



TeDeum

Matthew Christopher Shepard  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

ANTIQUA  
S E R I E S

MUSIC  
OF + THE  
SISTINE  
CHAPEL



JANUARY 22-23, 2022

## Artistic Director's Note

Music of the Sistine Chapel was programed under the notion that historical performance context aids in understanding and appreciating music of previous centuries. Placing music in the setting for which it was intended more fully reveals the beauty and intent of those centuries' greatest compositions. To provide context for the polyphonic works and chant, I have chosen to perform all the musical elements of a complete Mass, and because it falls on the same weekend as these performances, I've chosen as our musical structure a Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Epiphany.

Planning a performance of music of the Sistine Chapel took me first to the manuscripts. The Chapel didn't have its own printing press and so did not publish its own editions of music, however numerous scores were copied by hand into choirbooks. A study of these manuscripts uncovers what music was performed by the Sistine Chapel Choir for Papal functions. The following works are all found in the Chapel choirbooks.

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina's (c.1525-1594) best-known work, *Missa Papae Marcelli* (Pope Marcellus Mass), provides the bulk of the polyphonic works on this program. Composed around 1563, the work was hailed in its own day as well as now as the supreme achievement of late-Renaissance polyphony. It was so popular that it has been sung at every Papal Coronation since its conception to the present day.

The two other polyphonic works on the program are motets. The first is *Ave Maria...Virgo Serena* by Josquin des Prez (c.1440-1521), a composer of Franco-Burgundian birth, who lived for many years in Rome and sang in the Sistine Chapel Choir. Josquin is considered the greatest composer of the high-Renaissance, the half-century which precedes Palestrina. *Ave Maria...Virgo Serena* begins with the familiar *Ave Maria* text, but then shifts to include five poetic stanzas, each highlighting a meaningful aspect of Mary's life: Conception, Nativity, Annunciation, Purification, and Assumption. Following those strophes is the final and most arresting phrase of the work, a personal petition—"O mother of God, remember me." The final polyphonic work of the program is Palestrina's most famous motet, *Sicut Cervus*. The text, taken from Psalm 42, likens a deer's longing for a water brook to humankind's longing for God. With water as the central imagery, the motet is unsurprisingly sung for baptisms on Holy Saturday, the night which precedes Easter.

Gregorian Chant, the third musical element in the program, has been the primary musical material for Catholic worship for nearly two millennia and is still used in many Catholic churches today. My chant study has been focused on the area of performance practice, specifically in rhythmic performance. 1,000 years ago chant melodies were learned orally and memorized, but as the repertory grew, the need to be reminded of the rhythms led to the development of adiastematic neumes, or neumes that are written without the aid of staff lines to represent intervallic relationship. The decades-old research area of semiology, the study of signs, has revealed a complex and nuanced rhythmic notation used by monks prior to the invention of staff line notation in the 13th-century. These ancient neumes, seen in your program on page 4, look like a series of lines, loops, and squiggles written above the text, and they reveal a vast world of rhythmic complexity and specificity. Te Deum singers have learned to read these neumes found in a 10th century manuscript from the Benedictine Abbey of Einsiedeln, Switzerland, and are performing today with this rhythmic interpretation. — MCS

# Music of the Sistine Chapel

A Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Introit:	<i>Adorate Deum</i> , plainchant
Kyrie:	<i>Missa Papae Marcelli</i> , Palestrina
Gloria:	<i>Missa Papae Marcelli</i> , Palestrina
Gradual:	<i>Timebunt gentes</i> , plainchant
Credo:	<i>Missa Papae Marcelli</i> , Palestrina
Offertory:	<i>Dextera Domini</i> , plainchant
Motet:	<i>Ave Maria</i> , Josquin des Prez
Sanctus:	<i>Missa Papae Marcelli</i> , Palestrina
Agnus Dei:	<i>Missa Papae Marcelli</i> , Palestrina
Communion:	<i>Mirabantur omnes</i> , plainchant
Motet:	<i>Sicut Cervus</i> , Palestrina
Ite:	Plainchant



## Introit

*Adorate Deum, omnes Angeli ejus:  
 audívit, et lætáta est Sion:  
 et exsultavérunt filiaē Judæ.*

Adore God, all you His angels:  
 Sion hears and is glad,  
 and the cities of Juda rejoice.

*Dóminus regnávít, exsúltet terra:  
 læténtur ínsulæ multæ.*

The Lord is King; let the earth rejoice;  
 let the many isles be glad.

*Glória Patri, et Fílio, et Spirítui Sancto.  
 Sicut erat in princípío, et nunc, et semper, et  
 in sæcula sæculórum. Amen.*

Glory be to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
 shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Adorate Deum, omnes Angeli ejus:  
 audívit, et lætáta est Sion:  
 et exsultavérunt filiaē Judæ.*

Adore God, all you His angels:  
 Sion hears and is glad,  
 and the cities of Juda rejoice.

## Kyrie

*Kyrie eleison.  
 Christe eleison.  
 Kyrie eleison.*

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

## Gloria

<i>Glória in excélsis Deo. Et in terra pax homínibus bonæ voluntátis. Laudámus te. Benedícimus te. Adorámus te. Glorificámus te. Grátias ágimus tibi propter magnam glóriam tuam.</i>	Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace to men of good will. We praise Thee. We bless Thee. We adore Thee. We glorify Thee. We give Thee thanks for Thy great glory.
<i>Dómine Deus, Rex cæléstis, Deus Pater omnípotens. Dómine Fili unigénite, Jesu Christe. Dómine Deus, Agnus Dei, Fílius Patris.</i>	O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
<i>Qui tollis peccáta mundi, miserére nobis. Qui tollis peccáta mundi, súscipe deprecatióem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserére nobis.</i>	Who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Who takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Who sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
<i>Quóniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dóminus. Tu solus Altíssimus, Jesu Christe. Cum Sancto Spíritu in glória Dei Patris. Amen.</i>	For Thou only art holy. Thou only art the Lord. Thou only art most high, O Jesus Christ. Together with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## Gradual

<i>Timébunt gentes nomen tuum, Dómine, et omnes reges terræ glóriam tuam.</i>	The nations shall revere Your name, O Lord, and all the kings of the earth Your glory.
<i>Quóniam ædificávit Dóminus Sion, et vidébitur in majestáte sua. Allelúja, allelúja.</i>	For the Lord has rebuilt Sion, and He shall appear in His glory. Alleluia, alleluia.

# Credo

<i>Credo in unum Deum, Patrem omnipoténtem, factórem cæli et terræ, visibílium ómnium et invisibílium.</i>	I believe in one God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things, visible and invisible.
<i>Et in unum Dóminum Jesum Christum, Fílium Dei unigénitum.</i>	And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God.
<i>Et ex Patre natum ante ómnia sæcula. Deum de Deo, lumen de lúmine, Deum verum de Deo vero.</i>	And born of the Father, before all ages. God of God: Light of Light: true God of true God.
<i>Génitum, non factum, consubstantiálem Patri: per quem ómnia facta sunt.</i>	Begotten, not made, one in being with the Father, by whom all things were made.
<i>Qui propter nos hómines et propter nostram salútem descendit de cælis.</i>	Who, for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven.
<i>Et incarnátus est de Spíritu Sancto ex María Vírgine: Et homo factus est.</i>	And became incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary: and was made man.
<i>Crucifíxus étiam pro nobis: sub Póntio Piláto passus, et sepúltus est.</i>	He was crucified also for us, suffered under Pontius Pilate, and was buried.
<i>Et resurrexit tértia die, secúndum Scriptúras.</i>	And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures.
<i>Et ascéndit in cælum: sedet ad dexteram Patris.</i>	And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father.
<i>Et íterum ventúrus est cum glória judicáre vivos et mórtuos: cujus regni non erit finis.</i>	And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, of whose kingdom there shall be no end.
<i>Et in Spíritum Sanctum, Dóminum et vivificántem: qui ex Patre Filióque procedit.</i>	And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, proceeding from the Father and the Son.
<i>Qui cum Patre et Fílio simul adorátur et conglorificátur: qui locútus est per Prophétas.</i>	Who with the Father and the Son, is adored and glorified: who spoke by the prophets.
<i>Et unam sanctam cathólicam et apostólicam Ecclésiám.</i>	And in one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.
<i>Confíteor unum baptísma in remissionem peccatórum.</i>	I confess one baptism for the remission of sins.
<i>Et exspécto resurrectionem mortuórum. Et vitam ventúri sæculi.</i>	And I look for the resurrection of the dead. And the life of the world to come.
<i>Amen.</i>	Amen.

## Offertory

<i>Déxtera Dómini fecit virtutem, d�xtera D�mini exalt�vit me: non m�riar, sed vivam, et narr�bo �pera D�mini.</i>	The right hand of the Lord has struck with power: the right hand of the Lord has exalted me; I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.
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## Motet: "Ave Maria...Virgo Serena"

<i>Ave Maria, Gratia plena, Dominus tecum, Virgo serena. Ave, cuius Conceptio, Solemni plena gaudio, Caelestia, Terrestria, Nova replet laetitia.</i>	Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with thee, serene Virgin. Hail, thou whose Conception, Full of great joy, Fills heaven and earth With new gladness.
<i>Ave, cuius Nativitas Nostra fuit solemnitas, Ut lucifer lux oriens Verum solem praeveniens.</i>	Hail, thou whose Nativity Became our great celebration, As the light-bearing Morning Star anticipates the true Sun.
<i>Ave pia humilitas, Sine viro fecunditas, Cuius Annuntiatio Nostra fuit salvatio.</i>	Hail, faithful humility, Fruitful without man, Whose Annunciation Was our salvation.
<i>Ave vera virginitas, Immaculata castitas, Cuius Purificatio Nostra fuit purgatio.</i>	Hail, true virginity, Immaculate chastity, Whose Purification Was our cleansing.
<i>Ave, praeclara omnibus Angelicis virtutibus, Cuius fuit Assumptio Nostra fuit glorificatio.</i>	Hail, glorious one In all angelic virtues, Whose Assumption Was our glorification.
<i>O Mater Dei, Memento mei. Amen.</i>	O Mother of God, Remember me. Amen.

## Sanctus

<i>Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dóminus, Deus Sábaoth. Pleni sunt cæli et terra glória tua. Hosánna in excélsis.</i>	Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory! Ho- sanna in the highest!
<i>Benedíctus, qui venit in nómine Dómini. Hosánna in excélsis.</i>	Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

## Agnus Dei

<i>Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: miserére nobis.</i>	Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
<i>Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: miserére nobis.</i>	Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
<i>Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: dona nobis pacem.</i>	Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

## Communion

<i>Mirabántur omnes de his, quæ procedébant de ore Dei.</i>	All marveled at the words that came from the mouth of God.
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## Motet: "Sicut Cervus"

<i>Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.</i>	As the hart desireth after the water brooks, so desireth my soul after thee, O God.
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## Ite

<i>Ite, Missa est. Deo grátias.</i>	Go, the Mass is ended. Thanks be to God.
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# 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.

## Singers

<u>Soprano</u>	<u>Alto</u>	<u>Tenor</u>	<u>Bass</u>
Paige Flenniken Victoria Olson Sarah Powers	Krista Childs Peggy Chilson Julia Kasten	Tom Assel Hunter Eisenmenger Fr. Charles Everson Colin Riley Raphael Rodriguez Bryan Waznik	Andrew Childs Andrew Cunard Jon Duncan Nick Gillock Ryan Layton Josh Maize

**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.

**Dr. Andrew Childs** has served as Associate Dean and Professor of Music at St. Mary's College since 2008. Previously, he taught at Missouri State University, the Yale University School of Drama, the Thames Valley Music School at Connecticut College, and served as Managing Coordinator of the Department of Voice and Opera at the Yale School of Music. He earned his Bachelor of Music Degree from UC Irvine, and his DMA from the University of Washington. Andrew has sung nearly thirty operatic roles for Seattle Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Harrisburg Opera, The Center for Contemporary Opera, Amato Opera, and Springfield Opera among others. He has recorded for the Parma, Albany, Koch, and Centaur labels. The American Record Guide wrote of his 2006 solo disc of Charles Ives songs on Centaur, "...there is no better recording by a tenor."

**Krista Childs** earned both her Bachelor of Music in Education and Master of Music degrees at Missouri State University, where she sang for five years under the direction of Dr. Guy Webb. A native of Sedalia, Missouri, Krista specializes in early childhood music education and is a certified Kodaly instructor. She has extensive experience as a choral conductor and singer in liturgical, educational, and professional settings. She conducted the Children's Chorus of Southwest Missouri and taught previously in the Bolivar R-1 school district, and St. Mary's Academy. She currently teaches at McEachron elementary school in Topeka. She and husband Andrew are proud parents of Sara, Patrick, Rebecca, Zachary, and Paul.

**Peggy Chilson** is a versatile vocalist who is pleased to be singing for her third project with Te Deum Antiqua. It was with Terri Teal and the Fine Arts Chorale that first instilled and nurtured her love of early sacred music. Currently Peggy's ensemble work includes Geoffrey Wilcken's SongFlower Chorale and a cappella vocal jazz group NightShade, as well as Madrigalia Bar None and Carolers of Note. As a solo performer, Peggy can be heard in her own jazz combo, sitting in with Moon City Big Band or as a regular soloist at Unity Temple on the Plaza. Peggy is a licensed clinical social worker and parent of a talented and very busy 18 year-old trombone player. Whenever possible, Peggy enjoys throwing travel, nature, food and friends into the mix.

**Andrew Cunard** graduated in 2010 with a business degree from Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. While there, he sang in several premier groups including the Wartburg Choir where he grew as a choral singer under the direction of Dr. Paul Torkelson, Dr. Weston Noble, and current director Dr. Lee Nelson. After returning to Kansas City, Andrew joined Te Deum Chamber Choir and has sung with several other ensembles including Te Deum Antiqua and Kantorei of Kansas City, while also remaining active in music at Atonement Lutheran Church. Andrew received a Master of Business Administration from Rockhurst University in 2016 and spends his days working as a Loan Officer on The Rome Team at Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation.

**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.

**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!

**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.

**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.

**Joshua Maize, DMA**, is the associate director of music at Village Presbyterian Church. Since 2018, he served as director of music and the arts at First Presbyterian Church of Austin, Texas. He is an active conductor, organist, and vocalist, appearing on the rosters of Norfolk Chamber Choir, Simon Carrington Chamber Singers, Austin Schola Cantorum, Te Deum Chamber Choir, and Spire Chamber Choir. Additionally, he has served as assistant conductor of the Prague Choral Festival. He earned a bachelor's degree in music education from the UMKC's Conservatory of Music and Dance, a master's degree in musicology and church music from the University of Kansas and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting from UMKC. He was an Ellen Battell Stoeckel Vocal Fellow at Yale University.

**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).

**Sarah Powers** received a Bachelor of Science in Vocal Performance in 2015 from William Jewell College where she studied voice as a Choral Scholar. While working toward her degree she sang in various ensembles including the Concert Choir and Schola Cantorum, and held a church choir position at Asbury United Methodist Church. She has appeared as a soloist with the Liberty Symphony Orchestra and Midwest Chamber Ensemble and has performed as an ensemble member and as a soloist with Musica Vocale, AGO Schola Cantorum, Cardinalis, and Te Deum Antiqua. Currently, Sarah sings at St. Mary's Episcopal Church as a choral scholar and works as a Leasing Professional in Olathe where she lives with her husband and son.

**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.

**Rafael Rodriguez** is thrilled to join Te Deum in his first season. A chorister for most of his life, Rafael originally hails from New York and brings a strong passion for sacred music. Rafael developed his musical skill and knowledge further starting in 2012 where he attended Saint Mary's College in Kansas and sang under the direction of Dr. Andrew Childs for over 8 years. While living in the Manhattan, Kansas area, Rafael also sang several seasons with Collegium Musicum at Kansas State University led by Dr. David Wood, and the Masterworks Chorale led by Dr. Jeffrey Ward. Rafael and his family moved to Kansas City in the Summer of 2020. Since then, he has become a valuable member of the St. Vincent de Paul Church community where he directs the schola, sings in the choir, and teaches Gregorian chant to the high school students of St. Vincent's Academy.

**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).

# Te Deum 14th Season

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Join us March 13 for...



Vespers is an evening prayer service in the Church's ancient prayer cycle. A group of Tenors and Basses from Te Deum will offer this 40-minute service fully chanted in Latin. "Vespers" offers a window into an ancient practice of Christian Monks and a modern opportunity to experience the serenity and contemplative nature of chant.

Vespers is a FREE offering to the public.