

Notes from the Music Department

Our musical selections today vary being centuries old favorites to one very contemporary song. The Prelude, “**Lo, How a Rose E'er Bloometh**”, was written in the very late 1500's and was harmonized by Michael Praetorius in the early 1600's. Today's arrangement is by the prolific Mark Hayes from Kansas City, MO. His personal goal is “to create beautiful music for the world.” From Wales comes “**Deck the Halls.**” It is from the same time period but started out as a song for the New Year. Today I will play it as arranged by Dan Coates, “a la Mozart.” The choice for our Offertory is the Christmas folk carol and lullaby, “**Still, Still, Still,**” from the Austrian district of Salzburg. It appeared first in the middle 1800's. Today's arrangement is by Kansas native, John Leavitt, contemporary music educator, composer and arranger.

“**Where the Promise Shines**” is a 21st century composition for the Advent Season by Floridian Bob Moore. Danika will sing it as a solo for the Music Meditation but during my research I found a four part choir version which features an optional handbell accompaniment. Handbells! Hmmmmm..... Any interest?

Where the Promise Shines

Bob Moore

When a star is shining over eastern hills,
When the air is silent, and the clamor stills,
When the night is waiting and the old hopes rise,
Then the time has ripened and the heart grows wise.
Lead us on, lead us on, to a morning where the promise shines.
Lead us on, lead us on, to a morning where the promise shines.

Where the world is waiting for an unknown day,
Here a voice forgotten cries, “Prepare the way!”
Where an earthly power makes the heart turn cold,
There the gifts are offered – incense, myrrh, and gold.
Lead us on, lead us on, to a morning where the promise shines.
Lead us on, lead us on, to a morning where the promise shines.

Lead us o, O Daystar, in the quiet night:
Guide us through the shadow with your gentle light;
Show us in a manger our redemption's sign;
Bring us to a morning where the promise shines.
Lead us on, lead us on, to a morning where the promise shines.
Lead us on, lead us on, to a morning where the promise shines.