



## Bethany Lutheran Church, ELCA

We reflect Christ in message and actions!

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### Summer Sundays at Bethany: String Serenades | Sunday, August 6, 2023 | 3:00pm

Sonatina in G major for violin and piano, Antonín Dvořák (1841–1904)

I. Allegro risoluto | II. Larghetto | III. Molto vivace | IV. Allegro

Satish Casie Chetty, violin | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

**Antonín Leopold Dvořák** was a Czech composer who frequently employed rhythms and other aspects of folk music into his compositions. The “Largo” from his famous orchestral work, *Symphony From the New World*, was one of several pieces performed in a Japanese internment camp at Sumatra by a vocal orchestra made up of female prisoners of war on December 27, 1943. The four (4) short movements of the **Sonatina in G major for violin and piano** are inspired by Dvořák’s experience in the United States, specifically his encountering of both Black spirituals and Native American music.

Theme FROM *Schindler’s List*, John Williams (b. 1932)

Satish Casie Chetty, violin | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

**John Towner Williams** has composed some of the most popular, recognizable, and critically-acclaimed film scores in cinema history. With 53 Academy Award nominations, he is the second most-nominated individual, after Walt Disney. The 1993 film ***Schindler’s List*** is based on the 1982 novel *Schindler’s Ark* and follows Oskar Schindler, a German industrialist who saved more than a thousand mostly Polish–Jewish refugees from the Holocaust by employing them in his factories during World War II. Williams said of this film score: “The film’s ennobling story, set in the midst of the great tragedy of the Holocaust, offered an opportunity to create not only dramatic music, but also themes that reflected the more tender and nostalgic aspects of Jewish life during these turbulent years.”

Spring, Herman Beeftink (b. 1953)

Ellie Pierzina, flute | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

**Herman Beeftink** is a Dutch-American composer who immigrated to the United States in 1982 and has been living in Southern California ever since. For 15 years, Herman worked as a studio keyboardist and played for several popular TV shows, including *Cheers*, five seasons of *Roseanne*, and the entirety of *Home Improvement*. In 2000, he started his own production company but has been trying to pivot to another passion, composing stand-alone performance pieces such as the work on today’s program, **Spring**.

Sonate pour flûte et piano, Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)

I. Allegro malinconico | II. Presto giocoso

Ellie Pierzina, flute | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

**Francis Jean Marcel Poulenc** was a French composer and pianist who was long seen, particularly in France, as a humorous, lightweight, and unserious composer. Though some scholarship still refers to Poulenc in this way, 21<sup>st</sup> century scholarship has given more weight to his sacred music and heavier repertoire portraying Poulenc as a more serious and innovative composer. **Sonate pour flûte et piano** (Flute sonata) has become one of Poulenc’s best-known works and is a prominent feature in 20th-century flute repertoire. The work was commissioned by the American Library of Congress and is dedicated to the memory of Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, an American patron of chamber music.

Two pieces by Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

Après un rêve (Op. 7, No. 1) | Berceuse (Op. 16)

Satish Casie Chetty, violin | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

**Gabriel Urbain Fauré** was a French composer, organist, pianist, and teacher. He was one of the foremost French composers of his generation and his musical style influenced many 20th-century composers. Notably, Fauré composed most of his highly regarded works later in life. **Après un rêve** is originally for solo voice and piano, and is

one of Fauré's most popular vocal pieces. The title means "After a dream" and depicts a romantic flight with a lover, away from the earth and "toward the light". Upon awakening, however, the dreamer longs to return to the "mysterious night" and the ecstatic falsehood of their dream. **Berceuse** means "cradle song" and is a short piece originally for violin and piano (though later orchestrated and arranged for other instruments) written circa 1879.

Alt-Wiener Tanzweisen, Fritz Kreisler (1875–1962)  
Schön Rosmarin | Lebeslied  
Satish Casie Chetty, violin | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

**Friedrich "Fritz" Kreisler** was an Austrian-American violinist and composer. Kreisler was one of the most noted violinists of his time and is still regarded as one of the greatest Western violinists of all time. **Alt-Wiener Tanzweisen** (German: Old Viennese Melodies) is a set of three short pieces originally for violin and piano. The three (3) pieces are titled Liebesfreud (Love's Joy), Liebesleid (Love's Sorrow), and Schön Rosmarin (Lovely Rosemary) and were often performed by Kreisler himself as encores.

Méditation FROM Thaïs, Jules Massenet (1842–1912)  
Satish Casie Chetty, violin | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

**Jules Émile Frédéric Massenet** was a French composer of the Western Classical Romantic era (c. 1800–1910) best known for his operas, of which he wrote more than thirty (30). The **Méditation** is an instrumental entr'acte performed between the scenes of Act II in the opera *Thaïs*. In the first scene of Act II, Athanaël, a Cenobite monk, confronts Thaïs, a beautiful and hedonistic courtesan and devotée of Venus, and attempts to persuade her to leave her life of luxury and pleasure and find salvation through God. It is during a time of reflection following the encounter that the Méditation occurs.

Csárdás, Vittorio Monti (1868–1922)  
Satish Casie Chetty, violin | Ayesha Casie Chetty, piano

**Vittorio Monti** was an Italian composer, violinist, mandolinist, and conductor whose most famous work, Csárdás, appears on today's program. Written around 1904, **Csárdás** (or Czardas) is a rhapsodical concert piece. A "rhapsody" in music is a one-movement work that is episodic yet integrated, free-flowing in structure, and often features a range of highly-contrasted moods, colors, and tonalities. This particular work is also folkloric in nature and based on a Hungarian csárdás (a folk dance whose name ("csárda") refers to a roadside tavern or restaurant).

**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** | Join us next summer for four (4) unique concert experiences starting in May 2024!

### 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. Satish Casie Chetty**, a native of Sri Lanka, started playing the violin at the age of 10. Currently based in Cincinnati, he is the founder of the Clifton Chamber Players, a professional ensemble that brings Western classical, folk, and popular music to local audiences. Satish also regularly plays with the Queen City Opera. In 2010, he participated in the Kennedy Center's Summer Music Institute orchestral program and in 2019, he made an appearance on the popular TLC TV show *Say Yes to the Dress*. Satish holds a PhD in Developmental Biology and works for a medical AI start up as a clinical scientist. Outside of music, he enjoys tennis, squash, trivia, and dog-sitting for his friends.

**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.