



Musica Spei
(Music of Hope)

presents

A Silence in Heaven:

**Sacred Choral Music In The Time Of Henry VIII,
Elizabeth I and Mary, Queen of Scots**

COLLEEN LIGGETT, guest soprano

THURSDAY, JUNE 13 AT 8:00 PM

Saint Anne Church
Rochester, New York

Musica Spei (Music of Hope)

A SILENCE IN HEAVEN

LEROY KYRIE

John Taverner (c. 1490 - 1545)

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA (from *Western Wind Mass*)

John Taverner

Glory be to God on high and on earth, peace and good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee. We give thanks to thee for thy great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy. Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SI QUIS DILIGIT ME

David Peebles (c. 1510 - c. 1579)

If anyone loves me he observes my words - and my Father will love him - and we will visit him and make our abode beside him. Alleluia.

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SANCTA MATER

Late 13th Century

Holy mother of grace, star of brightness, visit us today, full of compassion. Come soon as a solace of misery, a source of sweetness. Remember, mother of Christ, how bitterly you wept beside the cross, sighing at the sad sight. O Mary, royal flower, paragon among all women, forgive the sins of our flesh. O how humbly you spoke to Gabriel: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord." Thereafter, you bore the springtime of living joy. Rejoice, worthy lady, so gracious, in the throne of heaven; restore your children, brought low by vice, to the Son.

AVE MARIA

c. 1400

"Hail Mary," I say to that blessed maiden, the same words the angel Gabriel said to Mary, maiden and mother in one. Hail Mary! I have you in mind; wherever I go, in wealth or in woe, defend me well against foes of any kind.

CREDO IN DEUM

c. 1400

I believe in God who is without beginning or end, who made heaven and earth and all that is therein. Gladly should we have our Lord God in mind, for he is watchful and wise. All our life is mingled with woe. In God alone is perfect bliss.

PATER NOSTER

c. 1400

Our Father, most powerful, who created all this world in the beginning, help me, a sinful wretched creature, that I may not perish because of sin. Our Father, have pity on me and help me to escape from sin, to do your will now and always. Our Father, I bless you, for the sake of your own dear son who died on the cross; help me that I may not be destroyed.

WESTRON WYNDE**16th Century**

Westron wynde, when wyll thow blow, the smalle rayne downe can rayne. Cryst yf my love were in my armys and I yn my bed agayne.

Colleen Liggett, soprano and lute

CREDO (from *Western Wind Mass*)**John Sheppard (c. 1515 - c. 1560)**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God; begotten of his Father before all worlds; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven. And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried. And on the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord and giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

FACTUM EST SILENTIUM**Richard Dering (c. 1580 - 1630)**

There was silence in heaven while the dragon joined battle with the Archangel Michael. A cry was heard - thousands of thousands saying: "Salvation, honor and power to Almighty God." Alleluia.

INTERMISSION**SANCTUS (from *Western Wind Mass*)****Christopher Tye (c. 1505 - 1572)**

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

AGNUS DEI (from *Western Wind Mass*)**John Sheppard**

Lamb of God, You who take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You who take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

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PLANCTUS**Early 13th Century**

In my grief I am worn out with weeping; the world is deprived of its light, me of my child. O son, my only joy, comfort your mother. Your wounds torment me; mother and woman, so happy, so miserable. So lately given, how quickly you leave me; so honorably born, how wretchedly you die. O cruel hand of the executioner; o gentle spirit of the sufferer! I feel the sword of sorrow which Simeon promised; groans, sighs and tears show my wounds. Spare my child, Death, but not me; this alone will cure me: crucify his mother or fix us together to the cross - wrongly he dies alone. I would rather die than suffer this living death. Are you surprised that the earth quakes, the stars hidden? If you deprive the sun of light, how can it shine? You set free a murderer; you execute Jesus; wrongly you maintain peace - rebellion will follow. Repent while Jesus can be swayed to grant pardon. Weep for your offenses; thankful for grace. Please, mourn a mother's loss.

(Text: Godefrey of St. Victor, 12th Century)

Colleen Liggett, soprano

O NATA LUX

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505 - 1585)

O light born of light, Jesu redeemer of our race, vouchsafe mercifully to receive the praises and prayers of thy supplicants. Thou who once did deign to be clothed in flesh, grant us to be made members of thy blessed body.

VIDETE MIRACULUM

Thomas Tallis

Behold the miracle of the Mother of the Lord: a virgin has conceived though she knows not a man. Mary, standing laden with her noble burden; and she knows herself to be a joyful mother, though she knows not herself to be a wife. She has conceived in her chaste womb one who is fair beyond the sons of men and, being blessed forever, she has brought forth for us God and man. Mary, standing laden with her noble burden....Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. And she knows herself to be a joyful mother....

AVE MARIA

Robert Parsons (c. 1530 - 1570)

Hail, Mary, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women and blessed be the fruit of thy womb. Amen

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**Jeanne Beddoe, Jim Blake, Lynette Blake, Joe Finetti
Susan Fischer, Thomas Grande, Jim Holden, Stephen Marcus, Jenny Saffran**

Musica Spei (Music of Hope) was formed earlier this season by a group of non-professional singers living in Rochester who are dedicated to exploring the vast but largely unfamiliar and rarely performed repertoire of sacred, unaccompanied choral masterworks of the 15th, 16th and early 17th centuries. The goal of Musica Spei, one of few concert groups of its kind, is to bring this music to life and to share its magnificence and beauty with contemporary audiences in the natural church setting for which it was intended. Musica Spei is very grateful to the parish community of Saint Anne Church for its unwavering support and encouragement.

Colleen Liggett, guest soprano, is a leader of the early music scene in Rochester and is well known as both instrumentalist and singer from numerous performances throughout this area. She earned degrees from Douglass College of Rutgers University and the Eastman School of Music and has been a highly regarded teacher at the Hochstein School of Music for over 10 years. She performs with Deborah Fox, lutenist, as the duo Cantar e Sonar and has recorded two albums of Shaker songs with Mitzie Collins. After leading a panel discussion on Singing Medieval Lyric in Translation at the recent International Medieval Congress, she is delighted to be singing 600-year-old English translations tonight.

If you wish to be placed on Musica Spei's mailing list and notified of future concerts, please write your name and address on the sheets located at each entrance to the Church, call Stephen Marcus at 244-7764 or write to him c/o Musica Spei at 1025 East Avenue, Apt. 2, Rochester, New York 14607.