

Joseph Martin Biography Composer/Conductor

Joseph Martin, a native of North Carolina, earned his Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance at Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina. Subsequently he earned a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance at the University of Texas, Austin. Joseph taught for five years in the Piano Pedagogy Department of the University of Texas. His piano teachers include Jimmy Woodle, David Gibson, Amanda Vick Lethco, Martha Hilley and Danielle Martin. While at Furman University, he was accompanist for choral director and composer Milburn Price and, inspired by his teaching, Martin began to compose.

He is a member of the staff at the Hal Leonard Corporation and Shawnee Press, Inc. as Director of Sacred Publications, with responsibilities for overseeing the editorial and creative direction of the company and also coordinating the recording and production aspects of future sacred publishing efforts.

Joseph has performed solo piano recitals and has been the featured artist with symphony orchestras in the United States and Mexico. As winner of the Nina Plant Wideman Competition, he performed with the **Guadalajara Symphony Orchestra**. His solo recital in Ex-convento del Carmen was broadcast nationally throughout the country.

His first solo piano recording, American Tapestry, was nominated for a Dove Award. This album, along with his other recordings (Songs of the Journey, Celtic Tapestry, A Christmas Tapestry, and A Symphony of Carols) has been enormously popular in the sacred and secular markets. He has recorded for Yamaha's Disklavier series and has composed hundreds of commissioned works.

Recognized throughout the United States for his many choral compositions, both sacred and secular, Joseph's music is published by numerous publishing houses. Over two thousand compositions are currently in print and the list continues to grow.

His composition "Pieta" was honored with an award from the John Ness Beck Foundation.

In 2008 he was inducted as a National Patron of the Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity. Along with Mark Hayes and David Angerman, Joseph has co-authored a fully graded, progressive piano method for the Christian student called Keys for the Kingdom. His major works include 50 choral cantatas and Song of Wisdom, a choral tone poem based on the best-selling children's book, Old Turtle. His work for young voices Heartsongs, inspired by the life and words of Mattie J. Stepanek, was premiered at Carnegie Hall.

Joe is co-founder of a unique travel experience, "Journeys With Joe." This program connects musicians and singers with extraordinary tours throughout the world. His company, Martin Creative Services has established conferences and seminars throughout the US, as well as developed innovative web based ventures such as Sanctuary Radio and Worship Songs Online.

His music can be heard in such diverse locations as Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York City; Constitution Hall in Washington DC, The Lawrence Welk Theatre in Branson, Missouri; St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City; and in hundreds of worship services in churches across the United States and Canada. He continues to surprise audiences with the variety and scope of his compositions and arrangements.

Joseph is Artist in Residence at Concordia University in Austin, Texas where he lives with his wife Sue, and his children Jonathan and Aubrey.

Guest Music Composers to Northwood

2016— Joseph Martin
2018— Joel Raney
2020— Mark Hayes
2023— Mary McDonald
2024— Lloyd Larson
2025— Criag Courtney
2026— Joseph Martin, RETURNS!

In Concert Joseph M. Martin

Sunday, March 22, 2026
4:00 p.m.



Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 SR 580, Clearwater, FL 33761
(727) 796-8090
www.northwoodpc.org

In Concert
Joseph Martin

with
Northwood Presbyterian Church
Chancel Choir & Instruments

Stephanie Carson, Director of Traditional Music
David Furr, Organist

Sunday, March 22, 2026
4:00 p.m.

Welcome, Opening Prayer & Introduction

Stephanie Carson

Opening Hymn #634

“To God Be the Glory”

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory; great things he has done! So loved he the world that He gave us His Son,
who yielded his life and atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he has done!

O perfect redemption the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly relieves, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. **Refrain**

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. **Refrain**

"Rise Up! Rejoice!"

with Instruments

Joseph M. Martin

Rise up! Rejoice, ye children of Jehovah! Rise up! Rejoice, ye people of the Lamb.
Rise up! Rejoice and sing an alleluia. Let the people proclaim and rejoice in the name of the Lord!
Sing out! Rejoice! Give praise unto Jehovah. Sing out! Rejoice! Bring honor to the Lamb.
Sing out! Rejoice and shout an alleluia. Let the people proclaim and rejoice in the name of the Lord!

Singing, “Alleluia.” Great are the works of the Lord! God is worthy, worthy, worthy of honor and praise.

Is this the Christ, the Promised One, this man of peace and love? Behold the glory of the Son.
“Faithful, come. Seekers, come. All people, come. Come unto Me, all you who are weary and heavy laden.
Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me. Take My yoke upon you, for I am gentle and I will give you rest.”

Rise up, ye lame and dance. Come let the celebration start. Look up, ye blind and see. Come let the celebration start.
Come and let the celebration start and never end. Let the praise begin. Let the celebration now begin!

Rise up! Rejoice, ye children of Jehovah. Rise up! Rejoice, ye people of the Lamb.
Rise up! Rejoice and sing an alleluia. Let the people proclaim and rejoice in the name of their God.
Rise up, rise up! Sing out! Rejoice! Give praise unto Jehovah. Sing out! Rejoice! Bring honor to the Lamb. Sing out!
Rejoice and shout an alleluia. Let the people proclaim and rejoice in the name of their God.
Rise up! Rejoice! Rise up! Rejoice!

“Festival of Palms” *from Cantata “Festival of Faith”*

arr. Joseph M. Martin

Lift up your heads, ye ancient doors! Throw wide the gates and greet the Lord! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Prepare the way with palms of praise! Lay down your garments; clear the way!

Refrain: Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King of kings!

Come, children, wave your palms on high! Lift up your voices to the sky! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Rejoice, let the gates of Zion ring! Each voice raised in grateful offering. **Refrain**

Ride on, ride on, great David’s Son! Great is the work that God has done! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Come, long awaited Prince of Peace! Make every war and conflict cease! **Refrain**

“Praise the Lord Ye Heavens Adore Him”

Piano Solo, Joseph M. Martin

“Songs for the Journey”

Joseph M. Martin

*Incorporating “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”
“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”
“He Leadeth Me”*

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care.
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.
Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me, by His own hand He leadeth me.
His faithful follower I would be, for by His hand He leadeth me.
He leadeth me, He leadeth me, by His own hand He leadeth me.
His faithful follower I would be, for by His hand He leadeth me.

“Daughters of Promise, Women of Faith”

Joseph M. Martin

Incorporating “Be Thou My Vision” w/instruments
Commissioned by two choir members, Steve and Debbie Lang, in honor of their mothers,
Rita Lang and Lila Odom, in celebration of their many years of music and ministry.

O daughters of promise, O women of faith, come teach us compassion, and show us the way.
Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart. Come nurture our journey in glorious ways;
inspire us with wisdom, and lead us today. Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word.
O daughters of promise, so precious and rare, great is your value, no gold can compare.
Gifted with marvelous mercy and love, you are a blessing from heaven above.
You are a blessing from heaven above.

O daughters of promise, God’s wondrous design, you are crafted and called for a purpose divine.
Now this is the season, the time and the place to rejoice in your mission and celebrate grace.
Great is the challenge. Walk worthy; stand tall. Break down every barrier, and climb every wall.
With all of your strength be a servant to all. This is your moment to answer the call.
This is your moment to answer the call.

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise. Thou mine inheritance, now and always.
Thou, and Thou only, first in my heart. High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Come, sons and daughters, together as one, our journey, our mission has only begun.
Come, walk with the Shepherd, and trust and obey, for Christ is the Life and the Truth and the Way.
Let the joy of the Lord be our candle at night, leading us onto a harvest of white,
stiving with passion in worship and praise, people of promise, one family of faith,
people of promise one family of faith. We're one family of faith!

“Simple Gifts”
Piano Solo, Joseph M. Martin

“He Who Began a Good Work”

Joseph M. Martin

From cantata “Legacy of Faith” w/instruments

He who began a good work, He who began a good work, He who began a good work in you.
Will be faithful, faithful, faithful and ever true; faithful, faithful, faithful to complete it in you.

Living worthy, standing firm, follow God's calling, defend the Word.
One in the Spirit, one in the Faith, you can do all things through Christ,

Seize the future! Fight the good fight! Serve with courage! Soar as eagles borne on the wings of a living promise!
He who began a good work, He who began a good work, He who began a good work in you.
Will be faithful, faithful, faithful and ever true; faithful, faithful, faithful to complete it in you.

“River Songs”

arr. Joseph M. Martin

*Incorporating “Shall We Gather at the River”
“Down in the River to Pray”
I've Got Peace Like a River”
“Deep River”*

Shall we gather at the river, the beautiful, beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river that flows from the throne of God, that flows from the throne of God?

As I went down in the river to pray, studyin' about that good ole' way
and who shall wear the robe and crown. Good Lord, show me the way.
Oh, brother, let's go down. Let's go down. Come on down.
Oh, sister, let's go down, down in the river to pray, down in the river to pray, down in the river to pray.

Oh, I've got peace like a river. I've got peace like a river. I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got peace like a river. I've got peace like a river. I've got peace like a river in my soul.

Deep river, I'm goin' over Jordan. Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

When I go down in the river to pray, studyin' about the good ole' way
and who shall wear the robe and crown. Good Lord, show me the way.
Oh, children, let's go down. Let's go down. Come on down.
Oh, children, let's go down, down in the river to pray, down in the river to pray, down in the river to pray!

“My Shepherd Doth Supply My Needs”
Piano Solo, Joseph M. Martin

“Wadin' in the Waters of Grace”

Michael Barrett

descant Lea Kirdatt

Refrain: Talkin', talkin' with my Jesus. Walkin', walkin' with my Jesus.
Trustin', trustin' in my Jesus. Wadin' in the waters of grace.

Golden is the shoreline that leads to the Promised Land. All along the journey are footprints in the sand.
Now I have learned to trust Him, the Master of the sea. I've put my faith in Jesus, and follow where He leads. **Refrain**

When the storms are raging, when mighty tempests blow, we lift our sails to heaven, and lean into God's hope.
His word is always faithful. His love is ever true. Each dawn a new beginning. His grace will see you through.

Talkin' with my Jesus. Walkin' with my Jesus.
I'm gonna talk, gonna walk with Jesus; I'm gonna talk, gonna walk with Jesus.
Hallelujah! Wade in the water, wade in the water children.
Wade in the waters of grace. **Refrain**

Closing Words

Stephanie Carson

“Our God Is God”

Joseph M. Martin

with instruments

Who holds the wind in His hands? Have you not heard? Do you not know?
Morning breaks at His command. Have you not heard? Do you not know?
Who formed the stars? Called them by name? Who calms the storm? Sends gentle rain?
Who hung the sun and moon in space? Before all time began, who knew creation's plan?
Who gave the breath of life to man? Who gave the song its start? Who whispers to the heart?
Who is the one who made the solemn night? Who knows the dwelling place of light?
Not a god of clay. Not a silent stone. Not a graven image made of gold.
Have you not heard? Do you not know? Have you not heard? Do you not know?

Our God is God! We are the works of His hands. God is Creator. Angels serve at His command.
All creation bows before Him and we must do the same, for God alone is worthy, worthy of our praise.
All creation bows before Him and we must do the same, for God alone is worthy, worthy of our praise.
Our God is worthy. He is worthy. Our God is God!

Chancel Choir

Soprano

April Carter
Elaine Cornillaud
Rachelle Cox
Susan Curry
Santee Geres
Rollie Haugen
Nadia Hennemen
Marion Homer
Lea Kirdatt
Debbie Lang
Jessie Lusk
Mary McCauley

Vickie Mills
Clara Morgan
Gail Rothrock
Mary Smiech
Betty Spoerl
Mickey Stewart
Michele White
Janice Wisinski

Alto

Melanie Brown
Emily Cantin
Stephanie Carson
Claudia Ferguson
Susan Gajentan
Barbara Jordan
Aimee McDermott
Kaaren Nesmith
Edie Renton
Jeannie Stephen
Emily Sutphin

Tenor

Randy Ball
Dylan Cantin
Darrell Cooper
Marti Huff
Steve Lang
Jill Loomis

Bass

Steve Anderson
Mike Elza
Jim Ferguson
Peter Gajentan
David Hamilton Jr.
Nick Hodson
Jarrett Mattson
Dennis Rasmussen
John Sutphin

Instrumentalists

Emily Cantin, Trumpet
Steve Cantin, Trumpet
Dylan Cantin, Trombone
Melanie Schulz, Violin
Adrienne Clover, Flute
Jarrett Mattson, Percussion