

## Notes from the Music Department

When hearing today's Prelude, "**Sonata II in F Major**," by Maria Hester Park, you might wonder if she could be someone modern who decided to write in the style of Mozart. No. Although she lived in almost the same time period as Mozart and was a correspondent of Haydn, Park was a British composer, pianist, singer and teacher and has been described as one of the most prolific of 18th century women composers. It has been said that she "made her living composing the sort of music performed by Jane Austen heroines." A little *Sense and Sensibility*, anyone?

Much has been written about one of the world's favorite composers, Antonin Dvorak, who wrote the **American Suite in A Major** in 1894 during his time in New York. Today's "**Andante**" is the fourth movement of this Suite. Originally written for piano, it was later arranged for orchestra.

Today's Music Meditation was written by the contemporary liturgical composer from Eagan, Minnesota, Marty Haugen. Today you will hear his "**World Peace Prayer**" as a solo by Danika. Perhaps next year we will be able to sing it congregationally with the leadership of our choir. Joyce Poley, whom we have to thank for today's opening hymn, "**When Our Heart is in a Holy Place**," says that "congregational singing has the power to lift the spirit and heal the soul. Singing together touches us at an emotional level, deepening our worship and strengthening the bonds of community." Soon.....

### World Peace Prayer

Show us the way to life, from falsehood to truth,  
From despair to hope, from fear to trust.  
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;  
Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world,  
Let peace fill our universe.

So many lonely hearts, so many broken lives,  
Longing for love to break into their darkness.  
Come, teach us love, come, teach us peace,  
Come and teach us the way of compassion.

Let justice ever roll, let mercy fill the earth,  
Let us begin to grow to help our people.  
We can be love, we can bring peace,  
We can still be the way of compassion.

Finally, our Postlude today, "**The Dance Class**" by Pam Wedgwood, a modern British composer and teacher was inspired by Edgar Degas' painting by the same name that shows young ballerinas in various stages of readiness for the day's upcoming class. Set in a rehearsal room in the old Paris Opera, it presented Wedgwood with the perfect opportunity to write a descriptive, dance-like theme. She instructs, "Get your dancing shoes out and feel the waltz!"