

CHORAL MUSIC AT GRACE

“Sing unto the LORD a new song. Sing unto the LORD; all the whole earth.” Psalm 96:1

Music is integral to the worship and community life of Grace Church. Music is not worshiped here; rather it is used to enhance the worship experience for all. While no one can define how music transforms our communal worship life, no one can deny that it happens. Whether it is the quietest chant, or most triumphant anthem, music can do what ordinary words cannot: it reaches deep into our souls and moves us.

Here at Grace, there are three primary choral ensembles: The Grace Church Choir, The Grace Church Choristers and Collegium Ancora all under the direction of Vincent Edwards, Organist and Director of Music. These three groups are made up of people from all walks of life, from professional musicians to devoted amateurs and everything in between.

The regular choral season runs from September through June, with the *ad hoc* Summer Choir providing music for worship in the Pavilion from the Sunday after Trinity Sunday through Labor Day. This brochure serves as a brief overview of each ensemble and its role in the life of Grace Church. We hope you will join us for worship or concert!



THE GRACE CHURCH CHOIR

- The primary adult choir for the 10:00 A.M. Sung Holy Eucharist service on Sunday mornings, singing a wide range of repertoire from the Middle Ages to the present day.
- Sings for **special services** throughout the year, which include Choral Evensong and Choral Compline (both approximately once monthly), The Advent Procession with Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, Lessons and Carols for Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, the Triduum during Holy Week, and other feast days such as Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday.
- Sings both alone and with the Grace Church Choristers and/or *Collegium Ancora*.
- **Rehearsals** on Thursdays at 7:00 P.M. (*optional*), Saturdays at 11 A.M. (*optional*), Sundays at 8:45 A.M. and 11:30 A.M. – 12 Noon (*mandatory*)
- Each voice part is anchored by one or more professional staff singers.
- **Open to all adults** with dedication and basic musical ability, after an informal consultation with the Director of Music.



THE CHORISTERS

- **Professional training** in music for children ages 7-14 for boys, 7-18 for girls.
- The program is modeled on the English cathedral choir tradition (such as the one at Westminster Abbey) and is affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music in America. **Children may join at any time throughout the year.**
- **No required tuition fees**, only the strong commitment of parents and choristers. *Scholarships are available for camp and UK trips.*
- **Children of any religious affiliation or none at all are welcome and respected.** Through their participation in the parish's worship, choristers learn about the Christian faith in the affirming Episcopal tradition.
- **Rehearsals** on Thursdays & Fridays 5-6pm (choose one or both), Sundays (when the Choristers are scheduled to sing) 8:45am, singing at least two services a month. **Choir Camp in August** allows for a week of preparation and fun, before the season.
- **The Summer Choral Pilgrimage** occurs every few years to sing for services at a cathedral in the U.K.

A detailed calendar of rehearsals, services and performances is distributed at the beginning of each season.

A CHORISTER'S PRAYER

**BLESS O LORD, us Thy servants
who minister in Thy temple.
Grant that what we sing with our lips
we may believe in our hearts,
and what we believe in our hearts,
we may show forth in our lives.
Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.**



- A professional chamber choir that functions as Ensemble-in-Residence at Grace Church with its own schedule of concerts and engagements, often accompanied by a chamber orchestra.
- **Mission:** Dedicated to enriching the Ocean State through the choral arts, by singing music from times ancient to modern, sacred & secular, all in celebration of the human voice.
- Premiering new choral works by winners of the SPARK Composition Competition.
- **2021/2022 Season Highlights** include: The Annual Cabaret, Händel's Dixit Dominus, "Great Britten", and "Isn't it Romantic?"
- **Membership is by audition only** and if space permits. Please contact Vince Edwards for more details.
- Please visit www.collegiumancora.org for more information and a complete schedule of the current season.



For questions regarding any aspect of music-making at Grace Church or to discuss joining one of the choirs, please contact Vincent Edwards at vedwards@gracepvd.org or by calling (401)331-3225, ex. 4

Visit us online:

gracechurchprovidence.org/music-at-grace



soundcloud.com/user-888623568



youtube.com/c/GraceChurchinProvidence

Music Staff at Grace

Vincent Edwards, *Organist and Director of Music*
David Heinze, *Associate Director of Music*
Staff Singers: Brad Kleyla, Nikki Lawrence,
Erin Preston, Olivia Kleyla, Nicholas Halar



THE CHOIRS OF GRACE CHURCH

300 WESTMINSTER STREET
PROVIDENCE, RI 02903
401-331-3225

GRACECHURCHPROVIDENCE.ORG

THE REV. CANON JONATHAN HUYCK
RECTOR

VINCENT EDWARDS
ORGANIST AND DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

