Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)
arr. Luc Kleiner, Shawn Kirchner

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with thee there.

III. Reconciliation and Community

I'm a Person Too

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

VIGNETTE: LIZ STEPHENSON

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

Dolly Parton (b. 1946)
arr. Craig Hella Johnson

Charlene Canty

You Do Not Walk Alone

Dominick DiOrio (b. 1984)

El Vito

Spanish folk song, arr. Mack Wilberg

With Kyle Davies and Timothy Marquette, piano
Daryl Shawn, guitar
Jordan Bender, percussion

Texts and Translations

Seek Him That Maketh the Seven Stars

Seek Him that maketh the seven stars and Orion
and turneth the shadow of death into the morning.
Alleluia, yea, the darkness shineth as the day,
the night is light about me. Amen.

Abide with Me

Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

I need your presence ev'ry passing hour.
What but Your grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who, like yourself, my guide and strength can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.

Stand By Me

When the night has come, and the land is dark,
And the moon is the only light we'll see;
No I won't be afraid, No I won't be afraid,
Just as long as you stand, stand by me.
So darling, darling, stand by me, stand by me.

If the sky that we look upon should tumble and fall,
Or the mountains should crumble to the sea;
I won't cry, I won't cry, no I won't shed a tear,
Just as long as you stand, stand by me.
So darling, darling, stand by me, stand by me,
Whenever you're in trouble, won't you stand by me.

Dancing in Buses

Pretend a boom box blasts over your shoulder.
Raise your hands in the air. Twist them as if picking limes.
Look to the right as if crossing streets.
Look to the left, slowly as if balancing orange baskets.
Bend as if picking cotton. Do the rump.
Straighten up as if dropping firewood.
Rake, do the rake. Sweep, do the sweep.
Do the Pupusa-Clap-finger dough clumps. Clap.
Do the Horchata-Scoop—your hand's a ladle, scoop.
Reach and scoop. Now, duck. They're shooting.
Duck under the seat, and don't breathe.
Hands behind your head.
Drop down.
Look at the ground.
Roll over.
Face the mouth of the barrel.
Do the protect-face-with-hand.
Don't scream.

Abendlied

Blieb' bei uns, denn es will Abend werden,
Und der Tag hat sich geneiget, sich geneiget.

*Abide with us, for evening shadows darken,
And the day will soon be over, soon be over.*

Great Day

Great day! Great day, the righteous marching.
Great day! God's goin' to build up Zion's walls.

We want no cowards in our band;
We call for valiant-hearted men.
Chariot rode on the mountaintop;
My God spoke and the chariot did stop.
This is the day of jubilee.
The Lord has set His people free!

De Colores

De colores, de colores Se visten los campos en la primavera
De colores, de colores Son los pajaritos que vienen de afuera
De colores, de colores Es el arco iris que vemos lucir

Refrain: Y por eso los grandes amores De muchos colores me gustan a mí

De colores, de colores Brillantes y finos se viste la aurora
De colores, de colores Son los mil reflejos que el sol atesora
De colores, de colores Se viste el diamante que vemos lucir

[Refrain]

Canta el gallo, canta el gallo Con el quiri quiri quiri quiri quiri
La gallina, la gallina Con el cara cara cara cara cara
Los polluelos, los polluelos Con el pío pío pío pío pío pí

[Refrain]

*In colors, in colors The fields are dressed in the spring.
In colors, in colors Are the little birds that come from outside.
In colors, in colors Is the rainbow that we see shining.*

Refrain: And that is why I love The great loves of many colors

*In colors, in colors Brilliant and delicate is dressed the dawn.
In colors, in colors Are the thousand gleams the sun treasures.
In colors, in colors Is dressed the diamond we see shining.*

[Refrain]

*The rooster sings, the rooster sings With a kiri kiri kiri kiri kiri
The hen, the hen With a cara cara cara cara cara
The chicks, the chicks With a pio pio pio pio pio pi*

[Refrain]

Sólo le Pido a Dios

Sólo le pido a Dios
Que el dolor no me sea indiferente
Que la reseca muerte no me encuentre
Vacío y sólo sin haber hecho lo suficiente

*All that I ask of you God
Is that suffering not be indifferent to me;
That dry death won't find me
Empty and alone without having done enough*

Sólo le pido a Dios
Que lo injusto no me sea indiferente
Que no me abofeteen la otra mejilla
Después que una garra me arañó esta suerte

*All that I ask of you God
Is that injustice not be indifferent to me;
That I won't be slapped on the other cheek
Trapped in the claws of fate*

Sólo le pido a Dios
Que la guerra no me sea indiferente
Es un monstruo grande y pisa fuerte
Toda la pobre inocencia de la gente

*All that I ask of you God
Is that war not be indifferent to me
It is a monster trampling humanity
Crushing the innocence of the people*

Sólo le pido a Dios
Que el engaño no me sea indiferente
Si un traidor puede más que unos cuantos
Que esos cuantos no lo olviden fácilmente

*All that I ask of you God
Is that deceit be not indifferent to me
If a traitor is mightier than the many,
Let the many not forget easily*

Sólo le pido a Dios
Que el futuro no me sea indiferente
Desahuciado está el que tiene que marchar
A vivir una cultura diferente

*All that I ask of you God
Is that the future not be indifferent to me
Hollowed out is the person
Who must leave to live in a different culture*

Pasar la Vida

Soy muchedumbre y soy uno
Cuando camino adelante
O atrás en busca del humo
De la utopía ambulante.
Tengo el destino sellado:
Trashumante.

El abanico del mundo
Se abre tentador fragante
Al sedentario fecundo
Y al nómada rutilante
Peregrino consagrado:
Caminante.

El cielo y el mar rotundos
Se ofrecen al que es amante
De lo que encuentra en el rumbo
De la aventura campante:
Quién le quita lo viajado:
Navegante.

Y el que camina sin rumbo
Y vive siempre el instante
Porque es todos y ninguno
Por una ley infamante...
Es ilegal remarcado:
Inmigrante

Caminante trashumante
Que no olvida
Inmigrante navegante
Vieja herida
Habitante militante
De la vida.

Hymn of Life

*I am a crowd and I am one
When I walk forward
Or behind in search of the smoke
Of the traveling utopia.
I have a sealed destiny:
Wandering shepherd.*

*The fan of the world,
Fragrant, tempting, unfolds
To the motionless fertile,
And to the shining nomad
Consecrated pilgrim:
Walker.*

*Resounding sky and sea
Are offered to the one who loves
what they find in the course
Of the wandering adventure:
No one takes away what he has traveled:
Sailor.*

*And the one who walks aimlessly
And always lives in the moment
Because it is all and none at the same time
By a shameful law...
He is branded illegal:
Immigrant.*

*Walker, wandering shepherd
That they do not forget
Immigrant, sailor
Old wound
Militant inhabitant
Of life.*

Away and In Danger

Away and in danger no hope of a bed,
The refugee children no tears left to shed,
Look up at the night sky for someone to know
That refugee children have no place to go.

The babies are crying their hunger awakes,
But help is at hand and a warm bed awaits.
With work and our care and a wee bit of hope,
We'll guide them and teach them and help them to cope.

Come close, little children, we hold out our hand
In rescue and welcome to shores of our land.
In touching, in healing your fear and your pain
With dreams for your future when peace comes again.

I'm a Person Too

I just found out today that I'm a person too, like you:
I like balloons; lots of people like balloons:
But ev'ryone says, "Isn't she cute? She likes balloons!"
I'm a person too, like you!

I like things that ev'ryone likes:
I like soft things and movies and horses and warm things and red things: don't you?
I have lots of thoughts; like what's behind the sky; and what's behind what's behind the sky:
But ev'ryone says, "Isn't she sweet? She wants to know ev'rything!" Don't you?
Of course I'm very young to be saying all these things in front of so many people like you;
but I'm a person too!

Though I'm only ten years old; I'm a person too, like you!

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

It's been a long dark night, and I've been a waitin' for the morning.
It's been a long hard fight, but I see a brand new day a-dawning.
I've been looking for the sunshine, 'cause I ain't seen it in so long.
Everything's gonna work out fine. Everything's gonna be alright, It's gonna be okay.

I can see the light of a clear blue morning.
I can see the light of a brand new day.
I can see the light of a clear blue morning.
Everything's gonna be alright, It's gonna be okay

You Do Not Walk Alone

You do not walk alone.
May you see the light on the path ahead, when the road you walk is dark.
May you always hear e'en in your sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark.
E'en in your hour of sorrow, when times are hard, You do not walk alone!
May hardness never turn your heart to stone,
May you always remember when the shadows fall,
You do not walk alone.

El Vito

¡Con el vito vito vito! ¡Con el vito vito va!

No me mires tu chiquilla Que me voy a esmorona
No me mires tu chiquilla Que me voy a desmaya
Anda vete que no quiero Pasar por ti mas fatigas
Si te digo que te vayas ¡Que mas quieres que te diga!

With the dance, With the dance, dance, it goes!

Do not look at me, little sweetheart, Or I will fall in love.

Do not look at me, little sweetheart Or I will faint.

Leave me, for I do not want to Pass through more pain.

If I tell you to go What more do you want me to say!

VoiceGivers Choir

VoiceGivers is a professional-caliber chamber choir founded in Pittsburgh in 2019 with a mission to raise awareness of significant social and economic issues in our community while making space for meaningful artistic experience. In partnership with nonprofit organizations, ***VoiceGivers*** presents choral performances that are intended to engage and inspire.

Joseph Stuligross, Artistic Director
Deborah Sadowski, Managing Director

Michael Anderson

Andrew Bloomgarden

Charlene Canty

Sarah College

Barbara Crigler

Deborah Dimasi

Matt Dooley

Ben Filippone

Julie Galati

Kathryn Gibson

Julianna Grabowski

Jim Heinrich

Marsha Keefer

David Knouse

Timothy Marquette

Paul Nicolaysen

Teresa Steigerwalt

Michael Timcheck

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*2019-2020 season supported
by Awesome Pittsburgh*

Program Notes

I. Wandering, Seeking, Separation, and Community

Tonight's program focuses on those who have been separated from their families, and encourages each of us to work in our own way to help bring families together. We start with an exploration of children separated both from family and homeland as a result of the dangerous conditions they face. Thus they wander, sometimes great distances and at significant risk. We will wander with them tonight; we will learn about the Journey of Hope program which houses children who have been separated from their families in this way, and we will learn about some of the many social service programs offered by Holy Family Institute.

We recognize that, in our own way, each of us is a wanderer; each a seeker. While we may seek different things, in different ways, we come wired with this basic purpose. The thrilling opening composition by Jonathan Dove urges us to "Seek Him That Maketh the Seven Stars," a quest which promises to "turn darkness into morning." We musically transform this encouragement over the course of the first part of the program into a suggestion that we each work to turn darkness into morning by creating community in our midst: *Let us, shall we*: stick together ... abide with us ... stand by us ... and (in German), "Bleib bei uns," so that, working together, we can alleviate some of the suffering around us.

Melissa Dunphy's "Dancing in Buses" takes us to Latin America, where we groove to Reggaeton dance music. We move our bodies, carry a boombox; we learn to dance: put your hands in the air; twist them as if picking limes. We do the "rake" the "sweep," the "Horchata scoop." Feel free to take a spot on the dance floor! ... And then, suddenly, ... it's a dance no longer! You see, Dancing in Buses tells the story of a Dreamer. The poetry of Javier Zamora, from his collection "Unaccompanied," tells of his harrowing experience as a 9-year-old travelling from his Salvadoran homeland during the ravages of that country's civil war in the 1990s. His relatives put him on a northbound bus in order to reunite him with his family. The bus was hijacked and he disappeared for three weeks. This music reminds us powerfully of both the exuberant joy of childhood, dancing, and travel, as well as the very real dangers that these children experience. We are grateful to Ms. Dunphy for donating the score for this performance to VoiceGivers.

II. Kids ... Should Be Just Kids: Separation and Reconciliation

We acknowledge that there is much suffering in the world. We can't always stop it. At the same time, we are not afraid to act— each of us carries within ourselves the ability to relieve some of this suffering. The spiritual "Great Day" invites the "valiant-hearted" to join our quest.

When we started this year's VoiceGivers project seeking "Hope and Help for Vulnerable Children," we had no idea that the children that we learned about could be filled with so much joy. Nor did we realize how much we would learn from their spirit as they strive to make the most of their world, how much they are just normal kids with child-like sensibilities and interests. We celebrate childhood with "De Colores," a traditional Spanish language folksong about the wonders of bright colors. It has been popular in Latin America since the colonial era. Another popular Spanish language song, "Sólo le Pido a Dios," asks, "May we not be indifferent to the suffering of others," and observes that a person who must go to live in a different culture can become hollowed out.

“Pasar la Vida,” or “Hymn of Life” offers hope for those who wander. The piece describes four different kinds of wanderers: the wandering shepherd (trashumante), the walker or pilgrim (caminante), the sailor (navegante), and the immigrant (inmigrante). The first four stanzas develop haunting images of what motion means for each of these; and each stanza concludes with a solo summary. The piece also describes some of the joys of wandering, including the realization that “amazing sky and sea offer themselves to the one who is a lover of what is found through a wandering adventure.” The stanza on immigrants observes that they “always live in the moment because it is all and none at the same time” and describes the shame of being branded “illegal.” The final stanza brings back each of the four wanderers and concludes with the hope that, despite “old wounds,” each of them will embrace their fate and become a “militant inhabitant of life.” The piece concludes with a beautiful musical flowering, showing the way forward as the adventure continues with positive and uplifting energy. The lyrics are by Jorge Mansilla Torres, a Bolivian national who was forced to live away from his home country for many years.

“Away and in Danger” is an arrangement of the traditional Christmas carol, with additional lyrics—and strikingly poignant harmonies—addressing the differences and similarities between modern refugees and a refugee from long ago who had no crib for a bed. It was premiered by the Los Angeles choir Tonicity on a program focusing on the plight of refugees. We invite you to join us in the familiar portions, and are grateful to Mr. Kirchner for donating the score for this performance.

III. Holy Family: Reconciliation and Community, Allowing Space for Hope and Joy

We learn through Leonard Bernstein’s wit that, in fact, a ten year-old is a person, too. And it’s not just because they may be cute, or curious, or fun to watch when they play with a balloon. In fact, they are imbued with the same essential human attributes that we all share (and thus are worthy of our care and attention).

When we were first discussing this program with some of the Holy Family staff, Senior Vice President Liz Stephenson observed that it sometimes seems easier for the public to understand and empathize with the plight of immigrant refugees from far away than with those right here in our local communities who suffer, and are in need. She will describe some of the ways that Holy Family Institute addresses these needs.

Then, fresh off of Liz’s heartening words, our program engages in a hopeful and joyous sprint to the finish. We learn from Dolly Parton in the song “Light of a Clear Blue Morning” that we can, in fact, see light, even after a long dark night. “You Do Not Walk Alone,” by the wonderful young composer Dominick DiOrio, reminds us that part of the path to light is generated by standing together as a community, working together to help each other in difficult times. We close with the wild, romping Spanish dance, “El Vito,” a tour de force which calls for two pianists and the full vocal resources of the ensemble. These pieces address the clarity and hope and triumph that come when we help others and also help to express our belief in the role of music itself in addressing the world’s problems. Given its comforting abilities, we implicitly believe that music is an ideal vehicle for a program devoted to support for those who suffer. In addition, music and song serve as a metaphor—that is, music and singing as a metaphor for the good work that we seek to do in the world, as well as the joy with which we do it.

Biographies

Joseph Stuligross, VoiceGivers Artistic Director, is Conductor of the University Singers at the Mary Pappert School of Music at Duquesne University. He is active as both a singer and choral conductor, and has earned a Bachelor's degree from the College of Wooster in Ohio and a Master's degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Wisconsin. In addition, Mr. Stuligross has completed advanced conducting study at West Virginia University and has studied conducting with renowned conductors Robert Fountain, Joseph Flummerfelt, Simon Carrington, Robert Page and Paul Salamunovich. He has conducted singers of all ages and skill levels, including many years directing high school-age groups at the Lawrenceville School in New Jersey. He has also conducted college-age singers as well as amateur and professional adults, guided by the belief that all are capable of honest and genuine musical expression. He continues to serve as Choir Director at Waverly Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh.

In addition to his musical interests, Mr. Stuligross served for many years as a federal court and appellate litigator for the United Steelworkers.

Kyle Davies, Piano. As a pianist, composer and organist, Kyle has had a lifelong passion for music. He brings this passion to each of his musical endeavors. Kyle earned a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from Syracuse University. During his time at Syracuse, he served as both affiliate artist and graduate teaching assistant. Kyle attained his Bachelor of Music degree from Susquehanna University. Kyle possesses extensive experience in solo and collaborative performing and has concertized in several states. Currently he serves as Director of Music Ministries at St. Valentine Catholic Church in Bethel Park, PA.

Daryl Shawn, Guitar, grew up among Amish farms in rural Pennsylvania, studied classical and flamenco guitar in between jazz classes at Berklee College of Music, then moved to Oaxaca, Mexico, where he spent five years focusing on the solo guitar before settling in Pittsburgh. He has released seven albums and performed over 500 times in 33 states, as well as Canada and Mexico. His videos have been viewed over a half a million times on YouTube. He maintains a full schedule of solo performances in Pittsburgh, and also streams a live "micro-concert" every weekday at 5 pm on his Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/darylshawnmusic>).

Jordan Bender, Percussion, is a junior at the University of Pittsburgh pursuing a double degree in computer science and music with a concentration in percussion performance. He is a percussionist and pianist trained in classical music and jazz and is also proficient at musical theater. At Pitt, he is a member of and has been a featured performer in the university orchestra and the jazz ensemble. Jordan also is playing in the pit orchestra for theater productions from Pitt Stages and the Pitt Musical Theatre Club. He is also a composer and arranger.

Thank you for attending this, the second performance in the inaugural season of ***VoiceGivers***, a new, professional-caliber chamber choir that works with nonprofit organizations to raise funds and awareness of community issues.

We understand that one of the reasons audience members, including maybe you, are here is to support a cherished nonprofit organization and the profound work that it does. Your presence and our purpose go beyond the momentary gratification of an entertaining evening. We acknowledge and applaud that purpose and your attendance. May this time be nourishing and fulfilling for you.

We also recognize that the world today bombards us with an extraordinary volume of information, often in ways that lead to paralysis rather than action. “What can I possibly do to help?” we sometimes hear people say, with a sense of frustration and powerlessness. We strive to encourage deep engagement with issues and connections with the organizations that work toward solutions. ***VoiceGivers*** musical programs are integrated with the mission of each partnering nonprofit. The excitement of music follows an emotional arc interspersed with exploration of community issues and the work that the nonprofit does to address them.

This season, dedicated to *Help and Hope for Vulnerable Children*, deepens our understanding of three issues and associated nonprofit organizations. In fall 2019, we joined with the **Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition** (ppcc-pa.org) to explore the challenges faced by caregivers of children with medically complex diagnoses.

Today’s program spotlights **Holy Family Institute** (hfi-pgh.org), an organization that offers a wealth of social services to children and adults, including the Journey of Hope program (hfi-pgh.org/journey-of-hope), which cares for children arriving at our southern border without parents or legal guardians. The dedicated staff of Holy Family offer shelter, food, clothing, counseling, recreation, and education to these children, who typically stay for 30-45 days before being placed with family members or qualified sponsors.

On May 9, we support **Wilkinsburg Community Ministry** (wcml5221.org), an emergency food pantry and meals program serving Wilkinsburg and neighboring communities. That program will explore challenges of hunger; it will be held at Waverly Presbyterian Church in Regent Square.

We are so grateful to the spectacular singers who have volunteered time, energy, and talent in support of this mission. We are especially thankful to the team at Holy Family Institute who have taught us so much about these issues and have been so easy and fruitful to work with in preparation for today’s performance.

Joseph Stuligross, Artistic Director
Deborah Sadowski, Managing Director

VoiceGivers Choir gratefully acknowledges the immense engagement and contributions of those who helped to create this performance!

Holy Family Institute

Sister Linda Yankoski, President & CEO

Michael Sexauer, EVP, Chief Operating Officer

Meg Bernard, Director of Development

Amanda Bublinec, Development & Marketing Coordinator

Hannah Godwin, Activities Coordinator / Shift Supervisor

Lynn Guerra, Director of Volunteer Services

Marnie Weston, Program Director, Journey of Hope

Liz Stephenson, Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health and Residential Services

Liz Fetchin, Owner/Director (Elm Ink)



Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon

Rev. Dr. Donna Giver-Johnston, Pastor

Outreach Committee

Kate Colville, Bruce Haughin, Alice Nadin, Bob

Nadin, Judy Pastor, Janet Kenny-Smith,

Don Smith, Event Volunteers

Timothy Heavner, Music Director

Tracey Mundorf, Administrative Assistant



VoiceGivers

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Steve Mellon, Videographer/Photographer

Scott Wilwohl, Caterer

Café Notte, Reception Venue

Waverly Presbyterian Church, Rehearsal Venue



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