



Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys

Spring Program May 2026 | 36th Anniversary Season | 2025-2026



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**Mark your calendars now
for next year's season
led by our new Director of Music
Dr. Eric Reyes.**

**It all begins a short summer away...
see you in the fall!**



SEASON 37 (2026-27)

October Fall Traditional Choral Evensong

- **Saturday, October 24, 2026 - 7:00 PM**
- **Sunday, October 25, 2025 – 3:00 PM**

December Christmas Lessons & Carols

- **Saturday, December 12, 2026 – 7:00 PM**
- **Sunday, December 13, 2026 – 3:00 PM**
- **Monday, December 14, 2026 – 7:00 PM**

March Lenten/Easter Meditations

- **Saturday, March 13, 2027 – 7:00 PM**
- **Sunday, March 14, 2027 – 3:00 PM**

May Spring Sacred Concert

- **Saturday, May 22, 2027 – 7:00 PM**
- **Sunday, May 23, 2027 – 3:00 PM**



THE GRAND RAPIDS CHOIR OF MEN & BOYS

The Conclusion to 2025-26: Season 36
An Evening Giving Way to Our New Dawn
Our Legacy Continues
Shaped by a Sacred Stewardship
Proclaiming the Love of God

Dear Family & Friends of the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys,

As I write to you one last time in my final season of leadership, my heart is full—full of gratitude for your faithfulness, full of wonder at what God has done among us, and full of hope for the blessed future which lies ahead. For twenty-five years, it has been my joy, my calling, and my daily prayer to stand before this choir and help them offer their voices to God.

You have been the ones who made this possible. Through your generosity, your prayers, and your steadfast belief in the power of this particular form of sacred music, you enable this rare and beautiful ministry to flourish. You are sustaining a tradition almost unheard of on this continent, a lineage shaped by the great British cathedral choirs yet rooted here in our own West Michigan community. You understand that GRCMB is not merely a choir. We are a witness, a lamp set upon a stand, a proclamation that beauty still matters, that faith still speaks, and that hope and love still have a voice in our lives.

We live in a world marked by division, by violence, by fear that steals our breath and burdens our spirits. As the world around us fractures and divides, creating beauty becomes an act of resistance, for what lies at the heart of beauty is truth proclaimed...God's truth. When fear grows loud, the voices of our choir become a quiet, radiant defiance to the age in which we live. These boys are learning to carry a message the world desperately needs. God sends the pure voices of children—clear, bright, unguarded—reminding us that hope is not lost.

Through thoughtful training and deep care, we teach our boys not only how to sing, but how to become bearers of light in challenging times. Their voices are small miracles, their singing not an escape but rather a calling...not an ornament but a resistance...not a luxury but light.

As I prepare to step aside, I do so with deep appreciation and trust in our new Directors of Music, Dr. Eric Reyes and Mr. Jordan Malone who will shepherd the Choir into its next chapter. The mission remains unchanged. The Christian faith and message at the heart of our music remains our anchor.

As you continue to love, cherish and support the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys, know that transitions require renewed encouragement & prayers. So may I offer my one final invitation for your help: If our Choir has ever blessed you—if its music has calmed or lifted your spirit, deepened your faith, or reminded you to feel God’s nearness—I ask you to continue to do your part. Your extra generosity today as we prepare for a transition in the coming weeks will ensure that our boys will continue to be formed, guided, and lifted into the work God has given them. In so doing they will bring comfort, blessing and joy to all who come to listen to them sing. Your transition gifts will secure our next chapter.

Finally, as we take our leave, Jane and I offer this blessing for you:

“May the Lord bless you for every prayer you have offered, every gift you have given, and every moment you have believed in this ministry. May He bless the boys & men and their new leaders who will carry this music into the years ahead. May God bless this Choir, that its song may continue to bless you and rise as a gentle mercy over our city. And may God bless each of you with the peace that beauty brings...the hope that faith restores...and the joy that only God can give.”

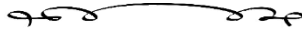
With full hearts and abiding gratitude and love,

*Scott & Jane
Bosscher*



We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Eric Reyes has been named next Music & Artistic Director of the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys

Starting in July of 2026, Dr. Eric Reyes will begin his tenure inspiring the next era in the life of GRCMB.



Dr. Eric Reyes – GRCMB Music Director Designate



Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities:

Hope College – Holland, MI
2020 - Present

Doctorate of Music Arts in Choral Conducting: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor - May 2025

Masters of Music in Choral Conducting: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor - May 2020

Bachelor of Music in Music and Worship, Piano Performance:
Moody Bible Institute – May 2018

Dr. Reyes writes: “I have had the privilege of attending services presented by GRCMB. The experience left me deeply moved, inspired, and hopeful for the future of singing for men and boys.

My own musical journey began as a boy soprano in the Southern California Children’s Chorus, an experience that profoundly shaped my love for choral singing. I am drawn to the choir’s commitment to serving those who gather for worship and reflection through music. It would be an honor to contribute to the continuation of this choir’s rich and vibrant legacy. I also recognize that leading an organization such as GRCMB requires significant care, vision, and long-term commitment. I welcome the opportunity to contribute to that ministry and to help sustain and strengthen the choir’s presence and impact. I approach this opportunity with both enthusiasm and humility.”

Eric is married to soprano Jennie Judd Reyes. Together they are proud parents of their daughter, Josephine.

**We are equally thrilled to announce that
Mr. Jordan Malone has been named Associate
Music Director of the Grand Rapids Choir
of Men & Boys starting July, 2026**



Choir Teacher: Catholic Central High School: 2025 – Present

Director of Sacred Music: St. Paul the Apostle Church & School
2022 - Present

Associates Degree in Music (Voice)
Grand Rapids Community College
May 2019

**Bachelor of Music in Liturgical
Music Studies** (Organ)
Aquinas College - May 2023

**Michigan Teachers of Tomorrow
Certificate** - 2025

Jordan Malone writes: “My journey with the Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys began in 2008 when I joined as a young chorister. As a lifelong musician, educator, and person of faith, I bring not only experience in choral direction and vocal pedagogy, but also a deep sense of gratitude and devotion to the very choir that shaped who I am musically, professionally, and spiritually. GRCMB’s mission to form boys and men in both faith and musicianship has always resonated with me at the deepest level, and I am profoundly honored to continue that mission now in a leadership role with the choir.

I’ve come to appreciate the careful balance of discipline and joy, tradition and innovation which allows this choir to thrive. It is a place where excellence is pursued not for its own sake, but as an act of faith, an offering of beauty that points hearts toward God.”



Pictured: Jordan at age 10, directing the Grand Rapids Choir Of Men & Boys and congregation in “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” at our 2009 Lessons & Carols at the Cathedral of St. Andrew.

GRAND RAPIDS CHOIR OF MEN AND BOYS

MARTIN NEARY MERIT AWARDS

May 16, 2026



Chorister	Choir Years
Leo Symon Ensing	2021-2026
Francis Hillary	2021-2026
Joshua David Lipsy	2024-2026
Liam TenHoopen	2023-2026

GRCMB's Martin Neary Merit Award

Earning medals throughout the chorister years is a very special achievement of which they will be proud to share with their family and friends for years to come. We have created a special award for those boys that meet **all the following criteria** upon leaving the choir:

1. Completion of Theory Book Level 3
2. Awarded the level of Senior Chorister
3. Either voice change or completion of the eighth grade

Boys who are committed to the choir and meet all three of these requirements will be issued an engraved keepsake box to keep their earned medals in. This **Martin Neary** award is meant for boys who have shown an outstanding commitment to the choir. To date, sixty GRCMB choristers have received this honor.

Martin Neary & GRCMB's British Connections

The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys continues to be formed, encouraged, and immeasurably enriched through its long friendship with several of England's most distinguished choirmasters—**David Willcocks, Barry Rose, Martin Neary, Andrew Nethsingha, Matthew Owens**—and America's own **Richard Webster**. Each has, in his own way, breathed something of his artistry, discipline, and joy into our choir's life. We remain deeply grateful for these musicians and friends whose influence still echoes in our sound.

Among them, **Martin Neary** holds a singular place in our story. His work with GRCMB began in 2009, and soon he accepted the role of Associate Director. Over a decade and across nearly twenty Grand Rapids residencies, he shaped our choir with a rare combination of exacting musicianship and pastoral imagination.

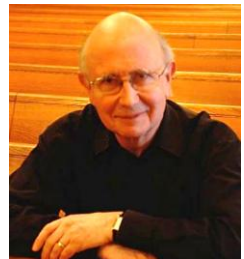
Neary's own life began in dramatic fashion—born in London in the midst of a wartime air-raid. Beginning as chorister of the **Chapels Royal**, from childhood he found himself woven into the ceremonial life of the nation, lending his young treble voice to the coronation of **Queen Elizabeth II** in 1953. His distinguished career carried him to two of England's most storied musical posts: **Director of Music at Winchester Cathedral** (1972–1988) and later **Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey** (1988–1998). Following the death of **Diana, Princess of Wales** in 1997, Neary played a central role in shaping the musical contours of her funeral—an event watched by millions. Though renowned for his high standards, he urged his young trebles to imagine themselves in the place of the grieving Prince William & Harry, helping them sing not only with precision but with compassion.

Martin Neary died on September 27, 2025 from complications of Parkinson's Disease. Yet his legacy—here in Grand Rapids and across the Anglican choral world—remains a testament to a life spent in service of beauty, truth, and the transforming power of sacred song.



**Our Matthew Van Dyke
Receiving the
Neary Merit Award**

Dr. Martin Neary





No joy surpasses this: to stand where heaven
leans close, where breath becomes offering,
where the small voice we carry is taken up
into the great unending song of God.

For this is our privilege, our sacred trust—
to join the praise that began before time,
In this choir, we remember the truth:
we were made to sing His name.

The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys

**A Place Where God's Song
Finds its Voice in Us**



**Our Seasons Concluding Sacred Concerts
Honoring a Long Faithfulness in Leadership
Presentation & Blessing of Our New Directors**



Scott Bosscher – Retiring Director

Dr. Eric Reyes – Principal Director Designate

Jordan Malone – Associate Director Designate

Dr. Julia Brown – Organ

Grace Ye-Eun Kim – Violin

Amy Netz – Rehearsal Pianist

Basilica of St. Adalbert

Saturday, May 16, 2026 – 7 PM

Sunday, May 17, 2026 – 3 PM

Prelude & Choir Processional

Prelude – Intrada

John Ireland (1879-1962)

Creation Answering its Creator

O God, our strength and our rejoicing,
you have placed a song within us—
a bright thread running through our days,
calling us to rise, to breathe, to sing.
For every dawn that wakes the heart,
for every mercy that steadies our steps,
for every quiet moment when your nearness
settles like light upon the soul—
we lift our voices in gratitude.

You have shaped us for praise,
fashioned our breath to carry wonder,
and taught our spirits to answer your love
with melodies that do not fade.
So we stand before you with open hearts,
glad to spend our lives in this holy work:
to sing of your goodness,
to proclaim your faithfulness,
to let joy become the sound of our days.

Take our voices
and make them instruments of your peace.
Take our songs,
and let them bear witness to the hope
that rises from your eternal love.
For it is our delight,
our calling...our lifelong gift
to sing your praise.

Movement I

Wait...Be Still...Listen for God's Voice



In memory of Chorister Andy Larson, whose life and song remain with us still.

We wait...

in the long pause after prayer...we wait,
in the stillness that feels like holding vigil...we wait,
in the quiet that asks us to listen deeper than sound...we wait.

We wait...

not knowing what shape God's answer will take
not knowing where God's calling will bring us,
knowing only that our longing leans toward Him.

It is only then that God's voice moves through our silence,
Slow as dawn, steady as breath:

"I am here.
Do you hear me?
Let my Wisdom form in you.
Let my Truth uncover what is hidden.
Let my Justice heal what is broken.
Let my Mercy make you kind and forgiving.
I am here. Take my hand.
May I walk beside you?"

The Call of Wisdom

Michael Hampel (Based on Proverbs 8)

Will Todd (b. 1970)

Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of mercy;
walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory.

Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction,
entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger.

I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?

Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value,
jewels sparkle for a while; what you long for is not lasting.

Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom.
Those who know me know my love,
those who seek me find their answer.

God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit coeternal.
Glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of ages.

I am here, I am with you. I have called: do you hear me?

I am here, I am here.

I am here, with you, with you.



When Words Alone Cannot Express

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

John Thornburg (b.1954) Geistliche Kirchengesang (1623)

Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1852-1924)

Choir & Congregation Vrs 1, 2 & 4

Choir Only Vrs 3

**When words alone cannot express
All that our hearts ache to confess,
Bring music! Alleluia!
Bring melody and rhythmic fire!
Bring instruments, bring bells and choir!
Bring music! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**When speech erodes and tempers flare,
When peace gives way to idle dare,
Bring music! Alleluia!
Let Psalms restore our memory
That God has made us to be free!
Bring music! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

(Choir Only)

**When melodies reveal our soul,
When broken pieces are made whole,
Bring music! Alleluia!
When children teach us how to pray,
When simple heroes show the way,
Bring music! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Within each season of our lives,
When every passageway arrives,
Bring music! Alleluia!
Sing when the infant draws a breath;
Sing when the elder yields to death.
Bring music! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The choir's next anthem is led by Jordan Malone
GRCMB's Associate Director Designate
starting July of 2026**

Ubi Caritas

Paulinus Aquileia (796 AD)

Maurice Durufle (1902-1986)

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

(Where charity and love are, God is there.)

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

(Christ's love has gathered us into one.)

Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.

(Let us rejoice and be pleased in him.)

Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.

(Let us fear, and let us love the living God.)

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.

(And may we love each other with a sincere heart. Amen.)



O God, Thou Art My God

Psalm 63:1-5 & 8

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

~ Soloists ~

Treble 1: Saturday: Andrew Barrows – Sunday: Leo Ensing
Treble 2: Saturday: Francis Hillary – Sunday: Joshua Lipsy
Counter Tenor: Brennen Kartes - Tenor: Aaron Wheeler
Bass: David Boersma

O God, thou art my God: early will I seek thee.

My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee:
in a barren and dry land where no water is.

Thus have I looked for thee in holiness:
that I might behold thy power and glory

For thy loving-kindness is better than the life itself:
my lips shall praise thee

As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner:
and lift up my hands in thy Name.

Because thou hast been my helper:
therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

Alleluja.



Movement II

God Calls Us to Love & Serve Others

We live in a season of sharp edges,
voices rising like walls we no longer question,
each of us guarding our corner of truth
as if the world might break without our certainty.

We forget how easily fear becomes habit,
how quickly suspicion becomes the air we breathe.
Yet the old words still wait for us:
“Christ’s love has gathered us into one.”

The love of Christ can loosen our fists,
slow the pace of our outrage,
teach us again the courage of caring.

The living God does not shout above the noise;
He leans toward the smallest opening in us,
asking that we love each other with a sincere heart.

For where we gather in love,
We find the One who has gathered us first,
Drawing each of us toward the center where He dwells.

Ubi Caritas

Paulinus Aquileia (796 AD)

Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
(Where charity and love are, God is there.)

By the love of Christ we have been brought together,
Let us find in him our gladness and our pleasure;
May we love him and revere him, God the living,
And in love respect each other with sincere hearts.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
(Where charity and love are, God is there.)

So when we as one are gathered all together,
Let us strive to keep our minds free of division;
May there be an end to malice, strife and quarrels,
And let Christ our God be dwelling here among us.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
(Where charity and love are, God is there.)

May your face thus be our vision, bright in glory,
Christ our God, with all the blessed Saints in heaven:
Sure delight is pure and faultless, joy unbounded,
which endures through countless ages world without end.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
(Where charity and love are, God is there.)





Hear My Prayer & O for the Wings of a Dove

Psalm 54 (adapted)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Hear my prayer, O God, incline Thine ear!
Thyself from my petition do not hide
Take heed to me! Hear how in prayer I mourn to Thee
Without Thee all is dark, I have no guide

The enemy shouteth, the godless come fast!
Iniquity, hatred, upon me they cast!
The wicked oppress me, Ah where shall I fly?
Perplexed and bewildered, O God, hear my cry!

My heart is sorely pained within my breast
My soul with deathly terror is oppressed
Trembling and fearfulness upon me fall
With horror overwhelmed, Lord, hear me call!

O for the wings, for the wings of a dove!
Far away, far away would I rove!
In the wilderness build me a nest
And remain there for ever at rest.

Movement III

God Asks to Make His Dwelling Within Us



We Build Temples in the Heart

Patrick Murfin (b. 1949)

We have seen the great cathedrals,
stone laid upon stone,
carved and cared for
by centuries of certain hands.

We have seen the slender minarets
soar from dusty streets
to raise the cry of faith
to the One and Only God;

But here tonight, we build temples in our hearts.
Side by side we gather.
Side by side we come.

We scavenge the ages for wisdom,
cobbling together as best we may
the stones of a thousand altars,
leveling with doubt,
framing with skepticism,
measuring by logic,
sinking firm foundations into the earth
as we reach for the heavens.

Here we build temples in our hearts—
a temple for each heart.

A village of temples,
none shading another,
connected by well-worn paths,
built alike on sacred ground.



**The choir's next anthem is led by Dr. Eric Reyes
GRCMB's Princial Director Designate
beginning July of 2026**

Ubi Caritas

Paulinus Aquileia (796 AD)

Paul Mealor (b. 1975)

Treble Soloists: Colt Kirkman & Jack Stover

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

(Where charity and love are, God is there.)

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

(Christ's love has gathered us into one.)

Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.

(Let us rejoice and be pleased in him.)

Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.

(Let us fear, and let us love the living God.)

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.

(And may we love each other with a sincere heart. Amen.)



I Was Glad

Psalm 122 vs. 1-3, 6 & 7

C. H. H. Parry (1848-1918)

I was glad when they said unto me,
We will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is builded as a city that is at unity in itself.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

~ Offertory ~

Meditation on Ubi Caritas

Dr. Larry Visser (b. 1962)

36 Years of Your Caring, Generous Partnering Has Kept our Mission of Music Alive... Thank You!



“I dread the extinction of boys’ choirs!” The Spectator – June 2018

So appeared a recent headline in a prominent British paper. Did you know that there are now only eight daily-singing choirs of men and boys left — four Anglican cathedrals, one Catholic one, two Oxbridge colleges, and one Royal Peculiar. As Britain is the only country in the world that maintains the medieval miracle that is daily sung services with psalms, responses, canticles and anthem, this means that there are only eight choirs of men and boys left in the world singing daily. (Well, nine: St Thomas in New York City has a choir of men and boys who sing five services a week, emulating the glorious British phenomenon.)

This tradition, for those communities blessed to support it, twice blesses. Those who come to listen are given pause to re-think, re-experience, re-feel, reconnect and re-charge. And for the boys who sing, it’s not just about becoming musically literate, it is also about becoming emotionally literate and learning how to grow spiritually.

In the current climate of how the world teaches boys to behave, our sons and grandsons have very few places to turn to learn how to safely express how they feel. What the world needs now more than ever are caring, expressive boys who will grow into men with great empathy for the people and communities in which they will one day live and lead.



The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys is dedicated to our boys, sharing with them how to connect their head to heart and heart to head. *Boys will be boys* must leave our mind-set. In its place let's proclaim that ***boys will be and are caring, expressive, empathetic and open-hearted spiritual human beings.***

As to the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys and the extinction of boys' choirs, with your continued support and prayers the choir remains strong and has now returned to presenting musically and spiritually rich performances throughout the year. We continue to engage several of the world's greatest choirs and choral conductors, to travel to Grand Rapids to be part of our GRCMB family and to inspire the choir to be the very best that it can be.

The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys receives no city or state grants or corporate support, but depends totally upon you, our choir family, for the funds to keep this sacred programming alive.



GRCMB Donate QR Code
Donate Online at:
www.grcmb.org

For tax purposes, GRCMB is a Registered 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit organization.
Contributions to the Choir are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

The Choir's tax-exempt ID# is 38-2919772.

**Movement IV
Lives of Love & Praise**

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

Tune: Engelberg

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000) C. V. Stanford (1852-1924)

**Choir & Congregation Vrs 1, 2, 3 & 5
Choir Only Vrs 4**

**When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!**

**How oft, in making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound
as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!**

**So has the Church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue:
Alleluia!**

(Choir Only)

**And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!**

**Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always:
Alleluia!**

Where Death is Unmade

Love stands where water rises and cannot fall,
for no flood reaches the depth where he descended.

In the stillness of that surrender, life is given—
his body bearing the weight we could not lift,
his breath offered so ours might be restored.

The tree becomes the place where death is unmade,
where the burden we carried is carried by him,
and righteousness opens like morning after storm.

Restored and made whole, we rise into a name not our own,
a people shaped by mercy rather than merit,
called out of the long night into a widening light.

Here we learn the freedom of belonging,
the dignity of priesthood, the courage of praise.
And in gratitude we offer our living bodies,
becoming, through his greater love, a living flame.

Greater Love Hath No Man

John Ireland (1879-1962)

Soloists ~ Treble: Saturday: Flint Townsend - Sunday: Bennett Foreman
Baritone: Saturday: Brandon Harris – Sunday: Daniel Weinrick

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it.
Love is strong as death.
Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Treble Solo: Who his own self bare our sins in his own
body on the tree.

Baritone Solo: That we, being dead to sins, should live unto
righteousness.

Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified
in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;
that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you
out of darkness into his marvellous light.

I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,
that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice,
holy, acceptable unto God, which is your honorable service.

Ubi Caritas

Paulinus of Aquileia (796)

Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

Pianist: Amy Netz

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Where charity and love are, God is there.

Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.

Christ's love has gathered us into one.

Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.

Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.

Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.

Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.

Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

And may we love each other with a sincere heart.



Postlude Thoughts

A Blessing for a Departing Church Musician

Beth Anne Fausone – GRCMB Board Member

The final notes rise gently into the rafters,
as if the wood itself remembers every hymn
your hands have ever offered.

You stand where countless sacred moments have begun,
where your voice has carried both sorrow and joy
into the waiting hearts of God's people.

Now the last song gathers around you like a blessing,
not an ending but a quiet release.

The sanctuary listens with a kind of gratitude,
holding the weight of all you have given—
the unseen hours, the steady faith,
the way you shaped silence into prayer.

As you step back from this familiar altar of sound,
may the God you served in music walk beside you
into whatever new grace is unfolding. Amen.

When the Spirit Moves Through Us

The Spirit enters quietly, effortlessly, without weight,
slipping past the guarded places we pretend to hold,
and settling where our deepest hungers rise.
And because His Love does not divide,
we discover ourselves joined, soul to soul,
woven into a single human tapestry.
Even our differences become threads of His design,
glinting with the same origin, the same intention.
For though our bodies stand apart in form,
each shaped for its own labor and its own path,
we are joined beneath the surface of our days,
woven in a single, unseen brightness of soul.
What touches one, trembles in all.
And when the Spirit strikes the hidden note
(the one creation has waited to hear)
every longing becomes a doorway for His song...effortlessly.

Effortlessly

Mechthild of Magdeburg (1207-1282) Taylor Scott Davis (b. 1980)

Effortlessly, love flows from God into man,
Like a bird who rivers the air without moving her wings.
Thus we move in His world, one in body and soul,
Though outwardly separate in form.
As the Source strikes the note, humanity sings —
The Holy Spirit is our harpist,
And all strings which are touched in love must sound.
Effortlessly...effortlessly...effortlessly.

(A Note from Scott: “After a half a century dedicated to the richness and joy of bringing to life sacred choral music, which anthem should I choose as my final offering? Rather than finishing with rockets and trumpets, I have chosen to end with this new anthem “Effortlessly” by Taylor Scott Davis. While we have all experienced big exciting moments in music, and these are wonderful to be part of, where God has truly met me in my musical journey has mostly been in the quiet stillness of comforting words set to graceful and grace-filled melodies and harmonies. I can think of no better way but to draw my work to a gentle conclusion.”)

Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys 2025-2026 Roster

Senior Choristers

Andrew Barrows +	Charles Good	Joshua Lipsy
Leo Ensing +	Francis Hillary +	Liam TenHoopen
Bennett Foreman	Colt Kirkman	

Junior Choristers

Ezekiel Graeser	Tyler Netz	Axel Townsend
Lincoln Hoeksema	Jack Stover	Flint Townsend
Alex Kazmierczak	Victory Tamungang	Jacob Vande Werken
Timothy Lipsy	Peter Triemstra	Landon Vermeersch

Preparatory Choristers

Calvin Hamby

Counter Tenors

Brennen Kartes	Adrian Pool	Ross Townsend
Michael Match	Quincey Smail	

Tenors

Jacob Davies	Dan Lipsy	Jordan Malone
Chad Dykema	Eric D. Reyes	Art Wallace
Jake Herrera	Michael Steinfort	Aaron Wheeler
Phil Konczyk	Justin Triemstra	

Baritones

David Bading	Brad Hoeksema	Timothy Pennings
Curt Day	Jim Noorman	Randy Rusthoven
David Diephouse		

Basses

David Boersma	Brandon K. Harris	John Scheid
Emmanuel de Leon	John Hibma	Daniel Weinrick
Doug De Vries	Dan Natelborg	

+ = Head Choristers

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Kajjala, Marna

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