

## Music Notes 3.1.20

### **Prelude**

**Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness**

**Paul Manz (1919-2009)**

### **Offertory**

**Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness**

**Wilbur Held (1914-2015)**

### **Postlude**

**Schmucke dich (Soul, Adorn Thyself)**

**Dennis E. Northway (b. 1958)**

In Dr. Faber's service music this morning, he is playing three settings of a 17th-century German hymn tune *Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele* ("Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness") composed by Johann Crüger. It has been set countless times for organ and choir, the best-known of which is Johann Sebastian Bach's choral cantata. Paul Manz was a longtime Lutheran organist, choirmaster, and composer, and many of his organ pieces have become favorites among church musicians. Wilbur Held, likewise, was an active church musician, clinician, and composer. Dennis Northway is an active vocalist, organist, composer, and private music teacher, and has served as a music teacher for inner-city Chicago schools.

### **Hymn of Praise 618**

**O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High**

**DEO GRACIAS**

Today's Hymn of Praise, "O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High," is a traditional text for the Lenten season. The set of six English stanzas that commonly appear in hymnals is a reduction of a much longer Latin poem dating to at least the 15th century. While often attributed to Medieval theologian Thomas à Kempis (author of the classic work, *The Imitation of Christ*) its true origins are unknown. "O Love" is unusual in that it traces the saving acts of Christ from the incarnation ("that God, the Son of God, should take / our mortal form for mortals' sake) through the ascension ("for us he went on high to reign"). *Glory to God* omits this third English stanza:

For us he prayed, for us he taught,  
For us his daily works he wrought,  
By words and signs and actions, thus  
Still seeking not himself, but us.

The last stanza is a doxology, or a short verse of praise to God, and we will use it as our regular doxology during Lent. The tune DEO GRACIAS is set in a minor key, but is not sad or dreary in the least, and frames this beautiful text with strength and dignity.

**Response of Praise 433**  
**Sign Us with Ashes**  
**PHOENIX**

This is a contemporary hymn by Mary Louise Bringle, Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies and Chair of the Humanities Division at Brevard College, and the chair of the *Glory to God* hymnal committee. We sang the full text on Ash Wednesday, and will use one stanza in lieu of a Gloria each week during Lent.

**Anthem**  
**My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**  
**Arr. Howard Helvey (b. 1968)**

Helvey's setting of the hymn tune RESIGNATION is a beautiful and thoughtful companion to Isaac Watts' paraphrase of Psalm 23. Listen for the tempo change before the second stanza, when the men sing "When I walk through the shades of death / thy presence is my stay," and the subsequent shift back to the original tempo and declamatory accompanying chords underscoring the confidence in the words "The sure provisions of my God / attend me all my days."

**Hymn of Preparation 729**  
**Lord, I Want to Be a Christian**  
**I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN**

This African-American spiritual is a perfect text for Lent I; simple, introspective, prayerful.

**Doxology 618**  
**O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (stanza 5)**  
**DEO GRACIAS**

**Hymn of Commitment 757**  
**Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples**  
**KINGSFOLD**

From *The Presbyterian Hymnal Companion* (1993):

*Kenn Carmichael was head of the theater department at Purdue University (1931-43). From 1943-46, Carmichael served in the U.S. Navy, where he made training films. After his enlistment ended, Carmichael taught at City College, Los Angeles (1947-54), and then joined Film Production International producing films for denominational stewardship campaigns.*

*In 1962, Carmichael and his wife were commissioned by the Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations of the United Presbyterian Church U.S.A. as consultants in communications to the Middle East and Africa. After ten years they returned to the United States, where Kenn became associate pastor at Central Church (1972-79)...*

*Carmichael was Moderator of the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii in 1987.*

KINGSFOLD is drawn from an English folk melody, and its current arrangement was done by Ralph Vaughan Williams during his time as church music head for the Church of England. Its use is symbolic of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century Anglican rejection of Victorian-era church music.

### **Benediction Response 618**

**O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High (stanza 1)**

**DEO GRACIAS**