

Grace Cathedral – July 4th Community Chorus Information

Grace Cathedral will host its annual **Community Independence Day Celebration** on Tuesday, July 4 at 10 a.m. In past years, we have filled the Cathedral with people driving from as far away as Nebraska, Kansas City and Emporia. It is a “red, white and blue” extravaganza with brass, drums, piano, organ, winds, choirs, and soloists. The service includes lots of music, Bible readings, a guest speaker, prayers and it lasts just one hour. It’s just a lot of old-fashioned, patriotic fun in the grand setting of the Cathedral.

I am writing to invite you and/or your choir or any singers who would like to join us for this event to sign up today. This is always a fun group to sing with and I am always humbled at the commitment and solid level of music making we accomplish each year. This year’s choral selections (apart from congregational music) will be:

“Eternal Father, strong to save”

Mack Wilberg

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmveT31sNSE> (Starting at 1’ 22” into President Ford’s funeral)

“Hymn for America”

Stephen Paulus

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d7JNsABrO1Q>

or: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xd8xd8Uckxk>

“Sing to the Lord” (tune: *Dunlap’s Creek*)

Alice Parker

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dOfzPb6zhM8>

“The Promise of Living” from *The Tender Land*

Aaron Copland

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykYl-gtfW8I>

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

arr. Peter Wilhousky

We have purchased music that we can loan all singers. All music will be ready for you to pick up at our first rehearsal on Thursday, June 1; however, if you’d like to check out your music earlier to learn notes, packets will be ready May 25. For the first rehearsal, please arrive 15 to 20 minutes prior to the 7 p.m. start time to check out your music packets and get signed in. Singers should attend as many of the scheduled rehearsals as possible, but really should attend at least three to four of the Thursday evening rehearsals so you can be prepared and have your music marked. **Rehearsals will be:**

- Thursday, June 1 - 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, June 8 - 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, June 15 - 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, June 22 - 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, June 29 - 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

The “dress rehearsal” will be on Tuesday, July 4th, at 8:30 a.m. The service starts at 10 a.m. Dress for the day is casual red, white, and blue (no choir robes). I hope you will consider joining us for this great celebration of thanks for our country’s birth. Last year’s choir numbered almost 100 singers. A registration form is attached to this email that you can download, print and mail/email back to the Cathedral to reserve your space. **Please pass this email and information along to your singing friends and post on Facebook so they can join in the fun.** Contact me if you have any questions and I’ll see you in a couple of weeks!

Steve Burk

Organist / Choirmaster

Grace Cathedral (Episcopal)

701 SW 8th Avenue

Topeka, KS 66603

(785) 235-3457 office

Email: smburk@GraceCathedralTopeka.org

July 4th Community Chorus Registration

Reserve your spot in the Community July 4th Chorus today. Complete this form and return it to: **“July 4 Chorus Registration”, Grace Cathedral, 701 SW 8th Ave., Topeka, KS 66603.** You may also sign up at the Cathedral office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Music is available for pick up starting May 25 at the Cathedral. You can also pick up music on June 1 at 6:45 p.m. just prior to our first rehearsal at 7 p.m. that evening. If you prefer, you may also scan and email this form back to Steve Burk.

Singer's Name (PRINT) _____

Voice Part (Circle ONE): Sop1 Sop2 Alto1 Alto2 Ten1 Ten2 Bar Bass

e-mail _____

Address _____

Church or other chorus affiliation (if any) _____

Questions? Contact Music Director Steve Burk at 785-235-3457 or smburk@GraceCathedralTopeka.org