

ATAWBA VALLEY COMMUNITY  
**CHORUS**

*Spring 2024*



## WELCOME *∞* THANK YOU

Greetings Fellow Music Lovers,

Welcome to our spring concert. For weeks now, the Chorus has worked diligently to prepare for this evening's program – our gift to you. In sharing this gift, it is our hope that this musical expression will bring joy and delight.

As we conclude our 36<sup>th</sup> season, I would like to thank you for making this evening possible. It is evident that the arts in this community are important, and that our mission, “to offer quality music that both stir the spirit and satisfy the soul,” is welcomed and received.

If you have enjoyed the music we have shared, consider supporting the CVCChorus, either through loose plate offering at the conclusion of this event, or more formally, by completing the form provided on the back cover of your program booklet. By filling out and submitting the required information, you will be listed in our program booklets during our 37<sup>th</sup> season – thanking you for your generosity.

-Spence Robertson,  
Director



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## CONTRIBUTORS

*The Chorus appreciates the generosity of the following donors:*

### INDIVIDUALS

Nancy Holloway

Kathy and Steven Mowery

### IN MEMORY & IN HONOR

Paula Brown

*In Memory of Johnny L. Brown*

Nancy Long

*In Honor of Jane Echerd*

Brenda Mackie

*In Memory of Zona Mosteller*

Roger and Martha Staley

*In Memory of Dale, Morgan, and Jeanette*

Carol Schaefer

*In Memory of Ray and Ann Steckenrider*

Janet Spencer

*In Honor of Jane Echerd and Laura West*

Laura West

*In Memory of Henry and Frances West*

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*This project is also supported by the United Arts Council of Catawba County through the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, with funding from the State of North Carolina from the National Endowment for the Arts.*

United Arts Council

OF CATAWBA COUNTY

[www.artscatawba.org](http://www.artscatawba.org)



## CHORUS MEMBERS

Sandra Barton  
Donna Davis  
Jane Echerd  
Brenda Groce  
Fletcher Hamlin  
Tracy Hamlin  
Carolyn McDonald  
Pat Moss

John Petersen  
Buddy Rader  
Alyssa Scalf  
Carol Schaefer  
Barbara Sigmon  
Brent Talley  
Laura West  
Elaine Vaughn

## INSTRUMENTALISTS

Will Freeman, Violin

## NARRATOR

Steven Mowery

**This program will last approximately 1 hour.  
Please silence all devices.**

## PROGRAM

**A Word of Welcome**

*from Spence Robertson*

**'Pastorale'**

*by Raymond Haan*

*We rise as we are able.*

## CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

## O God Beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day  
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,  
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;  
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;  
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,  
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-  
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:  
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:  
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,  
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,  
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.  
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.  
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

## **A Jubilant Song**

*text, Psalm s 90, 96*

*music, Allen Pote*

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song.  
Rejoice and sing and let the earth be glad,  
let the heavens be filled with joy,  
and a jubilant song.

Sing alleluia.

Tell of his salvation from day to day.  
Shout his marvelous works among the people,  
for great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Lord you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.  
Before the mountains were made,  
or the land and the sea were born,

From age to age you are God,  
and we pray for the coming of your Kingdom.  
We shall rejoice, we shall be glad  
all the days of our lives.

## Look at the World

*text, John Rutter*

*music, John Rutter*

Look at the world,  
everything all around us.  
Look at the world,  
and marvel every day.  
Look at the world:  
so many joys and wonders,  
so many miracles along our way.

Look at the earth  
bringing forth fruit and flower;  
look at the sky,  
The sunshine and the rain;  
look at the hills,  
look at the trees and mountains,  
valley and flowing river, field and plain:

Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation,  
give us thankful hearts, that we may see:  
all the gifts we share, and every blessing,  
all things come of thee.

Think of the spring,  
think of the warmth of summer  
bringing the harvest  
before the winter's cold.  
Everything grows,  
everything has a season,  
till it is gathered to the Fathers fold:

Every good gift,  
all that we need and cherish  
comes from the Lord  
in token of his love;  
we are his hands,  
stewards of all his bounty;  
his is the earth, and his the heavens above:

## A New Commandment

*text, John 13:34-35*

*music, Spence Robertson*

I give you a new commandment:  
to love another; as I have loved you.  
If you have this love among you,  
all will know that you are my disciples.



## Antiphonal Cantate

*text, Traditional Latin*

*music, Greg Gilpin*

Cantate Domino.  
Canticum novum cantate Domino.  
Omnis terra cantate Domino.

Sing to the Lord.  
Sing a new song to the Lord.  
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

## INTERLUDE

### Fugue, from 'Sixth Sonata'

*by Felix Mendelssohn*

## PROGRAM

### Tune My Heart

*text, Robert Robinson*

*music, Willaim Moore*

*arr. Lloyd Larson*

Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise his name, I'm fixed upon it,  
name of God's redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
Hither by thy help I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safety to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
bought me with precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord I know  
I'm prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O, take and seal it  
seal it for thy courts above.

## **The Image of God**

*text, Susan Bentall Boersma*

*music, Craig Courtney*

In the beginning God shaped and formed me.  
I am skillfully and wonderfully made.  
I am the image of my creator.  
In every part of me his likeness is displayed.

Life flows from life and love from loving;  
Gifts of the Father by nature and by grace.  
A heart made glad, a soul; unshaken;  
Unbounded joy, in every breath a song of praise.

For his own purpose, God shaped and formed me.  
I have a place within his plan.  
I am the image of my creator.  
My past and future are secure within his hand.

## **Shine Like the Sun**

*text, John Ylvisaker*

*music, John Ylvisaker*

*arr. Karen E. Black*

There's a light that lights the darkness,  
and the world cannot contain it  
and the world cannot explain it.  
It is the light of God's creation.

There's a love that flows within us,  
and the world cannot create it,  
and the world cannot negate it.  
It is the love of God's salvation;  
and it shines like the sun.

There are saints who light the darkness,  
And the world cannot contain them,  
for the love of God sustains them  
and they will never be forgotten.

We are blessed to have them with us,  
and we praise the God who made them.  
There is no way to repay them,  
so we simply do applaud them  
as they shine like the sun.

Glory be to our creator!  
Glory to the holy one!  
Glory be to Christ our Savior,  
the Lord of light, the king of love.  
See him shine like the sun.

There is a light that lights the darkness,  
and the world cannot contain it,  
and the world cannot explain it.  
It is the light of God's creation.

There's a love that flows within us,  
and the world cannot create it,  
and the world cannot negate it.  
It is the love of God's salvation;  
and it shines like the sun.

Glory be to God our creator!  
Glory to the holy one!  
Glory be to Christ our Savior,  
the Lord of light, the king of love!  
See him shine like the sun.  
They will shine like the sun.

## **Steal Away**

*text, Traditional Spiritual  
music, Traditional Spiritual  
arr. Howard Helvey*

Steal away, steal away,  
steal away to Jesus.  
Steal away, steal away home,  
I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, he calls me,  
he calls me by the thunder,  
the trumpet sounds within my soul,  
I ain't got long to stay here.

## **Clap Your Hands**

*text, Patti Drennan  
music, Patti Drennan*

Clap your hands, all ye people,  
clap your hands to the Lord most high;  
clap your hands, all ye people,  
shout to God with a voice of joy.

Clap your hands, all ye people,  
Sing your praises to the Lord most high;  
fill the air with loud hosannas,  
lift your voices to the sky.

And sing to the Lord, sing praises to his name.  
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
sing of his glory.

Clap your hands, ye people who are children of God;  
clap your hands, ye children of God.  
Clap your hands to the Lord most high.  
Clap your hands, all ye people, shout to God with a voice of joy.

Hallelujah.

## **A Word from the President**

*from Barbara Sigmon*

## **May the Road Rise to Meet You**

*text, Traditional Text  
music, Jerome Williams*

May the road rise to meet you;  
may the wind be always at your back;  
may the sun shine warm upon your face;  
may the rain fall soft upon your fields;  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hands.

## **DIRECTOR & ACCOMPANIST**

### **SPENCE ROBERTSON / Director**

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Pfeiffer University and a Master of Music in Church Music from Samford University. Spence is Director of Music at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hickory, staff accompanist at Caldwell Community College, teaches private piano lessons, and is a member of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians. Spence is also a senior seminarian at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary of Lenoir-Rhyne University in Columbia, South Carolina, earning his Master of Divinity and has recently been approved to become a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

### **TIMOTHY WARREN / Accompanist**

A native of Hickory, North Carolina, Timothy Warren was appointed organist at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Conover, North Carolina in July, 1978 and has remained in that position since then. He served as organist for The First Baptist Church in Hickory for three years prior to his appointment at Mt. Zion. Mr. Warren studied organ at Lenoir-Rhyne University. He was on staff at Lenoir-Rhyne for fifteen years and served as rehearsal accompanist and organist for the University Choir. He has also been accompanist for the Catawba Valley Community Chorus for a number of years. Tim served as Office Administrator at Mt. Zion Church for about 23 years. Mr. Warren has had the opportunity to play many fine organs in the eastern part of the United States, including one of his favorites, our nation's "Washington Cathedral" organ.

### **CATAWBA VALLEY COMMUNITY CHORUS / Founded in 1987**

The CVCChorus is an ecumenical choir that sings with all joy in music making and sharing that musical expression with its audiences. The chorus, in the process of rebuilding itself after the pandemic, returns to offer three cyclical performances this spring and coming winter, and invite new members to join in on the fun. Auditions are not required, although some level of singing and reading music is encouraged. Want to join in on the fun? Check us out at [www.zionhickory.org/cvcchorus](http://www.zionhickory.org/cvcchorus).

# CONTRIBUTION FORM

Thank you for considering supporting the CVCChorus. Contributions, along with this form, can be mailed to our address below OR given to a CVCChorus member. For questions, email us at [catawbavalleycommunitychorus@gmail.com](mailto:catawbavalleycommunitychorus@gmail.com).

Contributor Name or Business will be listed in our programs for one year. Memorials and Honors name will be printed in the program below the contributor's name, if provided.

**Name or Business** (as you want it listed in the program):

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**Contribution** (amount will not be printed):

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## OPTIONAL

**In Memory of** (as you want it listed in the program):

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Or **In Honor of** (as you want it listed in the program):

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## \*ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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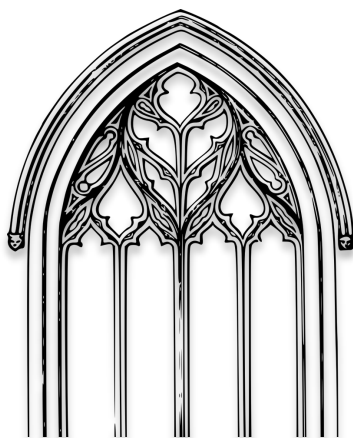
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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Additional Information will not be published.*

*Contributions can only be made by check to:  
Catawba Valley Community Chorus  
P.O. Box 1005, Conover, NC 28613*



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**CHORUS**