

2018-2019

Music & the Fine Arts Series at St. James

*All events are free, with an offering received.
The church is handicap accessible.*

Sunday, October 7 at 4:00 p.m. Music for Organ and Strings

Our opening program will consist of music spanning nearly 3 centuries for the instrumental combination of organ and strings. Included will be rarely heard music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, Antonín Dvořák's Bagatelles (featuring a reed organ built by the Vermont company Estey of Brattleboro), and George Frideric Handel's Organ Concerto in F Major.

Thursday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m. All Saints' Day Choral Evensong *music of Stanford, Stainer, and Tallis*

Sunday, December 16 at 4:00 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols



We will present the story of Christmas from the words of the prophets through Christ's birth in Bethlehem in the style in which it has been presented at King's College, Cambridge since 1918. Including Advent and Christmas carols for the congregation and choir and scripture readings telling this miraculous story, St. James' choir is pleased to offer this uniquely Anglican tradition for Christmas.

Saturday, January 5 at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, January 6 at 4:00 p.m. Amahl and the Night Visitors a one-act opera by Gian Carlo Menotti

In celebration of both Twelfth Night and the Feast of the Epiphany, we are proud to present this important American work. Amahl, a shepherd, tries to tell his mother about what he has seen outside; an enormous star with a long tail. His mother, used to his habitual lying, grows angry; she is even angrier when Amahl tells her that a knock at the door is three kings come to visit them. The kings enter and tell the two peasants that they have come to find a king, and they show the rich gifts they have brought him. While Amahl's mother is out gathering wood for the fire, Amahl asks the kings questions about their lives. The mother returns with her neighbors, and the villagers present their gifts to the visitors. That night, Amahl's mother tries to steal some of the kings' gold to use to help her child; she is caught, and when the kings offer to let her keep the gold, explaining that the king they seek will need nothing but love to rule his kingdom, she returns it. Amahl offers his staff as an additional gift, and suddenly finds that he can walk. He leaves with the kings to pay homage to the child who has healed him.



Sunday, February 3 at 4:00 p.m. Music for Midwinter

A night of choral music, old and new, chosen to warm the heart and soul as we longingly look to the lengthening of days. The program will include works of Palestrina, Byrd, Pärt, and Giel.

Sunday, March 24 at 4:00 p.m. Choral Evensong *music of Brewer and Morley*

Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 p.m. Organ Recital presented by Dr. James E. Lorenz

This year's program will feature compositions by J. S. Bach, César Franck, Felix Mendelssohn, and Camille Saint-Saëns.



Thursday, May 30 at 7:00 p.m. Ascension Day Choral Evensong featuring Charpentier's Te Deum

The Te Deum (H 146) is unquestionably the best known composition of Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643–1704), especially since its “*Prélude en rondeau*” was made the Eurovision signature tune. Although Charpentier set the Te Deum altogether four times, this is his only setting employing a “military band”, i.e. trumpets and timpani. This brilliant and magnificent piece was frequently played at victory celebrations and other occasions of public jubilation during the 17th century. Presented amid Choral Evensong with orchestra, our final concert of the series will be certain to be one of the highlights of the season.

On behalf of St. James Episcopal Church, I invite you to come and enjoy any or all of the programs for the 2018-2019 series. For those who have not yet attended an event at St. James, we offer an intimate setting with excellent acoustics, our pipe organ is one of the largest in Woodstock, and we take great pride in presenting the best music we are able. Please consider helping to present these programs to the community by becoming a patron. The information you will need is on the back of this announcement.

Additionally, those of you who enjoy acting, singing, or are otherwise artistic and who think they would like to participate in any of these or future programs we have to offer, do not hesitate to speak with either myself directly or with a performer in one of our productions. We have many participants from outside our congregation!

Again, we hope to see you, and please bring your friends!
~ Dr. James E. Lorenz, Organist & Choirmaster