

Sounds Italian

April 20 at 7:00 pm—Nativity Lutheran Church
April 21 at 3:00 pm—Sunriver Christian Fellowship



Central Oregon 
MASTERSINGERS

Central Oregon MASTERSINGERS

Dear Cherished Listener,

Welcome! We are deeply grateful for your presence here today. The choir has been preparing this program for months, and now that you're here, the music will truly come alive.

Back in 2018, I began brainstorming with the COM Board of Directors about taking our show on the road. As we considered locations for our first international tour, I consulted with Music Contact International, a tour company with whom I had previously traveled, to discuss various options and performance venues. One such scenario involved singing at The Vatican. Wouldn't THAT be something! Long story short—I shared recordings of Central Oregon Mastersingers, which were screened by local officials in Rome, and we are now scheduled to sing Mass at St. Peter's on Sunday, June 30. They must have liked us. Amazing.

When preparing for this concert (and our tour to Rome in June), it was clear that we needed to include music by Italian composer, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina. Possibly the most important composer of the late Renaissance, Palestrina (1525 or 1526–1594) produced hundreds of sacred vocal works and held positions at several churches in Rome, including St. Peter's Basilica. Palestrina greatly influenced the development of church and secular music in Europe, and consequently, the multitude of musicians who have kept this music alive over the centuries.

While the program focuses on music from Italy, we wanted to showcase our talented singers (both in Central Oregon and on tour) by offering selections from other genres as well. We are particularly excited to share R. Nathaniel Dett's lush setting of *Ave Maria, Pilgrims' Hymn* by Stephen Paulus, and Moses Hogan's exuberant *Elijah Rock*.

On behalf of my fellow artists, we welcome you again and thank you for choosing to spend this time with us. It's truly a privilege to make music, and even more so to share it with friends.

With appreciation,



Cristian

This past November, I attended an orientation trip to Rome to visit our performance venues and meet with local guides in order to plan for our tour. This photo was taken from the far end of Saint Peter's Square, with the basilica in the background. It's still hard to believe that we've been invited to sing in this sacred space. Amazing.

PROGRAM

Sia laudato San Francesco..... from <i>Laudario di Cortona</i> (13th century)	Anonymous
The Word Was God.....	Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962)
Ave Maria.....	Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548–1611)
Ave Maria.....	R. Nathaniel Dett (1882–1943)
Missa brevis..... Kyrie Gloria Credo Sanctus Benedictus Agnus Dei I Agnus Dei II	Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525–1594)

INTERMISSION

Cantate Domino.....	Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643)
Sicut cervus.....	Palestrina
Ecco mormorar l'onde.....	Monteverdi
Il bianco e dolce cigno.....	Jacques Arcadelt (1507–1568)
Da pacem domine.....	Orlando di Lasso (c. 1532–1594)
Super flumina Babylonis.....	Palestrina
Elijah Rock.....	Moses Hogan (1957–2003)
Pilgrims' Hymn.....	Stephen Paulus (1949–2014)
How Can I Keep From Singing?.....	Sarah Quartel (b. 1982)

TRANSLATIONS

Sia laudato San Francesco

*Praised be St. Francis,
Who appeared crucified,
Like the savior.*

*Formed like Christ's,
His wounds were a sign
That he had worn his love
Written in his heart.*

*By divine inspiration
He was given the aspiration
To save from perdition, many sinners.*

*When he was sent by God,
Saint Francis the Blessed,
The world that was darkened
Received great splendor.*

Ave Maria

*Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
And blessed is the fruit of your womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.*

Missa brevis

Kyrie

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.*

Gloria

*Glory to God in the Highest
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,*

*O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

Credo

*I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,*

TRANSLATIONS

*who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.*

Sanctus

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Benedictus

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Agnus Dei

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.*

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Cantate Domino

*Sing to the Lord a new song,
Sing and give praise to his name:
For he hath done marvelous things.
Sing and exult and praise,
In songs with the harp and the voice:
For he has done marvelous things.*

Sicut cervus

*Like as the hart (deer) desireth the water-brooks:
So longeth my soul after thee, O God.*

Ecco mormorar l'onde

*Hear the gentle breezes murmuring,
And the leaves and young trees
Trembling in the morning air.
And, above, on leafy branches
Beautiful birds sing sweetly,
And, slowly, the eastern sky brightens.*

*Now the dawn begins to appear,
And to cast a reflection in the sea,
And to lighten the sky,
And to make pearls of delicate dewdrops,
And to clothe in gold the high mountains.*

*Oh, radiant and shining dawn,
His breeze is your messenger,
And you are the messenger of the breath
That restores each ardent and
Withered heart.*

Il bianco e dolce cigno

*The gentle, white swan, singing, dies;
And I, weeping, reach the end of my life.
He dies a strange and different fate, disconsolate.
And I die a blessed death, which, in dying,
Fills me fully with joy and desire.
If, in dying, I did not feel any pain,
I would be content to die a thousand deaths.*

Da pacem domine

*Give peace in our time, O Lord
Because there is none other
That fighteth for us
But only thou, O God.*

Super flumina Babylonis

*By the waters of Babylon,
There we sat and wept,
When we remembered thee, O Zion.
On the willow trees in their midst,
We hung up our harps.*

Inspired by the power of music to positively affect lives, we seek to enrich and enhance our community through the presentation of high quality choral music.

PERSONNEL

Artistic Director: CHRISTIAN CLARK began playing piano at the age of three and singing in choirs at the age of five, and has continued doing both ever since. He holds degrees in vocal performance and choral conducting, and has taught choir and voice lessons to students in elementary school through college. Before moving to Bend in 2011, Christian enjoyed a successful career in his hometown of Houston, TX, as a director of award-winning junior high and high school choirs. During this time, he also performed as a tenor soloist with numerous church, community, and professional choruses, and directed several choirs. A highlight was helping to prepare the Houston Masterworks Chorus for an on-stage performance of *Carmina Burana* with the Houston Ballet at the Wortham Theater Center in downtown Houston. Christian is a founding member of local chamber choir, Bend Camerata, a member of the Sunriver Music Festival Board of Trustees, and has served on the faculty at Central Oregon Community College.

Collaborative Pianist: DIANE THIELEN's love of piano began at the age of five. At age 12, she began playing the piano and organ for church services and vocal groups, a focus that has been a priority throughout her life and piano career. Diane earned a B.S. in Music from Arizona Christian University with an emphasis in piano performance. A gifted accompanist, Diane sought broader opportunities which grew into a 12-year staff position in the North Clackamas School District in Clackamas, Oregon and 7 years at Multnomah University in Portland, Oregon. Diane's passion lies in creating a supportive teamwork with directors and students alike, having worked with thousands of students of all ages in choirs, choral and solo competitions, concerts, and musical theater productions as well as continuing serving in local churches. Having moved with her husband to Central Oregon in 2016, she has been privileged to accompany the Central Oregon Mastersingers, Bend Camerata, Youth Choir of Central Oregon, the Sunriver Music Festival Young Artists Scholarship Program, and several high school and middle school choirs. Diane and her husband of 40 years are thankful to have their adult children and young grandson in the Central Oregon area.

Central Oregon Mastersingers stands as a testament to the transformative power of music and the collective spirit of its community. With a rich tapestry of voices, this ensemble has become synonymous with artistic excellence, passion, and a commitment to enriching the cultural landscape of Central Oregon. Established in 2005 by composer/conductor Clyde Thompson, who directed the choir for more than 10 years, Central Oregon Mastersingers is currently led by Artistic Director and Conductor, Christian Clark. Under Christian's expert direction, Central Oregon Mastersingers has flourished into a dynamic force within the choral community. Known for its impeccable blend, expressive interpretation, and innovative programming, the ensemble has garnered acclaim for its performances of classical masterpieces, contemporary works, and cross-genre collaborations.

Pushing the boundaries of choral artistry and creating unforgettable musical experiences, the ensemble's repertoire covers all musical eras and styles, from catchy arrangements of popular music to major masterworks for chorus and orchestra. Hundreds of singers have participated in the choir since its inception, and the group has collaborated with numerous ensembles and performers including the Sunriver Music Festival Orchestra, Cascade Chorale, Central Oregon Symphony, Youth Choir of Central Oregon, Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble, Grammy-nominated artist Giovanni Parra, and others. Upon invitation, members of Central Oregon Mastersingers recently performed Johannes Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* with the New England Symphonic Ensemble at Carnegie Hall, and with the Berlin Philharmonie in Berlin. This June, members of Mastersingers will travel to Italy and perform concerts in Sorrento and Rome, and sing Holy Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at The Vatican.

Beyond the concert hall, Central Oregon Mastersingers remains deeply rooted in its community. Through outreach programs, educational initiatives, and partnerships with local organizations, the ensemble strives to make music accessible to all. Offering several free concerts each season, along with performances at community events, COM strives to share the transformative power of choral music with audiences of all ages and backgrounds. As Central Oregon Mastersingers looks to the future, its commitment to artistic innovation, community engagement, and musical excellence remains unwavering. Guided by a shared passion for choral music, the ensemble continues to inspire, uplift, and unite audiences through the transcendent power of singing together.

CHORUS LEADERSHIP

Christian Clark, Artistic Director & Conductor
Diane Thielen, Collaborative Pianist
Clyde Thompson, Director Emeritus

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Sandy Ringer
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Central Oregon

MASTERSINGERS

SATURDAY, OCT 12 | 7PM

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCT 13 | 3PM

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH