

Fall Preview Concert

Lawrence University Choirs

Viking Chorale

Cantata

Concert Choir

Shannon Gravelle and Phillip A. Swan, conductors

Guest conductor and composer

Dr. Coreen Duffy

Friday, October 9, 2026

7:30 p.m.

Lawrence Memorial Chapel

LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY VIKING CHORALE

Shannon Gravelle, conductor

arr. Katie Kring (b. 1983)	<i>Land of Rest</i>	3'
	Patrick Ostermann-Healey, violin Alan Hernandez, violin	

Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)	<i>The Seal Lullaby</i>	5'
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CANTALA

Phillip A. Swan, conductor

Kyle Pederson (b. 1971)	<i>Ahlan Wa Sahlan</i>	4'
	Joseph Connor, soprano saxophone Jean Carlo Ureña González, percussion Laura Balderrama, Sydney Hermanson, Zoe Kaye, Margaret Kuwata, Alease McLain, Gracie Smith, small vocal ensemble	

Daniel J. Hall (b. 1971)	<i>Out of the Morning</i>	5'
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Susan LaBarr (b. 1981)	<i>Where the Light Begins</i>	4'
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Ivo Antognini (b. 1963)	<i>Dormi Jesu</i>	4'
	Meghan Peot, soloist	

Paul Carey (b. 1954)	<i>God Says Yes to Me</i>	4'
	Abraham Prusha, double bass Julia Erskine, soloist	

LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY CONCERT CHOIR

Shannon Gravelle, conductor

Irving Berlin (1888-1989) arr. Roy Ringwald (1910-1995)	From <i>Miss Liberty</i> <i>Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor</i>	3'
Saunders Choi (b. 1988)	<i>The New Colossus</i>	5'
Coreen Duffy (b. 1976)	<i>Forever – is composed of Nows –</i> [World Premiere]	4'
Reginal Wright (b. 1976)	<i>Tides</i>	7'
	Wen-Lei Gu, violin Jenny Snyder Kozoroz, viola	
William Henry Monk (1823-1889) arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)	<i>Abide with Me</i>	4'

COMBINED CHOIRS

Sephardic Folk Songs arr. Matthew Lazar (b. 1948)	<i>Amen Shem Nora / Yehalelu Shemo</i>	4'
	Dr. Coreen Duffy, conductor Jean Carlo Ureña González, doumbek Lili Jennings, Donte Edwards Jr., Ruby Recht-Appel, Alanna Willenson, soloists	

We collectively acknowledge that Lawrence University is situated on the ancestral homelands of the Menominee and Ho-Chunk people.

Texts, Translations, and Notes

VIKING CHORALE

Land of Rest – text: Katie Kring

O Land of Rest, for you we pine
When our anguish knows no end
Land where our tears are wiped away
And our divisions mend.

With broken hearts and tear-filled eyes
We tremble in our grief
But from the sorrows of the world
Is born God's sweet relief

The shadows fall and death lurks near
But through our fears we pray
For we know that the darkest night
Dawns to the brightest day

O Land of Rest, to you we fly
Where wars and borders cease
There, mortal enemies from earth
Are brothers now in peace

The joys and sorrows of this life
Shall pass before our eyes
Though agony will lay us down
In ecstasy we rise.

The Seal Lullaby – text: Rudyard Kipling

Oh! Hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us,
And black are the waters that sparkled so green.
The moon, o'er the combers, looks downward to find us,
At rest in the hollows that rustle between.
Where billow meets billow, then soft be thy pillow,
Oh weary wee flipperling, curl at thy ease!
The storm shall not wake thee, nor shark overtake thee,
Asleep in the arms of the slow swinging seas!

CANTALA

Ahlan Wa Sahlan (أهلاً وسهلاً) – text: Arabic, Kyle Pederson

ahlan wa sahlán (welcome)
and you and me and we
are family
where I'm for you
and I know
you're for me.

This piece was created as part of a collaborative effort for an AMIS (Association for Music in International Schools) high school choral festival in Oman. In English, *ahlan wa sahlán* is translated to mean welcome, but the phrase means a lot more than that. *Ahlan wa sahlán* is a warm reception—a genuine spirit of hospitality that is deeply valued in Oman. The literal derivation is quite lovely; *ahl* means “family” – as my visitor, consider yourself to be part of my family. *Sahl* means “easy” – while you are here, may your stay feel relaxed, as you would feel in your own home.

This collaboratively crafted peace, intentionally integrates/blends influences from both Western and Middle Eastern harmony, melody, rhythm, and language. In the context in which this piece came to life (International Omani Festival with students, musicians, and audience members representing a variety of cultural backgrounds), it seemed very fitting to craft a piece, honoring those various backgrounds and influences, giving tangible meaning to the theme of welcome—which is central to the peace, and a beautiful concept to live into in our turmoil-filled world. May your singers and audience members feel the same sense of welcome when this piece is performed in your context.

Special thanks to Reem Al Yafaey at TAISM (The American International School of Muscat, Oman) for the melodic inspiration of the opening solo.

– Kyle Pederson

Out of the Morning – text: Emily Dickinson

Will there really be a morning?
Is there such a thing as day?
Could I see it from the mountains
If I were as tall as they?

Has it feet like water-lilies?
Has it feathers like a bird?
Is it brought from famous countries
Of which I have never heard?

Oh, some scholar! Oh, some sailor!
Oh, some wise man from the skies!
Please to tell a little pilgrim
Where the place called morning lies!

Out of the Morning was written for Phillip Swan and the University of Miami Women's Chorale and premiered in their 2002 Spring Concert in Gustman Hall on campus.

There are times in our lives when we feel small, and we wonder what the future holds. Even the most basic knowledge of Emily Dickinson's life will reveal that she was no stranger to such sentiment. *Out of the Morning* is a simple yet fervent plea for guidance and should be approached as such.

Where the Light Begins – text: Jan Richardson

Perhaps it does not begin.
Perhaps it is always.

in testimony
and praise.

Perhaps it takes
a lifetime
to open our eyes,
to learn to see
what has forever
shimmered in front of us —

Perhaps this day
will be the mountain
over which
the dawn breaks.

the luminous line
of the map
in the dark

Perhaps we
will turn our face
toward it,
toward what has been
always.

the vigil flame
in the house
of the heart

Perhaps our eyes
will finally open
in ancient recognition,
willingly dazzled,
illuminated at last.

the love
so searing
we cannot keep
from singing,
from crying out

Perhaps this day
the light begins
in us.

This beautiful poem was originally written as a blessing for Christmas by writer and artist Jan Richardson. On her blog (adventdoor.com), she writes, “though we cannot see or feel or know all the ways that God is radiantly illuminating us, may we open ourselves toward that light. May we open our eyes, our hands, our hearts to meet it. May we lean into the light that begins in the deepest dark, bearing itself into this world for us.”

In writing this piece for the Henry Middle School Varsity Treble Choir, their director asked me to contemplate the theme of “peace” for their concert program. This text, while originally written about Advent and the anticipation of Christmas, uses wonderfully universal words that relate to the ideas of peace and hope. Jan’s blessing makes me think that within each of us is the ability to work toward peace. It doesn’t take a monumental action, just many little kindnesses that we can show to others every day which radiate out to bring light to the whole of humanity. When we love, accept, and care for all of our neighbors—despite our differences—we find that the light that the dark world so desperately needs begins in us.

— Susan LaBarr

Dormi Jesu (The Virgin's Cradle Hymn) – text: anonymous, traditional Latin

Dormi, Jesu! Mater ridet
Quae tam dulcem somnum videt,
Dormi, Jesu! blandule!
Si non dormis, Mater plorat,
Inter fila cantans orat,
Blande, veni, somnule.

Sleep, Jesus! Mother smiles
who sees such sweet sleep,
Sleep, Jesus! Sleep, Jesus, gentling!
if you sleep not, Mother weeps,
while she spins, in song she prays,
come, gentle little sleep.

Sleep, sweet babe! my cares beguiling;
Mother sits beside thee smiling;
Sleep, my darling, tenderly!
If thou sleep not, mother mourneth,
Singing as her wheel she turneth:
Come, soft slumber, balmily!

— Paraphrase by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

God Says Yes to Me – text: Kaylin Haught

I asked God if it was okay to be melodramatic
and she said yes
I asked her if it was okay to be short
and she said it sure is
I asked her if I could wear nail polish
or not wear nail polish
and she said honey
she calls me that sometimes
she said you can do just exactly
what you want to
Thanks God I said
And is it even okay if I don't paragraph
my letters
Sweetcakes God said
who knows where she picked that up
what I'm telling you is
Yes Yes Yes

Kaylin Haught's poem *God Says Yes to Me* is a short, conversational work about divine affirmation, self-acceptance, and the gentle freedom of being fully human.

Key Themes

- **Unconditional Affirmation:** The speaker asks God small, trivial, and seemingly silly questions about everyday life – whether it is okay to be melodramatic, short, wear or skip nail polish, or fail to paragraph letters. God's answer is a comforting, constant “yes”
- **A Feminine and Intimate God:** Haught portrays God using female pronouns (“she”) and terms of endearment like “honey” and “Sweetcakes”. This breaks traditional, rigid religious imagery and replaces it with a warm, maternal, and approachable presence.
- **Release from Perfectionism:** The poem gently mocks human neurosis and the constant worry of doing life “wrong”. It suggests that holiness is not about strict rules, but about loving acceptance of our quirks and small imperfections.

CONCERT CHOIR

Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor / The New Colossus – text: Emma Lazarus

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest tossed to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.

Forever – is composed of Nows – text: Emily Dickinson

Forever – is composed of Nows –
'Tis not a different time –
Except for Infiniteness –
And Latitude of Home –

From this – experienced Here –
Remove the Dates – to These –
Let Months dissolve in further Months –
And Years – exhale in Years –

Without Debate – or Pause –
Or Celebrated Days –
No different Our Years would be
From Anno Dominies –

Tides – text: Cara Cullen

When we are tethered to fear we cannot hope
to abolish injustice;
courage gains ground
only when we recognize it beneath our own feet.

You can't test the parting of the sea
without setting foot on to the sand.
Faith in the potential
is the only way to reclaim humanity.

While caution and division
shout above the waves;
hope is the tide that rises
again
and again
persistent even in retreat
already planning to rush in once more.

A chance – to try again
Try again,
better this time
more compassionate this time,
more loving this time,
more understanding this time.

We should be the sea
that never tires of returning to the shore;
that retreats and gathers strength
to fight
again
and again.

Washed clean – not forgotten;
forgiven, to try again
better this time; compassionate this time,
loving this time, understanding
this time.

Abide with Me – text: Henry F. Lyte

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens, Lord with me abide;
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

O Thou who changest not, abide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.
Amen.

Lawrence University Viking Chorale
Shannon Gravelle, conductor
Ella Dorsey, pianist

Soprano

Ebony Austin
Sarah Bleckiner
Laura Castro Ramos
Neveah Conklin
Madeleine Hayward
Delilah Mader
Anika Schwartz*
Georgia Sedlack
Kathryn Silha
Sajel Stewart-Verna
Dalena Westenmeyer

Alto

Kellyn Ash
Brooklynn Bates
Via Bentley
Olivia Carter-
Bergenstein
Melinda Cook
Josette Garcia
Libby Johnson
Murphy Koth
Maleah Lewis
Claire Loan
MJ Madison
Kai Outzen*
Al Pearlmutter-Bearson
Aly Redding Lapuz
Sal Rivera
Emily Rodriguez
Lexi Ruona
Isa Torres
Ada Tuszynski

Tenor

Thomas Gable
Simon Jacob*
Warren Kramer
David McKenzie
Daniel Meyer*
Andrew Rozek
Jakob Vaiphei
Alexander Wilson

Bass

Owen Adameak
Jayden Brohman-
Morgen
Myles Buckley
Cole Bugiel
Jase Frost-Ohlsen
Cade Greco
Luca Herviou
Kirk Kelly*
Hoang Quan Nguyen
Tor Seilheimer
Josh Walker
Truman Wilgocki*
Aidan Wolbert

* Section leader

Viking Board

President: Daniel Meyer

Attendance and EOC: Aly Redding Lapuz, Ebony Austin

Media: Cole Bugiel, Kathryn Silha, Neveah Conklin

Merch: Cole Bugiel, Madge Hayward, Alex Wilson

Social Connections: Kathryn Silha, Jayden Brohman-Morgen, Madge Hayward

Cantala

Phillip A. Swan, conductor

Nhi H. Quach, pianist

Soprano I

America Cackowski

Anja Custer*

Antonia Grassi

Audrianna Hall

Zoe Kaye

Kathleen Leinau

Elise Oehler

Frances Wagner

Soprano II

Elliott Brunner-Selsing

Darby Edberg

Julia Erskine*

Delaney Fogdall

Abigail Geyer

Lydia Shaney

Gracie Smith

Bella Stahl

Tamara Svoiski

Alto I

Sydney Hermanson

Keira Holmes

Kyla Jones

Caroline Kelley

Greta Kurth

Margaret Kuwata

Hayley Mueller

Meghan Peot*

Josie Ryan

Eleanor Turner

Clare Yopp

Alto II

Laura Balderrama

Julia Beardsley

Ella Cerkoney

Addison Gosslin

Alease McLain

Samantha Padgurskis

Iris Robinson

Maggie Wilson

Jennifer Yindra*

* Section leader

Cantala Board

President: Ella Cerkoney, Meghan Peot, Maggie Wilson

Attendance: Josie Ryan

EOC: Julia Beardsley

Social Media: Alease McLain, Frances Wagner

Documentarians: Bella Stahl

Lawrence University Concert Choir
Shannon Gravelle, conductor
Luke Reske, pianist

Soprano

Autumn Chocie
B Duke
Sienna Falanga
Lili Jennings
Megan LaBelle-Smith*
Alison Langteau
Alanna Willenson
Greta Wright

Alto

Lillian Alburg
Sam Caswell
Emily Coleman
Olivia Martin
Josephine Matchette
Metta Mayes
Eden Preston
Ruby Recht-Appel*
Grace Ryden

Tenor

Luke Baker-Trinity
Evan Carlson*
Luke Dabols
Daniel Douglas
Donte Edwards
John Paul Fox-Seidel
Kellan Glenn
Sean Price
Noah Wilgocki*

Bass

Baraka Anderson
Aaron Barrett
Wyatt Cruz Lillegard
Isaac Epley*
Owen Horton
Yildiz Orens
Spencer Phillips
Luke Reske
Finn Sullivan

* Section leader

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Media: Grace Ryden, Noah Wilgocki

Merch: Luke Dabols, Alanna Willenson

Social Connections: Autumn Chocie, Jo Matchette, Lili Jennings

Set Up Crew

Julia Beardsley
Margaret Kuwata
Megan LaBelle-Smith
Jo Matchette
Daniel Meyer
Sam Padgurskis
Truman Wilgocki

Librarians

Autumn Chocie
Addison Gosslin
Megan LaBelle-Smith

We gratefully acknowledge the important role all of the Lawrence faculty play in preparing our students academically and musically, from our colleagues in musicology and music theory, to our colleagues in sight-singing, aural skills and keyboard skills and to our colleagues in the liberal arts. We particularly wish to recognize and thank the voice and piano studio faculty members:

Voice Faculty

Dale Duesing, artist-in-residence

John T. Gates, bass

Eric Gibson, director of opera studies

Esteli Gomez, soprano

Karen Leigh-Post, mezzo-soprano

Kristin Roach, vocal coach and musical director of opera

Cayla Rosché, soprano

Steven Paul Spears, tenor

Keyboard Faculty

Daniel Schwandt, organ

Catherine Kautsky, piano

Eunice Kim, piano

Michael Mizrahi, piano

Anthony Padilla, piano

As a courtesy to the artists and to those in attendance, please be aware that sounds such as whispering and the rustling of paper and cellophane wrappers are magnified in the hall. Please silence all electronic devices. And please, no flash photography.