

Bethany Lutheran Church, ELCA

We reflect Christ in message and actions! 76 W. Crystal Lake Avenue, Crystal Lake, IL 60014 www.bethanylc.com | frontdesk@bethanylc.com | 815.459.2690

Summer Sundays at Bethany: Connecting to the Classics Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 3:00pm

Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565 | J. S. Bach (1685–1750) Aaron Knodle, organ

Despite being (likely) the most recognizable piece by [J. S.] Bach, there is dispute as to whether or not this work was actually written by the famous German composer. The oldest extant source of the piece actually exists in another composer's hand (Johannes Ringk (1717–1778)). Further, this piece could have been composed as early as c. 1704 or as late as the 1750s, further complicating this work's authorship and origin.

Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23 | Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849) Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

One of Chopin's best-known works for solo piano, the ballade appears in several films including Gaslight (1944), Impromptu (1991), and The Pianist (2002). In Western Music, Chopin is lifted up as one of the first major composers to specialize to one idiom, in Chopin's case, the piano.

Panis angelicus | César Franck (1822–1890) O del mio amato ben | Stephano Donaudy (1879–1925) Aaron Knodle, tenor

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum; dat panis coelicus figuris terminum: O res mirabilis! Manducat Dominum pauper, servus et humilis.

The bread of the angels becomes the bread of mortals; the bread of heaven puts an end to prefigurations. O wondrous thing! the poor, the slave and the humble feed on their Lord.

O del mio amato ben perduto incanto! Lungi è dagli occhi miei chi m'era gloria e vanto! Or per le mute stanze sempre la cerco e chiamo con pieno il cor di speranze? Ma cerco invan, chiamo invan! E il pianger m'è sì caro, che di pianto sol nutro il cor.

Oh, lost enchantment of my dearly beloved! Far from my eyes is the one who was, to me, glory and pride! Now through the empty rooms I always seek her and call out with a heart full of hopes? But I seek in vain, I call in vain! And the weeping is so dear to me, that with weeping alone I nourish my heart.

Mi sembra, senza lei, triste ogni loco. Notte mi sembra il giorno; mi sembra gelo il foco. Se pur talvolta spero di darmi ad altra cura, sol mi tormenta un pensiero: Ma, senza lei, che farò? Mi par così la vita vana cosa senza il mio ben.

It seems to me, without her, sad everywhere. The day seems like night to me; the fire seems cold to me. If, however, I sometimes hope to give myself to another cure, one thought alone torments me: But without her, what shall I do? To me, life seems a vain thing without my beloved.

Fantasie Brillante on Themes from Bizet's Carmen | François Borne (1840–1920) Ellie Pierzina, flute | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

François Borne (or Bourne) was a French flautist, composer, and professor. Although Borne is recognized for making some technical improvements to the flute, he is actually remembered for the piece on today's program, which has become a staple of Romantic era (c. 1800–c. 1910) flute repertoire.

Four Songs, Op. 13 | Samuel Barber (1910–1981) II. A Nun takes the Veil | III. The Secrets of the Old | IV. Sure on This Shining Night Ayesha Casie Chetty, soprano | Aaron Knodle, piano

The texts selected for this song cycle are not unified by their subject matter but were simply of interest to Samuel Barber. In addition, the songs are not connected by musical elements either. The most famous of these songs is "Sure on this Shining Night," which Barber claims he was forced to sing the opening phrase of once to a New York City telephone operator, who withheld his new telephone number until he relented.

Sonata No. 3 | G. F. Handel (1685–1759) | arr. Sigurd Raschér (1907–2001) I. Adagio | II. Allegro Andrew McKay, alto saxophone | Aaron Knodle, piano

Originally for violin and basso continuo, 21st century scholarship calls the above work's authorship by G. F. Handel "spurious". Regardless, it was arranged for alto saxophone by Sigurd Rachér, a German-born saxophonist who enjoyed a long career in the United States and was an important figure in developing repertoire for the classical saxophone.

Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne in C Major, BuxWV 137 | Dieterich Buxtehude (c. 1637–1707)

Aaron Knodle, organ

Because of the destruction and loss of life wrought by the Thirty Year's War (1618–1648), Danish composer and organist Dieterich Buxtehude used scaled-back instrumentation in many of his compositions and may even have employed women in some of his church choirs, an unusual practice for the time.

As you leave today, we are collecting a free will offering to benefit Kids in Need of McHenry County (KINMC), which works to identify and provide resources to help kids in need thrive during childhood.

Future Sundays

Sunday, July 9, 2023 at 3:00pm | An Afternoon on Stage | Music from Broadway Sunday, August 6, 2023 at 3:00pm | String Serenades | Music for violin

Meet today's artists

Dr. Ayesha Casie Chetty is a social scientist whose primary research lies at the intersection of race, gender, and culture. She currently works as a researcher in federal contracting and is a consultant for Chorus America. Ayesha holds a PhD in sociology from the University of Cincinnati and is a classically trained pianist and singer holding an Associate and Licentiate in piano performance from Trinity College London.

Dr. Aaron Knodle is Director of Worship and Music at Bethany Lutheran Church where he plays the church's Clarence Agnes Carlson Memorial organ, and conducts the Bethany Choir and Bell Canto Ringers. Aaron has degrees in organ performance, music education, sacred music, and choral conducting from Luther College, Boston University, and the University of Cincinnati – College-Conservatory of Music.

Andrew McKay earned a BA in Music with teacher certification from Edinboro University, PA (now Pennsylvania Western University), where he studied saxophone with David Sublette, and has pursued graduate studies in Music Education at Northern Illinois University and VanderCook College of Music. He has taught elementary and middle school vocal music in Erie, PA, elementary band in McHenry, IL, and high school band in Huntley, IL. He also served as a brass and visual instructor with the Lake Erie Regiment Jr. Drum and Bugle Corps, was a designer and clinician for numerous high school marching bands in both Pennsylvania and Illinois, served as an IHSA woodwind adjudicator, and conducted the Adult Choir at Bethany Lutheran Church for seven years.

Ellie Pierzina just completed her second year at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign (UIUC) where she studies music education with flute as her primary instrument and is a UIUC Smith full-tuition scholarship recipient. While at school, Ellie is active in the Marching Illini, serves as president of Illini Student Musicals, and is a brother of Kappa Kappa Psi. She studies flute with Dr. Jonathon Keeble and Hideko Amano.