

*A dedication service for the renovation of our church and
A celebration of God's presence among us through his means of grace*



*The LORD
is in this place*

*January 31, 2016
St Paul Lutheran Church • Green Bay, Wisconsin*

Præludium in E, Vincent Lübeck, 1654-1740

This relatively unknown composer was active between two giants of the Lutheran baroque period: Dietrich Buxtehude and J.S. Bach. Some musicologists have noted parallels between the structure of a præludium and theories of rhetoric – the construction of an effective speech. Johann Mattheson (1739) used categories described by a Roman orator, Cicero (d. 43 BC), and adapted them to music. A speech's introduction and a præludium's opening are both designed to grab the listener's attention. The musical style is improvisatory, *stylus phantasticus*. Mattheson offered this description:

“This style is the most free and unrestrained manner of composing and playing that one can imagine, for one hits first upon this idea and then upon that one. All kinds of otherwise unusual progressions, hidden ornaments, ingenious turns and embellishments are brought forth without actual observation of the measure and the key; now swift, now hesitating, now in one voice, now in many voices, now for a while behind the beat, without measure of sound, but not without the intent to please, to overtake and to astonish.”

While the introduction is improvisatory, the presentation of “facts, supporting arguments and conclusion” – to use rhetorical terms – all follow stricter musical forms such as fugue or imitation.

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word (CW 221) Paul Manz, 1919-2009

This setting features some of the softest sounds on the organ. The hands play a shimmering accompaniment on the “strings” while the feet play a decorated version of the hymn tune. This hymn text and the next are frequently used as opening hymns, invitations to the blessings of worship.

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now (CW 230, BWV 655) J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

In Bach's day the hymn on which the music is based was sung in most German churches each Sunday as the usual pulpit hymn before the sermon. Unusual in this composition is that the hymn tune doesn't appear until the last third of the piece – even though hinted at earlier. One hint is the following figure which occurs six times in the base line in five different keys. It might correspond to the first words of the hymn, roughly translated to fit the musical figure.



Lord Je - sus Christ, be here; Lord Je - sus Christ, be pre - sent now

Father, We Praise You (CW 581) Robert Hobby, b. 1962

The hymn is an optional standard beginning for Morning Praise (CW page 45). Can you hear in the composer's setting hints of a sunrise? Today's service includes three selections by Hobby. All feature readily identifiable melodies to familiar hymns, a comfortable contrast to some of the less familiar repertoire.

Fanfare for Organ Richard Proulx, 1937-2010

Proulx (pronounced Pru) possessed a rare combination of talents as composer, conductor, music editor, and organist. He composed congregational music in every form, sacred and secular choral works, song cycles, two operas, and instrumental and organ music. His organ arrangement of *Veni Creator* (CW 178) was featured in the 1997 film *The Devil's Own*, starring Brad Pitt and Harrison Ford.

Amazing Grace (CW 379) Robert Hobby

The setting begins with the organ imitating the sound of bagpipes, a sound that has become a part of recent American cultural memory. YouTube (amazing grace bagpipes 9-11) provides numerous renditions in memory of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attack.

Concerto in A Minor, mvt. 1 (BWV 593) Antonio Vivaldi, 1678-1741; transcribed by J.S. Bach
Bach took a piece for many instruments and reworked it for one instrument. The original composition (RV 522) was for two violins and a chamber ensemble.

The ringing of the bells signals the start of worship.

The congregation remains seated during three short preludes to the opening hymn.

Hymn

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Hymn 531, *Hymnal*

*At the direction of the presiding minister, stand and face the cross at the back of church.
Follow its path to the chancel, where it becomes the focus of Christian worship.*

s.1 - Congregation

s.2 - Congregation

s.3 - Choir

Interlude

s.4 - Congregation

Invocation and Responsive Reading

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: Today we celebrate the Lord's presence among us through his means of grace, we give him thanks for his countless blessings upon his people here and everywhere, and we dedicate our newly renovated sanctuary for the continued proclamation of his name. With believers of old, let us lift our hearts and voices to praise the God of our salvation.

M: I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." *Psalm 122*

C: **Our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem.**

M: Jerusalem is where the tribes go up - the tribes of the LORD - to praise the name of the LORD.

C: **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.**

M: For the sake of my family and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you."

C: **For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.**

Prayer of the Day

M: O almighty, everlasting God, you have joined together all believers into one spiritual temple in Christ. Continue to look with favor on all who gather in this church building, which has been built and renovated to be a dwelling place for your glorious name and a house of prayer for your people. Bless our coming in and our going out both now and forevermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Be seated

First Lesson

Genesis 28:10-22

Jacob learns that where the promise of the Savior is, there is the house of God and the gate of heaven.

Psalm

Psalm 84

How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place

Setting by Timothy Valentine

The congregation sings the refrains.

Refrain

How love - ly is your dwell - ing place, O

Lord God of hosts.

The choir sings the verses of the psalm.

My weary soul is yearning to live in the house of the Lord.
My heart and soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. **Refrain**

The sparrow will build a home, the swallow a nest for her brood.
They seek their shelter in your home, O King, O Lord of hosts! **Refrain**

How happy those who live with you, endlessly singing your praise.
The way to Zion known by heart to those whose strength you are. **Refrain**

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Second Lesson

Colossians 3:15-17

Gratitude and joy fill the hearts of God's people
as we gather together around the message of Christ.

Stand

Verse

Psalm 105:1

The choir sings the verse.

Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus commissions his disciples to proclaim his message,
and he promises to be with them to the end of the age.

Be seated

Hymn

For Builders Bold Whose Vision Pure
Hymn 775, Supplement

*The choirs sing stanzas 1 and 3.
The congregation sings stanzas 2 and 4.*

Sermon

Genesis 28:10-22

The LORD Is in This Place
Professor James Tiefel
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

Hymn

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight
Hymn 756, Supplement

Offering

*Today's gifts are designated for St. Paul's church interior project.
All in attendance are invited to sign the friendship register.*

Offering music

Beautiful Savior
Robert Hobby

Rite of Dedication

- M:** Let us pray.
O Lord our God, we praise and thank you for establishing among us a place where we may worship you and where your Word may be proclaimed and your sacraments received. You have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift. You are pleased with the offerings of faith which your people bring to glorify your holy name. Look with favor on us as we present our renovated sanctuary to your praise and glory.
- C:** **Amen.**

Each dedication ends with the following response:

- M:** ... in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

The Baptism Font

The Paschal Candle

The Ambo

The Processional Cross

The Altar

Hymn

Built on the Rock
Hymn 529, *Hymnal*

Stand

Prayer

- M:** Most High God, the heavens cannot contain you, yet you are willing to make your home in human hearts. We give you thanks for the gifts of those who have renovated this house of prayer to your glory. We praise you for the fellowship of those who will gather here. We pray that all who seek you may find you and be filled with your joy and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C:** **Amen.**

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

The congregation remains standing for the closing hymn.

Hymn

Alleluia! Let Praises Ring
Hymn 241, *Hymnal*

The children's choir sings the third stanza of the hymn.

Be seated

Remain seated during the brief postlude. Announcements and dismissal will follow the postlude.

Postlude

Prelude in C (BWV 545)
J.S. Bach

Serving at Worship

Preacher..... James Tiefel
Presiding Minister.....Ethan Cherney
Organist.....Bryan Gerlach
Church Choir Director.....Jon Zabell
Children's Choir Director.....Gretchen Plitzuweit
Crucifer.....Nathan Reich
Flute.....Julie Zabell
Keyboard.....Sandra Swoboda
Timpani..... Jason Bakeberg
Trombone..... Joe Cataldo
Trombone..... Joe Wingerter
Trumpet.....Jean Bakeberg
Trumpet.....Julie Neujahr

Our Guest Preacher and Organist

James Tiefel has served on the faculty of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary since 1985. Professor Tiefel is a member of the seminary's Practical Theology department and teaches courses in worship and preaching. As the school's dean of chapel he is responsible for campus worship and directs the Seminary Chorus and also serves as director of student field services. From 1987 to 2013 he served as a member of the Commission on Worship and is presently serving on the Executive Committee of the new hymnal project. Besides his work for the seminary and synod, Professor Tiefel is pulpit assistant and minister of music of Grace Lutheran Church, Milwaukee. He and his wife Brenda live on the seminary campus in Mequon.

Before **Bryan Gerlach** graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, he studied music at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and the University of Minnesota. At Concordia University (River Forest, Illinois) he earned a Master of Church Music degree in 1982. His organ teachers have included Bethel Zabell, Roger Sherman, Heinrich Fleischer, and Herbert Gotsch. After serving as pastor at congregations in El Paso, TX, and Citrus Heights, CA, he was called to be the Commission on Worship's first director in 1995. He also serves as coordinator for the Congregation and Ministry Support Group and is on the Executive Committee of the new hymnal project. He is a regular organist at two churches: Grace, Milwaukee, and Christ the Lord, Brookfield, Wisconsin. Bryan and his wife Jackie live in Elm Grove, Wisconsin.

Special thanks:

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Soli Deo Gloria
To God alone be the glory

