



TeDeum

Matthew Christopher Shepard

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

CHRISTMAS

Joy

DECEMBER 20-21, 2021

Christmas Joy

I. The Joy of Love

This is the Truth..... Kirke Mechem (1966)
Sydney Seratte, soloist

Of Hospitality.....Jane Marshall (1924-2019)

I saw a stranger yestreen;
I put food in the eating place,
drink in the drinking place,
music in the listening place;
and in the sacred name of the Triune
he blessed myself, he blessed my house,
he blessed my cattle and my dear ones.

And the lark said in her song,
Often goes Love in the stranger's guise.
— From an old Gaelic rune

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming arr. Jan Sandström (1995)

II. The Joy of Mary

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine Kirke Mechem (1966)

Mary Had a Baby William L. Dawson (1899-1990)
Victoria Olson, soloist

Ave Maria (I) Rihards Dubra (1994)

III. The Joy of Generosity

In the Bleak Midwinterarr. Abbie Betinis (2006)
Lucy Conklin & Julia Kasten, soloists
Bryan Waznik, conductor

The Three Kings Jonathan Dove (2001)

IV. The Joy of Remembering

Twelfth NightSamuel Barber (1969)

No night could be darker than this night,
no cold so cold, as the blood snaps like a wire,
and the heart's sap stills,
and the year seems defeated.

O never again, it seems, can green things run,
or sky birds fly,
or the grass exhale its humming breath,
powdered with pimpernels,
from this dark lung of winter.

Yet here are lessons from the final mile of pilgrim kings;
the mile still left when all have reached their tether's end:
That mile where the Child lies hid.

For see, beneath the hand,
the earth already warms and glows;
for men with shepherd's eyes there are signs in the dark,
the turning stars, the lamb's returning time.

For see, out of this utter death he's born again,
his birth our Saviour;
from terror's equinox he climbs and grows,
drawing his finger's light across our blood -
the sun of heaven, and the son of God.

— Laurie Lee

Our Voices Linger*James Eakin III (2021)

**World Premiere*

When I hear the birds sing their eager love songs,
it's your voice I'm hearing.

When I hear a choir breathe and sing together,
so warm, so cheering,
I know that you are gone,
but your voice, it lingers on.

When I hear the wind whisper through the treetops,
it's your voice that's sounding.

When I hear the deep rumble of the thunder,
it's your voice resounding.
I know that you are gone,
but your voice it lingers on.

Our voices do not cease; our voices do not fade away.
They linger with us every day,
in streams that gently flow, when evening breezes blow;
our voices linger.

When I hear the joy of voices raised in laughter,
it's your joy I remember.

When I hear the words of an old familiar carol
in the still of December,
I know that you are gone,
but your voice, it lingers on.

— Charles Anthony Silvestri

Not One Sparrow is Forgotten.....William Hawley (1998)

V. The Joy of Song

Din don! Merrily on High..... Kirke Mechem (1966)

Fum, Fum, Fum! Kirke Mechem (1966)

Bless the Master of this House Kirke Mechem (1966)

Go, Tell It on the Mountain.....Roland M. Carter (1988)
Hilary Morton, soloist

Hodie, Christus Natus Est.....Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Today Christ is born:

Today the Savior appeared:

Today on Earth the Angels sing, Archangels rejoice:

Today the righteous rejoice, saying:

Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.

The Holly and the Ivy.....Geoff Wilcken (1993)



Te Deum

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————— Artistic Director —————

Matthew Christopher Shepard is a professional conductor, church musician, and guest lecturer. His unique career path has led him to concert halls conducting both professional orchestras and choirs, to collegiate and secondary school classrooms to guest conduct and lecture in musicology, and to communities of faith to lead both Christian and Jewish worship services. His intellectual curiosity, fearless programming, and magnetic leadership has made him one of the most sought-after conductors in the region.

Mr. Shepard is founder and conductor of Te Deum, which has established itself as one of the premier choral ensembles in the region. He is frequently engaged as a conducting clinician, most recently with the American Choral Director's Association Kansas State Convention Honor Choir. With his growing reputation in the Early Music field, Mr. Shepard's work and contributions to the field have twice been featured in the publication *Early Music America*, and has presented lectures on historical chant performance, music history and performance practice. With Te Deum he has given period performances of great pillars of baroque music including Buxtehude's *Membra Jesu Nostri*, J.S. Bach's *St. John Passion*, and Bach's *B-Minor Mass*.

As an orchestral conductor, Mr. Shepard has conducted several ensembles in the area, including The Philharmonia of Greater Kansas City, the Kansas City Civic Orchestra, and the Kansas City Baroque. He has also served as orchestra director at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas. In the summer of 2018

he was invited to conduct the closing orchestral concert of the American Guild of Organists National Convention in Helzberg Hall at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts.

Beginning his musical studies in woodwinds and voice, Mr. Shepard holds an undergraduate degree from William Jewell College, two master's degrees, studying both choral and orchestral conducting at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance, and is pursuing Doctoral studies at the University of Illinois where he concurrently holds a teaching assistantship. Mr. Shepard has had additional conducting study as a fellow at the Conductors Institute at Bard College Conservatory under Maestro Leon Botstein and at the Oregon Bach Festival Composers Institute.

Pianist

Geoffrey Wilcken is a prolific composer, conductor, organist, and pianist. He has written for ensembles of all sizes and kinds, including solo, oratorio, concert band, jazz, and liturgical forces. Recent commissions include *One Out Of Many* (2015) for the 40th anniversary festival concert of the Lawrence Civic Choir, *Rosette* (2014) for the dedication of a new organ at Village Presbyterian Church, Prairie Village, KS, and *Music of the Spheres* (2014) for the combined bands and choirs of Johnson County Community College, Overland Park KS. He has also created numerous works for sacred and liturgical use, including *Anthems for the Cross* (2017) for St. Mary's Episcopal Church, and arrangements such as *Angel Noels* (2009) for the Kansas City Fine Arts Chorale, and a number of charts for jazz bands in the Kansas City metropolitan area. He is also the composer of the score for *The Midwest in Panels* (2014), a feature-length documentary about comic book shops.

Dr. Wilcken is an accomplished church musician, jazz pianist, conductor, and organist who can currently be heard on the organ of historic St. Mary's Episcopal Church in downtown Kansas City. In addition, he has performed with various ensembles in Lawrence and the Kansas City area, including the Kansas City Fine Arts Chorale, *Musica Vocale*, and the *Moon City Big Band*, as well as serving as the artistic director of the *Songflower Chorale*, a semi-professional chamber choral ensemble in Kansas City.

Geoffrey earned his D.M.A. at the University of Kansas in the spring of 2018. He holds a Master of Music degree in choral conducting under Simon Carrington at the University of Kansas, and a Bachelor of Music degree in composition from Iowa State University. He has recently joined the music department of Kansas City Kansas Community College as staff accompanist, and has already begun work on some custom arrangements for ensembles there.

UMKC Graduate Conducting Fellow

Bryan Waznik is a student in the M.M. in Choral Conducting program at UMKC. He comes to Kansas City from Minnesota, where he spent the last 4 years teaching vocal music at Zimmerman Middle/High School in Zimmerman, MN. Along with his regular teaching engagements, he has also served as a section coach for the Minnesota All-State Choirs, and maintains an active career as a performer. As a Tenor, Bryan has performed with MPLS (imPulse) and The Singers: MCA, and has had the opportunity to present a number of new works and masterworks around the Twin Cities. Bryan holds a B.A. in Music from Luther College (2015).

Singers

<u>Soprano</u>	<u>Alto</u>	<u>Tenor</u>	<u>Bass</u>
Lucy Conklin	Kaitlyn Connolly	Tom Assel	Kyle Chamberlin
Paige Flenniken	Danielle Enriquez-Fowler	Nico Caruso	Jon Duncan
Abby Helt	Julia Kasten	Hunter Eisenmenger	Nick Gillock
Kristen Johnson	Nanette Kraus	Fr. Charles Everson	Jeff Jasperson
Victoria Olson	Ann Lewis	Micah Horton	Ryan Layton
Sarah Schulte	Hilary Morton	Colin Riley	Ben Wheeler
Sydney Seratte	Nicole Murray	Bryan Waznik	

Tom Assel studied vocal technique with Dr. Stephen Weber at Amarillo College, Texas. Tom earned a Bachelor of Science in electrical and computer engineering and a master's degree in electrical engineering from the School of Computing and Engineering at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. While there, he sang in the Conservatory Concert Choir under the direction of Dr. Charles Robinson, and University Singers under the direction of Dr. Ryan Board. He and his wife Julie own and operate Assel Grant Services, a grant consulting firm specializing in grant research and proposal writing in a variety of fields. Tom has been singing with Te Deum since fall 2010.

Nico Caruso is excited to be singing (even if it's in a mask) in his 3rd season with Te Deum. Nico recently completed what remained of the coursework separating him and his bachelor's degree of music education from the UMKC Conservatory and is now beginning to explore graduate school options to further his studies in vocal performance. Outside of his Te Deum responsibilities Nico is constantly busy being an exceptional and doting big brother to his younger sister.

Kyle Chamberlin has been singing with Te Deum since spring of 2014 and is thankful to be singing with them for another season. Kyle teaches music in the Shawnee Mission School District. He graduated from Emporia State University with a dual degree in vocal and instrumental music education. He received his Master of Science in Education Administration at ESU in 2019. While at ESU, Kyle appeared in many musicals and operas and presented solo recitals in South Korea and Mexico City. In the past 20 years, he has performed in numerous productions at Great Plains Theatre, a regional theatre in Abilene, Kansas as well as Shawnee Mission Theatre in the Park. Locally, Kyle has sung with Spire, The Ancora Chorale, and Te Deum Antiqua.

Lucy Conklin is pleased to once again be singing with Te Deum this season! She holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Kansas. As a lifelong chorister, Lucy participated in numerous choral ensembles at KU, including Chamber Singers under the direction of Dr. Paul Tucker. Additionally, Lucy sings with KC VITAs Chamber Choir and is a founding member of Ignea Strata, an all-female vocal quartet specializing in genres spanning from medieval to modern. Lucy enjoys bringing sparkle to the lives of Kansas City residents as sales manager at Toner Jewelers in Leawood. She lives in Brookside with her husband, Dave Kaleba, and two wonderful (if a little tubby) cats.

Kaitlyn Connolly is over the moon to be singing in her first season with Te Deum. She has been a chorister since pre-school and is excited to be returning to the choral scene for the first time since The Shutdown. She is hoping to return to school this fall to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Outside of Te Deum, Kaitlyn is a server and the secretary for Tom's Town Distilling Co. Kaitlyn enjoys cats, being a beer connoisseur with her husband Kyle, playing video games and role-playing games, and making Egg Sandies for her loved ones.

Jon Duncan is in his 9th season singing with Te Deum, and is thrilled to serve as the new Assistant Rehearsal Director. Jon is the choir director at Shawnee Mission South High School in Overland Park, Kansas, and he previously taught at Indian Woods Middle School and Hocker Grove Middle School. Jon received his BME and MME both from the UMKC Conservatory. His teachers have included Charles Robinson, Ryan Board, Aidan Soder, Raymond Feener, Joseph Parisi, Dwayne Dunn, Elise Peterson, Erin Smith, Kathy Bhat, and Karen Flaschar. Outside of choral music, Jon enjoys taking care of his houseplants, raising Pokémon, completing puzzles of all genres, and enjoying the KC foodie scene with his partner Luke.

Hunter Eisenmenger is excited to continue with Te Deum as a tenor. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Benedictine College, studying voice under Dr. Kristin Newbegin. For three years, he taught high school music in Lee's Summit, Missouri. Currently, he is pursuing a master's degree in vocal performance at the UMKC Conservatory. At the Conservatory, he is studying voice under the tutelage of Weston Hurt, and will be playing the role of Acis in Handel's Acis and Galatea. Hunter has a deep love for sacred and choral literature, and has sung or played piano for services in Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri since he was a kid. In addition to singing, Hunter loves spending time with his wife and baby daughter, playing piano, traveling, and collecting plants.

Danielle Enriquez-Fowler is excited to be making a cameo appearance with Te Deum for Christmas Joy! Danielle is the director of vocal music at North Kansas City High School. She also serves as Coordinator for the KC Metro All District Treble Choir. Danielle received her Bachelor of Music in Music Education from the University of North Texas and her Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Louisiana State University. Danielle is a Kansas City native and proud mom of Caridad (8) and Jameson (6). Outside of music, Danielle teaches fitness classes at 3 local gyms. Special thanks to her husband, James, and grandma, Gloria "Googie", for all their support - I couldn't have done this without you!

Charles Everson joins Te Deum for his first season. A lifelong chorister, Charles began singing in the children's choir at Village Presbyterian Church. He played French horn in middle school and high school and sang tenor in various ensembles in high school. Charles sang in several choirs at Ouachita Baptist University where he graduated with a degree in Biblical Studies and a minor in music. He worked in banking for 15 years, earning his Master of Business Administration from Baker University. He sang tenor at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church under Dr. Ken Walker for 10 years, eventually pursuing ordination as a priest. Charles serves as rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Kansas City where he enjoys singing the liturgy of the church each week. He and his husband Jay live in South Hyde Park.

Paige Flenniken is thrilled to start her first season with Te Deum! She received her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at Oklahoma State University where she performed the roles of Susanna (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Gilda (*Rigoletto*), Susannah (*Il Segretto di Susannah*), Nella (*Gianni Schicchi*), Isabelle/Madeline (*Face on the Barroom Floor*) and Aldonza (*Man of La Mancha*). Paige enjoys the competition circuit and has won multiple awards from the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She is active in the choral world as a soprano soloist for Messiah at OSU for 3 concurrent years, soprano soloist for Lord Nelsons Mass (Haydn), performed twice at Carnegie Hall with the OSU University Singers and soprano soloist for Mass in B Minor (Bach) with the Midland-Odessa Symphonic Chorale. She moved recently from Texas with her husband, Joe, and is excited to be involved in the thriving Kansas City music scene.

Nick Gillock has been a member of Te Deum since fall 2014. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Kansas State University (2014) and a Master of Music in Musicology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City (2021). He recently completed a thesis entitled "Oh, When the Wiz: An Ethnography of Communal Music-Making in Kansas City Soccer Culture" and was named UMKC's Muriel McBrien Kauffman Superior Graduate Teaching Assistant. Prior to his graduate studies, he was the choral director at Indian Trail Middle School in Olathe. He has studied voice with Prof. Dale Ganz and Dr. Bryan Pinkall, choral studies with Dr. Julie Yu and Dr. Joshua Oppenheim, and musicology with Dr. S. Andrew Granade, Dr. Alison DeSimone, and Dr. William Everett. When not singing, Nick enjoys hanging out with friends and cheering on Sporting KC, Tottenham Hotspur, and the KSU Wildcats!

Abby Helt is in her second season with Te Deum. Abby is a first-year music teacher at St. Ann Catholic School. She graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Music Education degree. At K-State, she studied voice under Professor Cheryl Richt and sang in multiple choirs, serving as a section leader, under Dr. Julie Yu and Dr. Joshua Oppenheim. Abby recently performed as a soloist with K-State's Concert Choir at the 2018 Southwest American Choral Director's Association conference, Grand Chorus Rhapsody 2019, and Collegium Musicum. Abby has also worked with the Flint Hills Children's Choir in Manhattan, Kansas. In addition to singing, Abby enjoys road-tripping, painting, and hanging with her family.

Micah Horton is excited to return to Te Deum for his fifth season with the choir. He teaches choir at Olathe North High School and serves as the Director of Worship Music at Second Presbyterian Church in Brookside. Micah also gigs on guitar, electric bass, and mandolin. Micah has a Master of Music Education from the UMKC Conservatory. He also holds Bachelor's degrees in Music Composition and Psychology from Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, Massachusetts. Micah recently served as the Resource Chair for Multicultural Perspectives for the Missouri Choral Director's Association, and was the 2021 Prelude Award recipient for MCDA. He is a New Jersey native, proud dad & partner, and a Philadelphia sports fan.

Jeff Jasperson is grateful to be singing with Te Deum for a third season. Jeff graduated from the University of Kansas in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in Music, voice emphasis. At KU, he performed with numerous choirs and was a four-year member of the KU Marching Jayhawks as a trumpet player. From 2017-2019, Jeff was a director of the spring choral variety show *Encore* at Free State High School in Lawrence. He currently sings for church services at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mission, Kansas, and works as a paraeducator at Shawnee Mission North High School. Jeff and his fiancée Kayla live in downtown Kansas City with their golden retriever, Berkeley. In his spare time, Jeff enjoys taking Berkeley on walks, distance running, honing his cooking skills, watching KC sports, and attempting to win his fantasy football league.

Kristen Johnson has been singing her heart out since before she could join the church and school choirs as a child. She played violin through high school, even though it meant skipping lunch to also sing in the concert choir. During college, Kristen fell in love with the Anglican choral tradition singing for Dr. Arnold Epley in William Jewell's concert choir, then spent a year abroad cycling to Evensong services all over Cambridge. Kristen has been a soprano in the Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral choir since 2005, singing under Canon John Schaefer and Dr. Paul Meier. She is thrilled to begin singing again after the great pandemic-induced pause in choral singing. By day, Kristen is an attorney practicing administrative and regulatory law in the Environmental, Energy, Mining, and Transportation division at Stinson. She enjoys gardening, yoga, dancing, and spending spare time with her husband and three children.

Julia Kasten is excited to be singing her third season with Te Deum! A recent graduate from the UMKC Conservatory, she has a Bachelor of Music in both Vocal Performance and Music Theory. Julia works as a church musician and sings with Kantorei KC and the Tallgrass Chamber Choir. Outside of music, Julia loves her cats, Disney, and traveling.

Nanette Kraus joined Te Deum in 2013 and resides in Kansas City, Missouri, where she enjoys a wide variety of music projects as a collaborative pianist and singer. She currently serves as staff accompanist for Liberty High School and Liberty Community Chorus, and accompanied the 2021 KCDA state treble honor choir. From 2009-2016, Nanette served as staff accompanist and piano instructor at Baker University. In addition to Te Deum, she sings with KC VITAs Chamber Choir. Nanette earned a Bachelor of Arts in music from Bethany College and a Juris Doctor from the University of Kansas. When not making music, Nanette volunteers for the A Turning Point, the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, and the Te Deum, Inc. board, and enjoys watching Jayhawk basketball.

Ryan Layton is a singer, conductor, collaborative pianist, and teacher. A graduate of the University of Missouri, he studied voice with Dr. Steven B. Jepson, and performed with Hitt Street Harmony, the Bach Collegium Choir, and University Singers under the direction of Dr. R. Paul Crabb. Ryan worked with the Choral Arts Alliance of Missouri for five years, most recently as the accompanist and conductor of the Columbia Chamber Choir and assistant director of the Columbia Chorale. Additionally, he has accompanied numerous school and community choirs and conference reading sessions. This school year will be Ryan's first as Assistant Choir Director at Blue Springs High School. Previously, he was the Director of Choirs and fine arts chairperson at Marshall High School as well as the assistant director of the Marshall Community Chorus. Ryan is an avid New York Times crossword solver, devoted Kansas City and Mizzou sports fan, and reluctant runner.

Ann Lewis joined Te Deum Chamber Choir in the fall of 2009 for its first full season. She graduated from William Jewell College in 2009 with degrees in piano performance and church music with a vocal emphasis. In 2013, she completed a Master of Arts in teaching from the University of Central Missouri. She currently teaches at Kearney Middle School, where she serves as director of vocal music, teaches popular music courses, and assists with the high school vocal music program. Prior to teaching at KMS, Ann served as the vocal music teacher at Marshall High School (Missouri) for four years. She continues to direct the Marshall Community Chorus. Outside the music realm, Ann works at Anthropologie to support her dress addiction. She also runs a pie side hustle: Easy As Pie KC.

Hilary Morton joined Te Deum in 2019. Hilary recently moved to Kansas City from Lawrence to begin teaching choral music at Shawnee Mission North High School. She previously taught at Lawrence Free State High School in Lawrence and at Oregon Trail Jr. High in Olathe. A Lawrence native, Hilary attended the University of Kansas and sang under the direction of Simon Carrington. She dual-majorred as an undergrad, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education and in Theatre/Voice. She minored in French and holds a Masters of Choral Pedagogy from KU. She has been involved in theatre in Lawrence for almost 40 years, from sketch comedy productions to Broadway cabaret performances. When Hilary's not singing or making others sing, she is nestled with her fur babies, watching scary movies whilst baking cookies and crafting specialty cocktails for her loved ones.

Nicole Murray is delighted to be singing with Te Deum for a fourth season. She also enjoys performing as a soloist, choir member, and choral conductor. As a soloist, she has appeared with the Kansas City Symphony, the Liberty Symphony Orchestra, the Northland Symphony Orchestra, the Heritage Philharmonic, and Kansas City Wind Symphony. Nicole is a member of the choral faculty at William Jewell College, and performs with their Cardinalis ensemble. She has also sung with the Kansas City Symphony Chorus, the Kansas City Chorale, Musica Vocale and the American Guild of Organists' Schola Cantorum ensemble. Her formal training includes music degrees from William Jewell College and the Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver. She works on her high notes each summer by riding roller coasters around the globe.

Victoria Olson is a versatile artist and an active collaborator in numerous concerts, recitals, and large-scale projects with ensembles such as Te Deum, Te Deum Antiqua, Kantorei, Spire, Missouri Choral Artists, and internationally acclaimed choral ensemble Red Shift. Her performance career has taken her through the Heartland to Eastern Europe as a prominent featured soloist. Her most notable roles included Königin der Nacht with Landlocked Opera of Kansas City and Heartland Opera Theatre, and Nella with the Varna International Music Academy. Victoria also holds a strong interest in music education and has served as a highly sought-after clinician, adjudicator, and private voice instructor across the Midwest. She received a Bachelor of Music Education (UNO), a Master of Music, and an Artist Certificate with an emphasis in Baroque Studies (UMKC).

Colin Riley joined Te Deum in 2019 after arriving in the KC area from Upstate New York. Colin performed with the nationally recognized chamber choir Ensemble Companio from 2014 to 2019 – serving as a tenor, officer, and board member. Colin graduated from Cornell University in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering. While there, he sang with the Cornell University Glee Club under Scott Tucker, with performances including Ein Deutsches Requiem in Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong; the 2009 American Choral Directors Association National Convention; and a stage production of Leonard Bernstein's Mass. Colin is a Regional Product Manager with General Electric and also holds a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech and a Master of Business Administration from Clarkson University. Colin lives in Overland Park with his wife and toddler, where he divides his time between home improvement projects and pretending to be a robot/dinosaur.

Sarah Schulte is excited to be singing with Te Deum for a second season! She is currently in her first year as Director of Choirs at Park Hill South High School, and was previously the Assistant Director of Choirs at Blue Springs South High School. She graduated from the University of Missouri in 2018 with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Music Education, Summa Cum Laude. While there, Sarah was active with the University Singers and Show-Me Opera programs, singing abroad in China, Sweden, and Estonia. In addition to teaching in Park Hill, Sarah has previously sung as a section leader in St. Paul's Episcopal Choir and with the Kansas City Symphony Chorus. Sarah loves hiking, house plants, craft beer, and her dog, Ollie!

Sydney Seratte has been a member of Te Deum for not one, not two, but nine whole seasons! Sydney teaches music at Bluejacket-Flint Elementary School in Shawnee, KS. Prior to joining the team at BJE, she taught music at Citizens of the World Charter School in Kansas City, Missouri. She graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory. As a UMKC student, Sydney enjoyed singing in university choirs and vocal recitals. Her teachers have included Janeal Krehbiel, Cathy Crispino, Dr. Charles Robinson, Dr. Ryan Board, Dr. Aidan Soder, Corbin Trimble, Debra Raffety, Robert Relly, Joan Hildebrand, Terah Wieland, Nicole Ouwenga-Scott, and Patrice Sollenberger. Sydney teaches Simply Music piano lessons in the KC area, holds a master's degree in education from MidAmerica Nazarene University, and a master's degree in Music Education from UMKC. She loves softball, house plants, cooking, and her two (too many) cats, Del and Meret.

Bryan Waznik is a student in the M.M. in Choral Conducting program at UMKC. He comes to Kansas City from Minnesota, where he spent the last 4 years teaching vocal music at Zimmerman Middle/High School in Zimmerman, MN. Along with his regular teaching engagements, he has also served as a section coach for the Minnesota All-State Choirs, and maintains an active career as a performer. As a Tenor, Bryan has performed with MPLS (imPulse) and The Singers: MCA, and has had the opportunity to present a number of new works and masterworks around the Twin Cities. Bryan holds a B.A. in Music from Luther College (2015).

Ben Wheeler is excited for his first year with Te Deum in 2021. He learned to love music as a Suzuki trained violinist under Alice Joy Lewis in Ottawa, Kansas from age 4 through 18. He has a Bachelor of Music in Music Theater from Oklahoma City University, where he studied with vocal teacher Larry Keller. He sang for 2 seasons with Light Opera Oklahoma in Tulsa and has performed in many musicals and operas in school and community theaters in Kansas and Oklahoma. He had a blast singing with the Central Standard Barbershop Chorus in KC from 2017-2019. He enjoys volleyball, skiing, live music, and racking up wins with his crew of fully grown adults on Call of Duty.

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Join us January 22 & 23 for...



Featuring Palestrina's beloved *Pope Marcellus Mass*, motets of Josquin des Prez and Gregorian Chant Propers for the 3rd Sunday after Epiphany, the listener will be transported to 16th century Rome, hearing a Renaissance service of the Sistine Chapel, the Pope's private chapel for prayer and worship.