



Arts for the Kingdom Prayer

Saturday, March 29th 5:30-8:30PM

MORE LOVE TO THEE

words by Elizabeth Payson Prentiss,
music by William Howard Doane,
arranged by Andrea Sandefur

Jane Keller, soprano

Kim Hopkins, soprano

Ella Hopkins, soprano

Patricia DeWinter, alto

Maya Sandefur, alto

Andrea Sandefur, alto/tenor

Laura Goertzen, tenor

Naomi Stamoolis, tenor

From Patricia: I have listened to this simple and beautifully written hymn many times, most often while hiking through the woods and on my drive home afterward. As I sing along with it, I pray. Each verse reminds me to focus my heart's desire on Christ Jesus and on the will of the Lord for my life. Every passing year brings into sharper focus the importance of these words. While the world seems to grow ever more complex, confused and tangled, Jesus—the way, the truth and the life—becomes all the more sweetly clear. My humble thanks to all the beautiful voices singing with me tonight and to Andrea Sandefur for her beautiful arrangement of this song.

BE THOU MY VISION

arranged by Wayne Fritchie

Dale Tumey, flute

Naomi Stamoolis, oboe

Linda Anderson, clarinet

Kaleb Stamoolis, bassoon

Herb Dunham, euphonium

Ken Allen, baritone

From Allison King: “Be Thou My Vision” voices a prayer to God that He would be central to our lives—that He would be our vision, who we look to for wisdom, protection, security, and joy. The original text to this hymn is attributed to Saint Dallán Forgaill, an Irish poet from the sixth century. In 1905, Mary Byrne, an Irish linguist and author, translated the poem into English. Eleanor Hull, an Irish author and organist, versified the text in 1912. The lyrics are set to the Irish folk tune, “Slane,” named for the area where the tune was collected: the village of Slane and its nearby Hill of Slane. Wayne Fritchie, an American composer, arranged “Be Thou My Vision” for wind quintet in 2020.

BE STILL

by Cris Adams

Cris Adams, reader

The poem is a prayer, an internal struggle between my sense of guilt and inadequacy versus God’s Word with which He gently corrects me.

YOUR SPIRIT INTERCEDES

by Joel Stamoolis

Joel Stamoolis, vocals and guitar

Naomi Stamoolis, vocals

From Joel: Sometimes when we pray, we can struggle to find the words. Sometimes we run out of words or don’t even know how or what to ask for in a given situation. Romans 8:26 tells us that the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness, interceding for us with groanings too deep for words. I wrote this song years ago while praying for a couple of friends with challenging medical situations. Many times since then, Naomi and I have sung this song in difficult times, reminding ourselves that, as we pray, the Holy Spirit is praying, too.

PRAYER PONDERINGS

by Mayerly Fischer

Mayerly Fischer, spoken word

These prayer ponderings have come from times where I was in despair and had nothing left to give but to plead with Jesus. Perhaps the refining process of our sanctification is meant to push us to our breaking point.

A WALK IN THE WOODS

by Dennis DeWinter

Dennis DeWinter, electric guitar

Andrea Sandefur, piano

Dale Tumey, tenor sax

David Tollerud, bass guitar

Jace Goertzen, drums

From Dennis: Six years ago, Patricia and I decided to get a dog from the Mat-Su animal shelter. After some deliberation, Patricia came home with a white female husky mix with the name Star. She was our first dog. One of the priorities we set in getting a dog was to walk her every day. In doing so, we ended up walking Star all over the valley, averaging about 3 miles a day. As we walked our dog, we discovered a wonderful side benefit—not only do you end up getting daily exercise, but you also enjoy the solitude of the woods. We often walked Star together, but many times we took turns hiking the trails alone with our dog. We discovered that a walk in the woods with Star was an excellent opportunity for prayer, especially when she occasionally ran off into the woods. Often, as I walked along the trails, I thought that a “Walk in the Woods” would be a good title for a song. So when the theme of prayer was chosen for this particular Arts for the Kingdom event, I felt led to attach the title to this song. It’s my hope that this song will encourage you to pray wherever you are—whether it’s driving to work, school, running errands, working around the house or taking a walk in the woods.

ILLUMINATION PRAYER

by Noah Bird

Noah Bird, vocals

I finished this song over a year ago after participating in a class by Larry Kroon called “Practices of The Godward Life.” This song is based on the prayer that Larry encouraged us to use.

YOU ARE MY ALL IN ALL

by Dennis Jernigan, arranged by Eric Shelton

Eric Shelton, flute

Theodore Stamoolis, double bass

From Eric: I've always been fascinated by the idea of arranging music; I've just never had a good reason or a good piece to arrange. Then, I thought, who better to experiment with than a Stamoolis, and so I approached Theo about the possibility of me arranging "You Are My All in All" for Arts for the Kingdom. He was on board, so I tried to get it arranged by the last event, but, alas, it was not done in time. And the more I thought about it, the more I realized how well it works for this event. It fits the theme better, since this song is a prayer. It also gave us more time to practice. So after all that, this is our Arts for the Kingdom piece.

PRAYER AND THE PLANS OF HIS HEART

by Natalie Heppner

Natalie Heppner, reader

During the fall of 2019, I took a course in seminary called Providence and Prayer. This slightly reworked excerpt from my final paper for that class explores my semester-long ruminations on the relationship between God's sovereignty and prayer.

PRECIOUS LORD (TAKE MY HAND)

by Tommy Dorsey, arranged by Dale Tumey

Eric Shelton, alto saxophone

Dale Tumey, tenor saxophone

Kaleb Stamoolis, baritone saxophone

Joel Stamoolis, double bass

Jace Goertzen, drums

From Kaleb: This song is an arrangement of a hymn that acts as a prayer to God: to lead his children through all of life's struggles and uncertainties, until we can finally be with him in his new creation. It's a good reminder that we can't fight our battles on our own, and we should always turn to Jesus for help and guidance.

Since our saxophone trio arrangement doesn't have any words, I'd like to share the last line of the lyrics with you: "Hear my cry, hear my call. Hold my hand, lest I fall. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home."

IF WE EVER NEEDED THE LORD BEFORE

traditional spiritual, arranged by Robert Campbell

THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU

Numbers 6:24-26, music by Peter C. Lutkin

Kim Hopkins, soprano

Kirsten Mason, soprano

Marilyn White, alto

Andrea Sandefur, alto

Phil Evans, tenor

Randy Hahn, tenor

Sam Bucher, tenor

Ken Allen, bass

Jeremiah Goertzen, bass

Dennis DeWinter, bass

From Ken: Our first song speaks to our need for God, in all circumstances and seasons of life:

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving" (Colossians 4:2).

In Numbers 6:23, Aaron and his sons were commanded by God to pronounce God's blessing on the people. Our second song pronounces Number 6:24-26 as a blessing that we are delighted to sing over you tonight.



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