



LAMENT

ARTS FOR THE KINGDOM

FEBRUARY 28TH, 2026

Choral Chambers

by **Christopher Larkin**

Sebastian Brooke, piano

Eric Shelton, flute

Linda Anderson, clarinet

Allison King, bass clarinet

Tyler Martin, marimba

Naomi Stamoolis, oboe

Herb Dunham, euphonium

Joel Stamoolis, double bass

"Choral Chambers" is a piece of music from the official soundtrack to the 2025 videogame *Hollow Knight: Silksong*. The music plays in a dangerous abandoned golden city, where anyone who visits can lament on how such a beautiful place fell into disrepair and darkness.

All Is Found

by **Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez**, alternate lyrics by **Jordan Inks**

Kim Hopkins, vocals

Joel Stamoolis, guitar

Jordan writes: As a toddler mom, I watch a lot of Disney. In Disney's *Frozen II*, Elsa and Anna's mother sings them a lullaby that guides them in adulthood to a source of truth that ultimately sets them and their people free. It's a lovely yet haunting song, which accompanied by the narrative of the movie, is quite moving. Unfortunately, the song is about a pagan animistic river and self-redemption, so I've adapted the lyrics to speak to our real Savior. Listen and hear the beckon to our true Home, where all is found even when all is lost.

A Woman of Faith

by Cris Adams

Cris Adams, reciter

Have you ever wondered how life changed for the many that Jesus healed, the often nameless humans that were touched by God's grace? Mark 5:24-34 tells about a woman with a discharge of blood who found her way to Jesus among the throng of people. Just one touch of his robe and her 12 years of pain and isolation ended. He told her that her faith had made her well. He called her daughter. This monologue imagines a future moment in this woman's life, a moment between the grief of the cross and the glory of the empty tomb, faced with the decision she regretted most of all.

In Jesus I Come

by Marilyn White

Throne Room Suite: Search My Heart, I Will Find My Hope in You, Lord of My Heart

by Twila Paris

Marilyn White, piano and vocals

As I talk to God I have learned from the Psalms to lay it all before Him, who He is, what He has done, and then, as it says in Philippians 4, tell Him every detail of my needs in earnest and thankful prayer, to be honest about how I feel about who He is, and what I hope will come from our relationship. I had thought for a long time that I was just grumbling, but in reality what I have to say is a lament because it is God I am talking to. He understands. Sometimes I wake up in the morning with this song on my heart, committing once again to His plan, His purpose, His ways because He is God... I am not. I cannot solve anything. My plans may not work, but He alone is God and I am thankful. I admit I am nervous about this. I have not sung by myself very often so I would ask that you just pray with me and not clap at the end. Thanks.

Ballad

from *Irish Spirit* by Bill Douglas

Tyler Martin, marimba
Naomi Stamooolis, oboe

Naomi writes: In the Psalms of lament, two questions are repeated: "Why?" and "How long?" Like the psalmists, in our lament we bring our sorrow to God with hope as we wait for his answers. This Irish ballad captures the experience of waiting with hope.

Much-Afraid Meets Her Traveling Companions

from *Hinds' Feet on High Places* by Hannah Hurnard

Wendy Golter, reader

The book, *Hinds' Feet on High Places* by Hannah Hurnard was written in 1955 as an allegory of a Christian's journey, somewhat like Pilgrim's Progress. The main character, Much-Afraid, although crippled and fearful, longs to be led by the Shepherd from the Valley of Humiliation to the High Places on the mountains of the Kingdom of Love. The author got inspiration for her story from the 19th verse of Habakkuk 3: "The Lord God is my strength, and He will make my feet like hinds' feet, and He will make me to walk on my high places." In order to get to the high places, Much-Afraid needs the travelling companions that the Shepherd has chosen for her, but they are not the guides she would have chosen for herself.

It Is Well With My Soul

by Horatio Spafford and Phillip Bliss

Willy Shelton, vocals

During a transatlantic voyage in 1873, Horatio Spafford lost his 4 daughters in a shipwreck. After their deaths, he penned this poem which was later turned into the hymn we know and love today. It's a song I sang to myself, a lot, while Joel was going through leukemia treatment.

Intermission

Lonely Wanderer and In My Homeland

from *Lyric Pieces* by Edward Greig

Eric Shelton, flute

Naomi Stamoolis, oboe

Linda Anderson, clarinet

Herb Dunham, euphonium

Allison King, bass clarinet

Allison writes: *Lyric Pieces* is a collection of ten sets of short pieces for piano, composed by Edvard Grieg, a Norwegian composer. Most of them are character pieces, which are short works designed to portray a particular mood, image, or idea. "Lonely Wanderer," sometimes translated as "Solitary Traveller," conveys a sense of loneliness. "In My Homeland" reflects the calm of being at home. Grieg did not write artist statements for his *Lyric Pieces*, but he was a Norwegian who deeply loved his home country and who also travelled to other countries for his studies and career. I imagine he sometimes felt homesick ("Homesickness" is another one of Grieg's *Lyric Pieces*).

I chose these two *Lyric Pieces* for our theme on lament. In biblical lament, we communicate our sorrows to God, asking for His help and reminding ourselves of who He is. As believers, we are sojourners in this broken world, which is not our

home. Our sufferings can make us feel deeply alone, but someday we will be with God in the new creation, free from our suffering and sin and everything that comes between us and God and others. This pairing expresses loneliness and looks forward to our home with God.

Lord, from Sorrows Deep I Call (Psalm 42)

by **Matt Boswell and Matt Papa**

Pierce Thomas, vocals

Andrea Sandefur, vocals

Joel Stamoolis, guitar and vocals

Pierce writes: When our emotions feel the brokenness of this world, we must look to God and not hide any measure of our feelings from him. We must step closer to God to strengthen ourselves against the deep impurity and sinfulness of this world, resting in the depth of God's goodness and mercy, which is beyond anything we could possibly imagine. And so, till we meet our Lord in heaven, we consistently call to him from the depths of sorrow we find ourselves in.

Two Worlds

by **Laura Pearce**

Laura Pearce, reader

There are so many things that I love about life and ministry in Rwanda, but it's grown increasingly hard to live with a foot in two worlds. Like many missionaries, I wrestle with unfulfilled longings and with a persistent sense of loss. There are also so many emotions related to my recent decision to leave Rwanda in 2027 -I'm excited, but sad; relieved, but dreading it; confident, but anxious. In this lament I bring these longings, losses and emotions to God, with trust that He understands and a plea for Him to walk with me.

Threnos

by **John Tavener**

Joel Stamoolis, cello

"Threnos" is the Greek word for lament. British composer John Tavener wrote this threnos for solo cello to commemorate the death of a close friend. The melody, reminiscent of Greek Orthodox chant, expresses a mix of sorrow, hope, and peace.

That's What the Lonely is For and Eye of the Hurricane

by **David Wilcox**

Brian Jensen, vocals and guitar

What do we do with the space between the life we were created to live (God's kind of life) and our actual lived under-the-sun experience? Do we deny/

distract/despair? Is it OK? Two songs address this through imagery. In the first, our heart's desire is like a castle: while magnificent, some rooms are empty or cold—why? In the next—a lament about loss, addiction and idolatry—a rocket bike provides a fleeting distraction from emotional pain.

Goodness of God

by Jenn Johnson

Andrea Sandefur, vocals

Erinn Mobley, cello

Andrea writes: Lament is a posture I'm all too familiar with, and that's OK...because I have traversed a lot WITH God. He has met me in my grief, frustration, loneliness, and heartbreak. He has been a father and friend to me, and the hope I have in God is an anchor for my soul. There is a phrase in the second verse of this song that says, "I have lived in the goodness of God." Yes, I have. My prayer is that, no matter what, the story of witness I will tell is that God is good. "Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God." Psalm 43:5

Believer's Blues

by Dennis DeWinter

Dennis DeWinter, electric guitar

Brian Jensen, electric guitar

Andrea Sandefur, vocals

Joel Stamooolis, bass guitar

Greg Anderson, drums

Dennis writes: As believers, we all experience life struggles of many kinds throughout our journey of faith. As you know, the Psalms are full of expressions of grief and hardship. There is also the book of Lamentations written expressly to convey the heartfelt struggles of the people of God. I think it's good to talk about our struggles with each other in order to encourage one another, to hold each other up in prayer, and to remind ourselves of the ultimate hope that we have as we look forward to spending eternity with our God and savior, completely free of pain and suffering, once and for all. With this in mind, we as a team would like to present this song as our offering. The song is called the "Believer's Blues" and it uses the blues genre to convey this message of hope in our struggles. So, please join us, the WBC Blues Groove, as we have fun lifting each other up in encouragement.

***Our next Art for the Kingdom event is tentatively scheduled for
Saturday, June 6, 2026 with the theme of Proverbs.***