

Middle School Church Song Selections

2023 KML Schools Conference | June 6, 2023

First -- a Thank You!

- **Thank YOU** for instilling a love of music in the hearts and minds of your students. As Martin Luther said, *“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through Music.”*

Using a Children’s Choir in Worship

- A balance of a liturgical vs. anthem-only choir (whether children or adults) should constantly be on the mind of the director. The choir “anthem” does not always need to be in addition to the service, find a way for the choir “anthem” to fit *within* the service -- pay attention to the readings, themes, etc. for a given Sunday.
- Do you also direct the adult choir at your congregation? If so, schedule a few singing dates throughout the year when your choirs sing **together**. If you’re not the director, consider approaching your adult choir director with this idea.

Resources

Don’t forget the obvious - [Christian Worship Hymnal Suite](#)

- Both of these volumes are filled with carefully-curated resources that can be used throughout the Church Year. It would be a good idea to work alongside your pastor(s)/worship planner to incorporate the children this way.
 - *Christian Worship Hymnal & Psalter*
- [Musician’s Resource](#)

Two new choral pieces from NPH

- [I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb](#)
- [God of the Cross](#)

Resources from other WELS sources

- [WISCO Junior Choir Festival Repertoire](#) (2018-present)
 - Email Casey Pufahl (casey.pufahl@wlhs.org) for odd-year lists
- [Junior Choir Resources - Prof. Grace Hennig \(MLC\)](#)

Sources for quality choral music

- <https://www.welsfinearts.org/director-resources>
- [Publisher Cheat Sheet Presentation by Prof. Laabs](#)
- [St. James Music Press](#)
- <https://digitalmusic.cph.org/>
- [Worship Planning Book - CPH music only](#)
- <https://jubilatemusic.com/pages/worship-planner>
- [2014 Worship Conference – Handouts](#)
- [St. Olaf - Sing for Joy](#)

Order your music through NPH!

- Contact Jeremy Bakken (bakkenj@nph.wels.net)
- **A list of publishers whose music can be ordered by NPH.**
 - Augsburg, Alfred, CPH, Beckenhorst, Jubilate, Lorenz (all imprints), GIA, Hope, Hal Leonard (all imprints/subsidiaries), MorningStar Music (all of Canticle group), Choristers Guild, Kjos
- [Sample Order Form](#) (feel free to make a copy and edit)

Top 3-5 from Sectional Attendees

Kris Strasser (Bethlehem)

1. ["Angels All Around"](#) by Christi Cary Miller (Hal Leonard) #08743191
2. ["See What A Morning"](#) by Getty, Arr. by Linda Moeller (NPH)
3. ["Shepherd Of My Heart"](#) by Francis Patrick O'Brien (GIA Publications) G-3770
4. ["Take My Life and Let It Be"](#) by Frances R. Havergal New words and music arr. by Tommy Walker, Choral setting by Keith Christopher) Hal Leonard--#00126481
 - a. Addition from David: ["Take My Life and Let It Be"](#) by Brian Hanson, incorporates both tunes from CW21 (695/696)

Susie Ott (St. John, Lannon)

1. [The Commission](#) (CAIN)
2. [Fifty Nifty United States](#) (we sang this for Veteran's Day Concert)
3. [Dawning Light of Our Salvation](#) (Wendell Kimbrough)
4. [Sing We the Song of Emmanuel](#) (Getty)
5. [Jesus, Strong and Kind](#) (City Alight)

Sharon Schmidt (Crown of Life)

1. [The Lord Is My Light](#) - Mark Patterson
2. [Ancient Words](#) - John Purifoy
3. [Joy Has Dawned -with-Angels We Have Heard on High](#) - Getty/Townend, arr. by Larson
4. [May the Words of My Mouth](#) - Joseph Martin/Brad Nix

Katie Hosbach (Trinity, West Bend)

1. [Amazing Grace](#) (My Chains are Gone)
2. [The Gift of Love](#)
3. [10,000 Reasons](#) (Bless the Lord)

Karen Yttri (St. Lucas)

1. [Go Now in Peace](#) - Don Besig
2. [Jesus Christ the Same](#) - Sarah Siegler
3. [May the Peace of God](#) (CW 929)

Rachel Petermann (Morning Star)

1. ["Sing We the Song of Emmanuel"](#) by Matt Boswell--We sang this song in three parts (Grades 3-8) and used the track off of the Getty Website. (Christmas)
2. ["I Thank My God for You"](#) by Joseph Martin--Grades 5-8 sang this in SAB as the bass line is pretty much in that F-C range that is good for middle school guys. I had a strong 8th grade singer who was able to help teach the other boys. This is good for retirements, anniversaries, teachers leaving, etc.
3. ["Risen"](#) by Shawna Edwards--Grades 5-8 sang in three parts. A little trickier to do on a Sunday morning than music class in the afternoon. (Easter)
4. ["Noel"](#) by Chris Tomlin--Grades 3-8 sang in two parts for Christmas.

David Porth (Pilgrim)

1. [Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasure](#) (CW 859) - Scott Hyslop (great way to include a student instrumentalist!)
2. [I'm Going Home](#) - Pepper Choplin (very accessible piece that your adult and junior choirs could sing together)
3. [Set the Sun Dancing](#) - Helen Kemp (start the YouTube video at **25:25**)
4. [Create In Me A Clean Heart, O God](#) - Paul Bouman
5. Go Forth - Dawn Rathmann (out of print, but worth singing!)

Save the Date!

2023 District Worship Conference

- Saturday, July 15, 2023 -- more information on the flyer/handout.
 - [CLICK HERE](#) to register!

2024 National Conference on Worship, Music, and the Arts

- July 30 to August 2, 2024 at Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis.
 - (Pre-conference rehearsals for the Festival Choir will begin Sunday evening, July 28.)

Contact Information

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