

Musica Spei

presents

Tongues of FlameCHORAL MUSIC FOR PENTECOST

Gesualdo: Tristis est anima mea

chant: Veni Sancte Spiritus

Palestrina: *Dum complerentur dies Pentecostes*

Palestrina: Missa "Dum complerentur"

I. Kyrie

Tallis: *In manus tuas*

Palestrina: Missa "Dum complerentur"

II. Gloria

Byrd: Alleluia. Emitte Spiritum tuum

H. Praetorius: Nunc dimittis

Brief intermission

chant: Veni Creator Spiritus

Dunstaple: Veni Sancte Spiritus et emitte / Veni Sancte Spiritus et infunde / Veni Creator Spiritus

Palestrina: Missa "Dum complerentur"

IV: Sanctus; V: Benedictus

Guerrero: Vexilla regis

Palestrina: Missa "Dum complerentur"

VI: Agnus Dei

Hesdin: Alleluia. Spiritus Domini

TEXTS, TRANSLATIONS, AND MUSICAL NOTES

Tristis est anima mea

Carlo Gesualdo (b. 1566, Venosa, southern Italy; d. 1613, Avellino, near Naples)

We begin our concert far from the joy of Pentecost, with one of Gesualdo's *Tenebrae Responsories*. Liturgically this text is sung on Maundy Thursday, during Matins. Gesualdo's alarming harmonic transitions, so far ahead of his time, seem highly appropriate for this text. Listen for the image of the disciples taking flight at 'Vos fugam capietis,' contrasted with the somber feeling of the sentence that follows: 'et ego vadam immolari pro vobis' (I go to be sacrificed for you). After a more contemplative interlude ('Ecce appropinquat hora'), the 'Vos fugam capietis' section recurs to end the piece.

Tristis est anima mea usque ad mortem: sustinete hic, et vigilate mecum. videbitis turbam quae circumdabit me. Vos fugam capietis,	Sorrowful is my soul even unto death. Stay here, and watch with me. You will see the mob that will surround me. You will take flight,
et ego vadam immolari pro vobis. Ecce appropinquat hora, et filius hominis tradetur in manus peccatorum.	and I shall go to be sacrificed for you. Behold, the time draws near, and the son of man will be delivered into the hands of sinners.
Vos fugam capietis, et ego vadam immolari pro vobis.	You will take flight, and I shall go to be sacrificed for you.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

chant, ascribed to Pope Innocent III (d. 1216) and to Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury (d. 1228)

We quickly turn to Pentecost. The *Veni Sancte Spiritus* chant is one of only four sequences retained by the Council of Trent (before that time, many feast days had their own sequences for liturgical use). It is traditionally heard during Mass on Pentecost Sunday and the following octave. The text is not printed at this point in the program. You will find it below, since it is set by John Dunstaple as the text sung by the soprano voice in his motet *Veni Sancte Spiritus et emitte / Veni Sancte Spiritus et infunde / Veni Creator Spiritus*, which we will sing later in the program. We have chosen to print it there rather than here so as to have all four texts sung in that motet viewable on the same page. Therefore, please turn forward a few pages if you want to follow along at this point.

Dum complerentur dies Pentecostes

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (b. 1525 or 1526, Palestrina, near Rome; d. 1594,Rome)

Published in Rome in 1569, this motet is the basis for the parody Mass of which we will sing five of the six sections scattered throughout the remainder of the program. There are two primary themes in the motet, the first heard at the beginning of the motet and the second at 'Dum ergo essent;' these will be heard repeatedly throughout the Mass. The imagery of the motet is vivid: you can hear the rushing wind, the gathering of the disciples, the sudden sound from heaven, and the joyous alleluias that finish every section of the motet.

Dum complerentur dies Pentecostes,	When the day of Pentecost arrived
erant omnes pariter dicentes, alleluia,	(the disciples) were all saying in one accord, "Alleluia!"
et subito factus est sonus de caelo, alleluia,	And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, Alleluia,
tamquam spiritus vehementis,	As of the rushing of a mighty wind,
et replevit totam domum, alleluia.	and it filled the whole house, Alleluia.
Dum ergo essent in unum discipuli congregati propter metum Iudaeorum sonus repente de caelo venit super eos tamquam spiritus vehementis, et replevit totam domum, alleluia.	And when the disciples were gathered together in one for fear of the people, suddenly a sound from heaven came upon them as of the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled the whole house, Alleluia.

Missa: Dum complerentur. I: Kyrie Palestrina

The parody Mass based on the 'Dum complerentur' motet appears in Palestrina's eight book of masses (there are another 103 known to us). Throughout the mass, listen for echoes of the motet themes: here the initial Kyrie is based on the 'Dum complerentur' theme from the motet, and the second Kyrie on the 'Dum ergo essent' theme. The Christe is set for the upper voices, and is more lyrical.

Kyrie eleison;	Lord, have mercy;
Christe eleison;	Christ, have mercy;
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.

In manus tuas

Thomas Tallis (b. c. 1505, England; d. 1585, Greenwich, England)

This is a brief setting of the response used for Compline. It is followed liturgically by the *Nunc dimittis*, a setting of which ends this half of the program.

In manus tuas, Domine,	Into thy hands, Lord,
commendo spiritum meum,	I commend my spirit;
redemisti me, Domine, Deus veritatis.	thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

Missa: Dum complerentur. II: Gloria Palestrina

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Et in terra pax hominibus bona voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater
omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus,
Jesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest,

And on earth, peace to men of goodwill.

We praise you; we bless you; we adore you; we glorify you. We thank you for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father omnipotent.

Lord, only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

Who takes away the sins of the world, have pity on us.

Who takes away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer.

Who sits at the right hand of the Father, have pity on us. Since you alone are the Lord, you alone are the most high, Iesus Christ.

With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Alleluia. Emitte Spiritum tuum

William Byrd (b. c. 1540, London; d. 1623, Stondon Massey, Essex, England)

This charming and brief piece is a setting of the Alleluia for Mass on Pentecost Sunday.

Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Emitte spiritum tuum, et creabuntur,	Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be called into being,
et renovabis faciem terrae.	and you will renew the face of the earth.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Veni Sancte Spiritus,	Come, Holy Spirit,
reple tuorum corda fidelium,	fill the hearts of your faithful
et tui amoris in eis ignem accende.	and in them kindle the flame of your love.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.

Nunc dimittis

Hieronymous Praetorius (b. 1560, Hamburg; d. 1629, Hamburg)

Praetorius (not related to the more famous Michael Praetorius) was a composer and organist who spent most of his life in Hamburg. He was first to bring to north Germany the Venetian polychoral style, which he became acquainted with during a 1596 visit to Gröningen when he met Michael Praetorius and Hans Leo Hassler. This setting of the *Nunc dimittis* (that is, the Song of Simeon from Luke 2:29-32) is rather unusual. Composers often set the text with the serenity that befits its usage at the end of Compline; Praetorius' setting is rather more exuberant!

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine,	Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
secundum verbum tuum, in pace.	according to thy word.
Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum.	For mine eyes have seen thy salvation.
Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum.	Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people.
Lumen ad revelationem gentium,	To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.	and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.	Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,	As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.	shall be; world without end. Amen.

INTERMISSION

Veni Creator Spiritus

chant, ascribed to Rabanus Maurus, Archbishop of Mainz (c. 780-856)

This hymn, sung here in the traditional Gregorian chant, is used liturgically at Terce and Vespers during the feast of Pentecost. It is also sung on occasions such as the entrance of Cardinals to the Sistine Chapel for electing a new Pope, as well as at consecrations, ordinations, confirmations, synods, coronations, and other solemn events. The text is omitted here: it is printed below since it is set by Dunstaple in the third (tenor) voice in his motet *Veni Sancte Spiritus et emitte / Veni Sancte Spiritus et infunde / Veni Creator Spiritus*, which will be sung next.

Please turn to the following page to find the notes and text for the Veni Sancte Spiritus *motet of John Dunstaple*

Missa: Dum complerentur. IV: Sanctus; V: Benedictus.
Palestrina

Sanctus, sanctus,	Holy, holy,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.	Lord God of Hosts.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.	Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in excelsis.	Hosanna in the highest.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini	Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

Vexilla Regis

Francisco Guerrero (b. 1528, Seville; d. 1599, Seville); text: Venantius Fortunatus (b. 530; d. 609)

The text was written by Fortunatus at the request of Queen Radegunda, who had retired to a convent near Poitiers, France, and had collected a relic of the True Cross for the church there. Liturgically it is sung at Vespers from Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday.

Vexilla Regis prodeunt:	The banners of the King advance:
fulget Crucis mysterium,	the mystery of the Cross shines forth,
quo carne carnis conditor	on which he who put on the flesh of our flesh
suspensus est patibulo.	was hung from the wooden bar.
Quo vulneratus insuper mucrone diro lanceae, ut nos lavaret crimine, manavit unda et sanguine.	There on high he was wounded by the point of the sharp lance, that he might cleanse us of our sin; water and blood poured forth.

Impleta sunt quae concinit David fideli carmine. dicens: in nationibus regnavit a ligno Deus.

Arbor decora et fulgida, ornata Regis purpura, electa digno stipite tam sancta membra tangere.

Beata cuius brachiis saecli pependit pretium, statera facta corporis, praedamque tulit tartari.

O crux, ave, spes unica hoc Passionis tempore, auge piis iustitiam, reisque dona veniam.

Te summa, Deus, Trinitas, collaudet omnis spiritus: quos per Crucis mysterium salvas rege per saecula. Amen. And so was fulfilled what David had prophesied in accurate song.

saying: amongst the nations God has reigned from the tree.

O lovely and gleaming tree, adorned with kingly purple. chosen from a worthy stock, to bear those so holy limbs.

Blessed tree, from whose arms hung the cost of generations:

blessed beam that bore the weight of the body and raised the expected prey of Hell.

Hail, O Cross, the one and only hope

in this Passiontide:

for the pious cause increase of justice,

and to sinners grant mercy.

God, supreme Trinity, let every soul praise you,

those you save through the mystery of the Cross

may you rule forever. Amen.

Missa: Dum complerentur. VI: Agnus Dei Palestrina

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,	Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world,
miserere nobis.	take pity on us.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,	Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world,
miserere nobis.	take pity on us.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,	Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world,
dona nobis pacem.	grant us peace.

Alleluia: Spiritus Domini

Nicolle des Celliers d'Hesdin (d. 1538, Beauvais, near Paris, France)

Hesdin is little known today: his full name is only known from the epitaph on his tomb in Beauvais Cathedral, which laments that his early death. In addition, many of his works have conflicting attributions. This *Alleluia* was attributed to Gombert, but the transparent texture of the music and frequent antiphonal writing are not in Gombert's style at all! It would be used liturgically as the Alleluia for Mass on Pentecost Sunday.

Alleluia.

Spiritus Domini replevit orbem terrarum, venite adoremus eum. Alleluia. Hodie completi sunt dies Pentecostes. Alleluia. **Hodie Spiritus Sanctus**

in igne discipulis apparuit et tribuit eis charismatum dona. Alleluia.

Laudes Deo devotas dulci voce ac sonora plebs devota caelo decantat. Alleluia.

pura sibi aptans habitacula. Alleluia.

Spiritus Sancti gratia Apostolis die hodierna in linguis igneis est infusa. Paracliti praesentia emundet nos a peccati macula Alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world: come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

Today has arrived the day of Pentecost. Alleluia.

Today the Holy Spirit

appeared to the disciples in fire

and bestowed upon them the gift of gifts. Alleluia.

Devout praises to God with a sweet and strong voice a devout people sings to heaven. Alleluia.

The grace of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles this day

has been imparted by tongues of fire. May the presence of the Paraclete cleanse us from the stain of sin

and prepare us to be chaste dwellings for him. Alleluia.

Veni Sancte Spiritus et emitte / Veni Sancte Spiritus et infunde / Veni Creator Spiritus John Dunstaple (b. c. 1390, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, England; d. 1453, London)

The four voices in this motet sing different texts. The top part sings the text of the sequence for Mass on Pentecost Sunday, *Veni Sancte Spiritus*, performed near the beginning of this program. Dunstaple uses only the text from that sequence; the melodic material is closer to that of the *Veni Creator Spiritus*, used at Vespers on Pentecost. That text is heard in the third (tenor) voice. The second voice sings a paraphrase of the *Veni Sancte Spiritus* text which is first known from its appearance in this work. Finally, the bottom voice sings an isorhythmic cantus firmus for which the text consists only of the second and third lines of the *Veni Creator Spiritus* chant. The cantus firmus is first sung slowly, then faster, then finally faster again, triple its original speed. The melody of the cantus firmus borrows fragments of the Veni Creator Spiritus chant.

So as to make it easier to follow the text, we have printed the text for this piece in its entirety on the following twopage spread. We have also indicated in each voice part's text by the labels I, II, and III, the sections corresponding to each appearance of the cantus firmus in the lowest voice.

Soprano:

I. Veni Sancte Spiritus, et emitte caelitus lucis tuae radium.

Veni pater pauperum, veni dator munerum, veni lumen cordium.

Consolator optime, dulcis hospes animae dulce refrigerium.

In labore requies, in aestu temperies, in fletu solacium.

O lux clementissima, reple cordis intima tuorum fidelium.

II. Sine tuo numine nihil est in lumine nihil est innoxium.

Lava quod est sordidum, riga quod est aridum, sana quod est saucium.

Flecte quod est rigidum, fove quod est frigidum, rege quod est devium.

III. Da tuis fidelibus, in te confidentibus, sacrum septenarium.

Da virtutis meritum, da salutis exitum, da perenne gaudium.

Soprano:

I. Come, Holy Spirit, and send out from heaven a ray of your light.

Come, father of the poor; come, grantor of gifts; come, light of our hearts.

Excellent comforter, sweet visitor in our soul, sweet consolation.

In work, you are repose; in heat, you are moderation; in weeping, you are comfort.

O most clement light, fill up the inmost places of the hearts of your faithful people.

II. Without your divine presence nothing is in the light; nothing is blameless.

Wash what is dirt; moisten what is dry; heal what is sick.

Bend what is inflexible; warm what is cold; direct what is deviant.

III. Grant to your faithful people who trust in you the sacred sevenfold gift.

Grant the merit that is virtue; grant that we end in salvation grant everlasting joy.

Alto:

I. Veni Sancte Spiritus, et infunde primitus rorem caeli gratiae,

precantibus humanitus salva nos divinitus a serpentis faciae

in cuius praesentia, ex tua clementia II. tecta sint peccata.

Nostra iudicia corda penitentia tibi fac placata.

Languidorum consolator, et lapsorum reformator, mortis medicina.

III. Peccatorum perdonator, esto noster expurgator, et duc ad divina.

Tenor:

I. Veni Creator Spiritus mentes tuorum visita imple superna gratia quae tu creasti pectora.

Qui Paraclitus diceris donum Dei altissimi fons vivus, ignis, caritas et spiritalis unctio.

Tu septiformis munere dextrae Dei tu digitus tu rite promissum Patris sermone ditans guttura.

II. Accende lumen sensibus, infunde amorem cordibus, infirma nostri corporis virtute firmans perpetim.

Hostem repellas longius, pacemque dones protinus; ductore sic te praevio vitemus omne noxium.

III. Per te sciamus da Patrem noscamus atque Filium, te utriusque spiritum credamus omni tempore.

Cantus firmus:

Mentes tuorum visita Imple superna gratia. Alto:

Come, Holy Spirit, and sprinkle us anew with the dew of the favor of heaven.

As we pray, only human as we are, save us, divine as you are, from the serpent's jaws,

and in its presence, because of your clemency II. may our sins be covered.

Our judgments and our penitent hearts may you make pleasing to you.

Consoler of the weak, reformer of the fallen, medicine in death.

III. Pardoner of sins, be our cleanser and lead us to what is divine.

Tenor:

I. Come, Creator Spirit, visit the thoughts of your people and fill them with heavenly grace which you create in our breasts.

You are called the Paraclete, gift of God most high, living fountain, fire, charity, and spiritual unction.

You are sevenfold as a gift; you are the finger of the right hand of God; you are the true promise of the Father as you endow our throats with speech.

II. Kindle your light in our senses; pour out your love in our hearts; the frailties of our bodies strengthen with perpetual virtue.

Drive far away the enemy, and near at hand grant peace; so go before and lead us on and we shall avoid all harm.

III. Through you may we know the Father and understand the Son; and in you, the spirit of each all the time may we believe.

Cantus firmus:

Visit the thoughts of your people and fill them with heavenly grace..

Musica Spei (Music of Hope) explores the vast repertoire of rarely-performed, sacred choral masterworks of the medieval and Renaissance periods. Rehearsing and performing unaccompanied and without a conductor, the group develops its interpretations in a collaborative fashion, communicating and interacting in a manner not unlike the members of a jazz or chamber music ensemble.

Musica Spei celebrated 15 years of music-making in 2010 with the release of its second CD, *Cathedrals of Sound*, offering a retrospective of highlights from programs past. Other recent accomplishments include a live performance on WXXI's Backstage Pass radio show and a reinvigoration of the Rochester Early Music Festival (REMF), which the group first organized in 2001. The 2009 REMF featured Thomas Tallis' masterpiece for 40 voices, *Spem in Alium*, performed by Musica Spei with the help of singers recruited from around the Rochester region.

Musica Spei also organizes Renaissance Summer Sings on select Wednesday nights in July and August for members of the community who wish to participate in singing this repertoire. Visit our website http://www.musicaspei.org, for more information about upcoming concerts, summer sings, and the Eleventh Annual Rochester Early Music Festival, slated for early November 2011.

The members of Musica Spei are Jeanne Beddoe, Alexandra Bermel, Jim Blake, Lynette Blake, Glenda Brayman, Sara Cannon, Mary Cowden, Juli Elliot, Joe Finetti, Chris Gold, Jeff Harp, William Hawkins, Eric Lobenstine, Andrew Nagel, and Jeff Tabor. Artistic Guide: Steve Marcus.

Copies of Musica Spei's newly-released CD Cathedrals of Sound are available for purchase after the service at the entrance to the church, where members of the group will be gathered and happy to answer questions or discuss today's music.

Musica Spei is grateful that, for more than fifteen years, the Saint Anne community has supported Musica Spei with rehearsal space and the opportunity to perform in the acoustically magnificent sanctuary, as a member of the "Choir in Residence" program. We are especially grateful to Father Gary Tyman and Sister Joan Sobala, the current leaders of the Our Lady of Lourdes / Saint Anne Cluster of Communities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, for their ongoing support and encouragement.

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