

Just to say something about St. Martin's Chamber Choir, I have revised my original plans for next season (it originally started with the Festival Singers in September; but I've moved this concert to the spring) so that, if we are not able to do full-scale concerts with a live audience, we can do cameo groups and live-stream the concerts. Buying a "ticket" to the concerts will mean that we will send you a private link to the concert, and you will be able to watch it on your computer, phone, or other device (even TV, if you've got a "smart" TV). There will probably be a concert in late September, another in either late October or early November, and, of course, a holiday concert in December. We have been devising several contingency budgets for next season, one that would assume a "normal" season (highly unlikely, unless a miracle happens); another with a "live-streamed Fall" and a normal Spring; and a third scenario that is too depressing to even talk about. So I won't. ;-)

Anyway, things are happening behind the scenes. The concerts we had originally planned for the first weekend in June (featuring the RVW Mass in G minor) will not take place as planned; but we are working on some sort of an alternate "event/concert" that I will tell you about in next week's *Weekly*.

We continue to live-stream St. Andrew's services from the church, rendered by a choir of 5-7 (plus me, organist, priest, and camera/sound-guy to add up to no more than 10). As I've been saying in the last half-dozen or so *Weeklys*, they can be viewed either live or after-the-fact.

For live services: go to the St. Andrew's Facebook page (no need to join Facebook or have an account) here: <https://www.facebook.com/standrewdenver/> Wait for the live feed to appear (usually 5 minutes before published service time) and click on it.

For recorded services, you can either go to the link above, and click on "Videos" in the menu to the side, and choose from the many we've done so far; OR go to this page on our website: <http://www.standrewdenver.org/online-worship#past-services> (one of our viewers is very understandably so wary of Facebook that he will not go to Facebook on principle, and thus watches services from this site. The only downside is that it sometimes takes a few days for our website administrator to upload and embed it here, so it's not as up-to-date).

For the most recent/upcoming service, you can access a service leaflet (Order of Service) here: <http://www.standrewdenver.org/online-worship#leaflets>

Leaflets of older services are not stored here, so that's a slight incentive to watch a service live or within a few days of its having taken place.

Evensong this week is one of the bigger church feasts -- The Ascension of Our Lord. In past years we have had Evensong followed by Eucharist. With the bishop of our diocese having proscribed communion during this season of "virtual worship," this is obviously not happening this year. It will just be Evensong. But a festive one, in terms of the music. Here's what I've planned:

May 21, 2020, 5:45pm Choral Evensong: *Ascension of Our Lord*

Voluntary: Prayer of Christ Ascending to his Father, by Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Responses: Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)

Canticle of Light: "Let all the world" by Sir George Dyson (1880-1964)

Psalm: – plainchant

Service: George Dyson in D

Anthem: "I will not leave you comfortless" by William Byrd (1543-1623)

Office Hymn: 214 (*Llanfair*)

Voluntary: Heut' triumphiert Gottes Sohn ("Today triumphs God's Son") by J. S. Bach (1685-

1750)

The Dyson Service in D is one of my favorites, and definitely a "big sing" (especially the Magnificat). The first time I heard it live was at a Sunday evensong service at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, when I was living there (so, probably 1990). I was attending with American friend John T., who was visiting from Germany, and I remember the tears pouring down our cheeks during the *Gloria Patri*.

Speaking of tears, I was very touched by an e-mail this week from one of you (who lives in Boston) who said he had tuned in to our Evensong last week, and sang lustily along with Abbot's Leigh ("God is love") with tears in his eyes. I have also received several thank you notes in the mail, and quite a few e-mails and texts, from persons thanking us for doing these services and providing a moment of beauty and inspiration during this time of isolation. Such words are very much appreciated and inspirational for me in return. Thank you!

This coming Sunday is the Seventh (and last) Sunday of the Easter Season. Here's all the music:

May 24, 11:00am, Choral Matins: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Organ Voluntaries: Chant de Paix (Song of Peace), by Jean Langlais (1907-1985); and Prelude in the Classic Style, by Gordon Young (1919-1998)

Responses: Richard Ayleward (1626-1669)

Venite: Timothy J. Krueger

Psalm: 68 - Anglican chant by Richard Woodward (c.1743-1777)

Jubilate: John Camidge (1790-1859) in A

Anthem: "All people, clap your hands" by Thomas Weelkes (1572-1623)

Hymns: 215 (*In Babilone*), 603 (*St. Botolph*)

Organ Voluntary: Crown him with many crowns, by Christopher Tambling (1964-2015)

This is the last time for my new Venite (in case you've been getting sick of it!), as it is the conclusion of Eastertide. The Camidge is a new find for me. An otherwise undistinguished Victorian composer, who came from a large family of organists and musicians associated with York Minster (3 Camidges [father, son, and grandson] were the organists at the cathedral for 103 years successively -- 1756-1859!!). The composer of this piece is the grandson. It is tuneful if workmanlike, but has a lovely soprano/alto verse (duet) and then a soprano/soprano/tenor trio, in the middle, which is the main reason I programmed it. Why do I program such "undistinguished" pieces, one may wonder? Well, partly because at the moment I may only employ enough singers to have one-on-a-part, so I don't want to do anything too difficult for us to pull off; and partly because, one day someone will program one of my humble little efforts, and explain to her choir "This is a pleasant if undistinguished little piece by an otherwise unknown early 21st century choirmaster who worked at a tiny Episcopal parish in the 'Wild, Wild West' of the USA..."

So, from this pleasant-but-undistinguished choirmaster, I bid you farewell for a week. :-)

Tim

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