



**HESSTON COLLEGE
BEL CANTO SINGERS PRESENTS**

God is Love

1 John 4:7-8

2022-23 Bel Canto Tour

Dr. Holly Swartendruber, soprano
Dr. Russell Adrian, conductor
Kenneth Rodgers, accompanist

God is Love

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.

Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4: 7-8

We Are the Music Makers Reginal Wright

Here Is Love Robert Lowry, arr. Greg Wheatley

This Little Light of Mine Traditional Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

In This Place Will Todd

Beautiful City André Thomas

Interlude

Amazing Grace arr. Keith McCutchen

The 23rd Psalm Bobby McFerrin

For This Joy Lobe Den Herren, arr. Susan LaBarr

Wondrous Love Traditional, arr. Alice Parker

I'll Be On My Way Shawn Kirchner

Offertory

Checks may be made out to Hesston College or give online at hesston.edu/give

Lead with Love Melanie DeMore

The Blessing of Aaron Norman Ramsey, arr. Walter Rodby

Interludes

Bright is the Ring of Words from <i>Songs of Travel</i>	Ralph Vaughan Williams
Jesse Kanagy, bass	
Bring Him Home from <i>Les Misérables</i>	Claude-Michel Schönberg
Luke Huyard, tenor	
Come Again, Sweet Love	John Dowland
Aidan Swartzendruber, baritone	
Come Down, Angels	arr. Undine Smith Moore
Holly Swartzendruber, soprano	
Everything I Know from <i>In the Heights</i>	Lin-Manuel Miranda
Desirae Rodriguez, soprano	
Give Me Jesus	arr. Moses Hogan
Andrew Miller, tenor	
Heavenly Sunrise	Jack Shingler
Ken Rodgers, piano	
Live Out Loud from <i>Little Princess</i>	Andrew Lippa and Brian Crawley
Meg Beyer, soprano	
Meine Liebe ist grün	Johannes Brahms
Holly Swartzendruber, soprano	
A Million Dreams	Benj Pasek and Justin Paul
Sadie Oesch and Luke Huyard, duet	
Out There from <i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>	Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz
Daniel Miller, baritone	
Silent Noon	Ralph Vaughan Williams
Ginny Miller, alto	
Zueignung	Richard Strauss
Eli Stoll, bass	

Text and Translations

WE ARE THE MUSIC MAKERS

Reginal Wright

Text by Arthur O'Shaughnessy (1844-1881)

We are the music makers,
We are the dreamers of dreams,
Wondering by lone sea-breakers,
Sitting by desolate streams;
World-losers and forsakers,
On whom the pale moon gleams:
We are the movers,
We are the shakers,
We are the music makers,
We are the dreamers of dreams.

HERE IS LOVE

Robert Lowry (1826-1899), arr. Greg Wheatley

Text by William Rees

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
Loving-kindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our ransom,
Shed for us His precious blood.

Who His love will not remember;
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten,
Throughout heav'n's eternal days.
On the mount of crucifixion,

Fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy,
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.

Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
Poured incessant from above.
Heav'n's peace and perfect justice,
Kissed a guilty world in love.

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Luke Huyard, tenor

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All through the night,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
My God gave it to me,

I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

IN THIS PLACE

Will Todd (b. 1970)

In this place I have been made new;
I have been gifted jewels beyond price.
In this place greater dreams are given.
I am made everlasting.

In this place I am light,
In this place, in your sight
I am made everlasting.

In your love, starting and ending;
I will be carried softly to heaven.
In your love I am given beauty.
I am made everlasting.

You give the strength for me to hold,
You are the hope that shines like gold.
In this place I am new.
In your love I am true.

I will fly with angels to this place,
And be made everlasting.

BEAUTIFUL CITY

André Thomas (b. 1952)

Text from Revelation 21:13 and spirituals:

Oh, What a Beautiful City and In Bright Mansions Above

Three gates in-a the east!
Three gates in-a the west!
Three gates in-a the north!
Three gates in-a the south!
Twelve gates to the city, Hallelu.

Oh, what a beautiful city!
Oh, what a beautiful city!
Oh, what a beautiful city!
Twelve gates to the city, Hallelu.

In bright mansions above,
Lord, I want to live up yonder,
In bright mansions above.

My mother lives up in glory, I want to live there too.
My father lives up in glory, I want to live there too.
My sister lives up in glory, I want to live there too.
My brother lives up in glory, I want to live there too.

Oh, that city! Beautiful city!
God's lovely city! Oh, what a city!

I want to be in that number.
Beautiful City of god.
Twelve gates to the city! Hallelujah!

AMAZING GRACE

arr. Keith McCutchen

Holly Swartzendruber, soprano

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come:
'Twas grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me on.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
Than when we first begun.

THE 23RD PSALM (DEDICATED TO MY MOTHER)

Bobby McFerrin (b. 1975)

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I need,
She makes me lie down in green meadows,
Beside the still waters, She will lead.

She restores my soul, She rights my wrongs,
She leads me in a path of good things,
And fills my heart with songs.

Even though I walk, through a dark and dreary land,
There is nothing that can shake me,
She has said She won't forsake me,
I'm in her hand.

She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes,
She anoints my head with oil,
And my cup overflows.

Surely, surely goodness and kindness will follow me,
All the days of my life,
And I will live in her house,
Forever, forever and ever.

Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter,
And to the Holy of Holies,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World, without end. Amen.

FOR THIS JOY

Lobe Den Herren, arr. Susan LaBarr (b. 1981)

Text by Charles Anthony Silvestri (b. 1965)

Praise for the sun, who by day gives us warmth and enlightens;
Praise for the moon, who the darkest night cheerfully brightens;
Each glitt'ring star shining from ages afar,
Driving away all that frightens.

Praise for the sky under heaven that widely contains us;
Our fertile earth, and her harvest that gently sustains us;
Birds on the wing, lifting their voices to sing,
Free us from all that restrains us.

Our tender hearts, which so wondrously in chambers deeping,
(Can) cherish the joys of new love and, at death's call, the weeping.

Sorrow and pain turn to rejoicing again;
Love now in memory keeping.

Praise for this joy in our hearts as we sing of creation!
Wondrous are all things from firmament down to foundation!
Joyful our praise as all our voices we raise,
Singing in glad celebration!

WONDROUS LOVE

Traditional, arr. Alice Parker (b. 1925)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.

I'LL BE ON MY WAY

Shawn Kirchner (b. 1970)

Holly Swartzendruber, soprano

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 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 above, high above, way beyond the blue.

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.

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'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.

LEAD WITH LOVE

Melanie DeMore

Meg Beyer, soprano and Ginny Miller, alto

You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love,
Put one foot in front of the other and lead with love!

Don't give up hope, You're not alone,
Don't you give up, Keep movin' on.

Lift up your eyes, Don't you despair,
Look up ahead, The path is there.

I know you're scared, And I'm scared too,
But here I am, Right next to you.

THE BLESSING OF AARON

Norman Ramsey, arr. Walter Rodby

The Lord bless you, The Lord keep you.
Make His face to shine upon you,
And be gracious unto you,

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace,
And give you peace. Amen.

Tour Itinerary

Friday, May 12, 7 p.m., Hesston (Kan.) Mennonite Church

Monday, May 15, 7 p.m., Albuquerque (N.M.) Mennonite Church

Wednesday, May 17, 7 p.m., Trinity Mennonite Church, Glendale, Ariz.

Thursday, May 18, 7 p.m., Shalom Mennonite Church, Tucson, Ariz.

Sunday, May 21, 10:30 a.m., Pasadena (Calif.) Mennonite Church

Sunday, May 21, 2:30 p.m., Grace Indonesian Christian Fellowship, Sierra Madre, Calif.

Wednesday, May 24, 7 p.m., First Mennonite Church, Denver, Colo.

We have a lot to celebrate!

This fall Bel Canto Singers turns forty years old! But wait...that's not all. Ken Rodgers will be on his 20th International Chorale tour to Europe and the church in Joure, Netherlands, where we have sung every year, the Doopsgezinde Gemeente, is celebrating its 200th year in their church building.

It's time for a Hesston College Music Department Reunion! Visit hesston.edu/musicreunion to find events for Homecoming in September, choir tour in March, and opportunities to join us on a Europe Alumni Tour!



2022-23 Bel Canto Singers

Soprano

Meg Beyer	Jr.	Harrisonburg, Va.
Joy Jones	Fr.	Lockhart, Texas
Hadassa Friesen Pauls	Fr.	Neuland, Paraguay
Desirae Rodriguez	Fr.	Whittier, Calif.

Alto

Alyssa Burkholder	Jr.	Goessel, Kan.
Kara Longenecker	Sr.	Harrisonburg, Va.
Ginny Miller	So.	Harrisonburg, Va.
Sadie Oesch	So.	Caldwell, Idaho
Rachel Weaver	Sr.	Broadway, Va.

Tenor

Luke Allison	Sr.	Freeman, S.D.
Luke Huyard	So.	Harrisonburg, Va.
Andrew Miller	Fr.	Kidron, Ohio
Jack Shingler	Sr.	Creston, Ohio

Bass

Abraham Cadillo Quispe	So.	Yokohama, Japan
Jesse Kanagy	So.	Lancaster, Pa.
Daniel Miller	Fr.	Arlington, Kan.
Eli Stoll	Fr.	Harrisonburg, Va.
Aidan Swartzendruber	Jr.	Henderson, Neb.



Russell Adrian, D.M.A., has been a member of the Hesston College music faculty since 2015. He conducts the Bel Canto Singers, teaches music theory and has led three International Chorales on three-week tours of Europe. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in conducting from the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis), Master of Music degree in choral conducting from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and graduated from Bethel College (North Newton, Kan.) with degrees in music and mathematics. Russell served as the artistic director of The Summer Singers, a chamber vocal ensemble based in Minneapolis, Minn. from 2012 to 2022. He resides in rural Goessel with his wife, Camille, and three children, Hannah, Micah and Elijah.



Kenneth Rodgers, M.M., has been on the Hesston College music faculty since 1988. He conducts the Hesston College Global Voices and teaches organ and music appreciation classes. As an organist, Ken has accompanied Hesston College choirs on numerous tours of Europe. He has also given recitals in Germany and throughout the United States. In addition to his teaching, he is a member of the Sunflower Trio with violinist Rebecca Schloneger and her husband Matthew, tenor. A native of central Kansas, Ken is a 1985 Hesston College graduate and holds a bachelor's degree from Goshen (Ind.) College and a master's degree in church music from the University of Kansas (Lawrence).



Holly Swartzendruber, D.M.A., is on the faculty at Hesston College where she teaches private voice and Aural Skills 1 and 2 and serves as director of the Sunflower Performing Arts series. She earned a B.A. in music from Goshen College and a Master of Music in vocal performance with a vocal pedagogy emphasis from Ohio University. She completed work for her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Kansas in 2001. Among the theatric and operatic roles Holly has performed are Lucia from Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia*, Despina from Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, Sarah from *Quilters* by Damashek, and Amahl's mother from *Amahl and the Night Visitors* by Menotti. She has performed the soprano solos for Handel's *Messiah*, the Brahms *Requiem*, Mozart's *Requiem* and Mozart's *Exsultate, jubilate*. In addition to performing and her duties at Hesston, Holly teaches voice master classes and adjudicates regionally and statewide.

