

29b. DUET and CHORUS: Of stars the fairest

ADAM
Of stars the fairest,
O how sweetly thou crown'st the smiling morn
And thou, bright sun, that cheer'st the world
Thou eye and soul of all

CHORUS
Proclaim, in your extended course
Th'almighty pow'r and praise of God
And thou that rul'st the silent night
And all ye starry host, spread wide,
And ev'rywhere spread wide His praise
In joyful songs resound
Ye mighty elements by whose pow'r
are ceaseless changes made
Ye dusky mistsand dewy steams
that rise and fall thro' th'air.

ADAM and EVE
Resound the praise of God our Lord
Great His name and great His might

CHORUS
Resound the praise of God our Lord
Great His name and great His might

EVE
Ye purling fountains, tune His praise
And wave your tops ye pines

Ye plants, exhale, ye flowers breath
To Him your balmy scent

ADAM
Ye that on lofty mountains tread,
and ye that lowly creep
Ye birds that sing at heaven's gate
And ye that swim the stream

ADAM and EVE
Ye living creatures praise the Lord
CHORUS
All ye living creatures
Praise the Lord
All with life and breath

ADAM and EVE
Ye valleys, hills, and shady woods,
made vocal by our song
From morn till eve you shall repeat
our grateful hymns of praise

CHORUS
Hail bounteous Lord Creator hail
Thy word call'd forth this wondrous frame
The heav'ns and earth thy pow'r proclaim
We praise Thee now and evermore
The heav'ns and earth Thy pow'r adore
We praise Thee now and evermore

30. Recitative: Our duty we have now perform'd

ADAM
Our duty we have now perform'd
in off'ring up to God our thanks.
Now follow me, dear partner of my life
Thy guide I'll be, and ev'ry step
pours new delights into our breasts
shows wonders ev'rywhere
Then may'st thou feel and know
the high degree
of bliss the Lord allotted us
And with devoted heart

His bounties celebrate
Come, come follow me
Thy guide I'll be

EVE
O thou for whom I am
My help, my shield, my all
thy will is law to me
So God our Lord ordains
and from obedience grows
my pride and happiness.

32. Recitative: O happy pair

URIEL
O happy pair, and happy e'er to be
If not misled by false conceit

Ye strive at more than granted is
And more desire to know
Than know ye should.

33. Finale (Chorus and Soloists): Sing to God ye hosts unnumbered

CHORUS
Sing to God ye hosts unnumbered,
Thanks all thanks for wonders new created.
Praise His name in song unending,
Loud in festival rejoicing!
The Lord is great He reigns forevermore!
Sing to God and give thanks!
The Lord is great He reigns forevermore!
Amen!

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Blended Service • 8:30am • Chapel
Hymns and modern worship led by the MDPC Worship Team

Contemporary Service • 9:45am • Sanctuary
Modern worship led by the MDPC Worship Team

Traditional Service • 11:15am • Sanctuary
Hymns and choral anthems led by the MDPC Sanctuary Choir and organ

Fuente Service • 11:15am • Chapel
Spanish-language worship

BPC Service • 6pm • Chapel
Portuguese-language worship

Families and children are welcome in all services.
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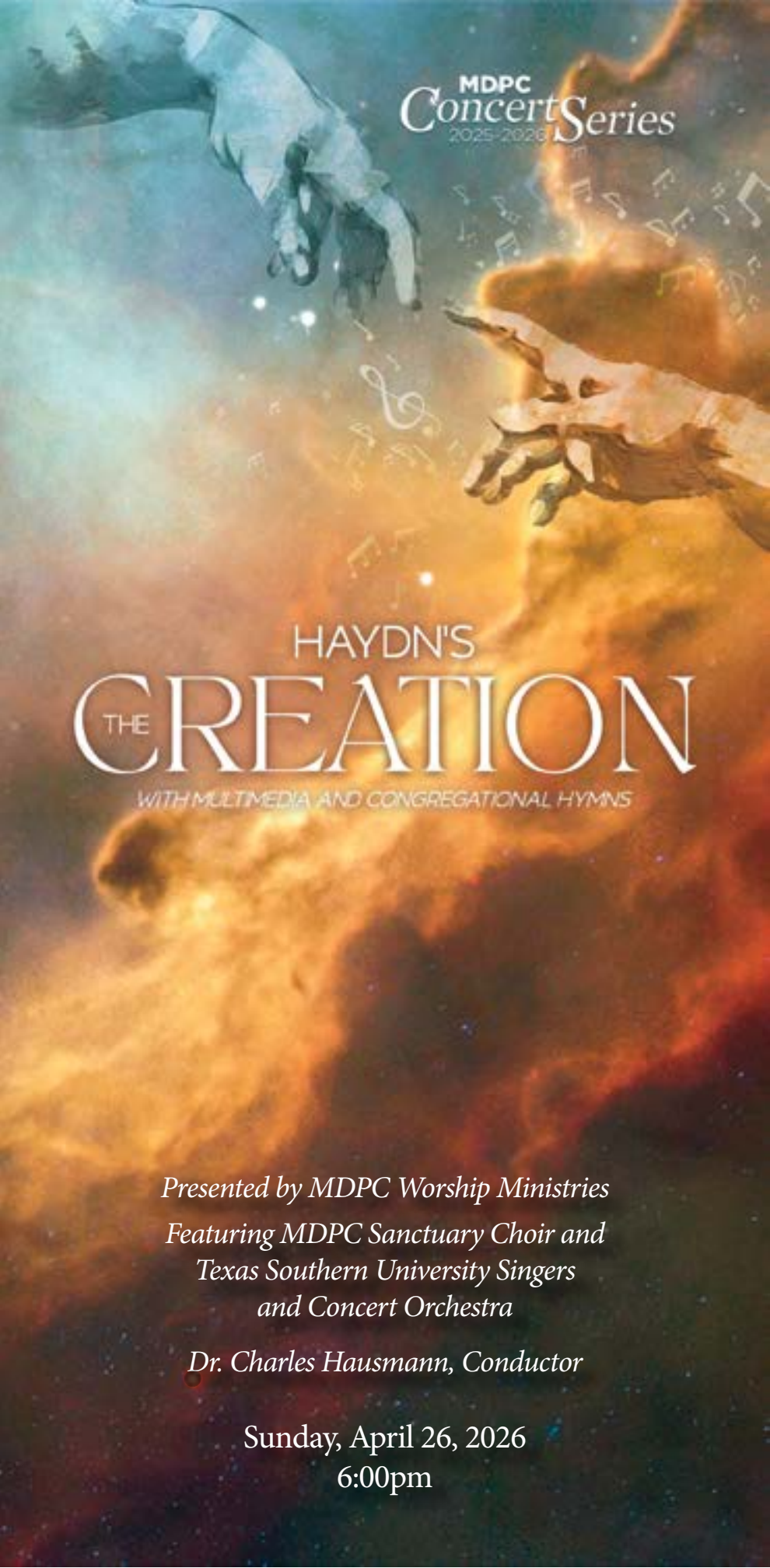


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PROGRAM

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Alf Halvorson

OPENING HYMN: All Creatures of Our God and King

Vs. 1, 2 | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

PART I: The Creation of the World and Light

1. Overture. The Representation of Chaos

2. Recitative and Chorus: In the beginning God created

3. Aria and Chorus: Now vanish before the holy beams

4. Recitative: And God made the firmament

5. Aria and Chorus: The marv’lous work

6. Recitative: And God said: Let the waters under the heaven

8. Recitative: And God said: Let the earth bring forth grass

9. Aria: With verdure clad
- the face of the waters;
In the beginning God created the Heaven and the earth;
and the earth was without form, and void;
and darkness was upon the face of the deep.

URIEL
And God saw the Light, that it was good:
and God divided the Light from the darkness.

CHORUS
And the Spirit of God moved upon

CHORUS
Despairing, cursing rage attends their rapid fall.
A new-created world springs up at God’s command.

are the clouds.
By sudden fire the sky is inflam’d.
And awful thunders are rolling on high
At His command rise from the floods
reviving showers of rain.
The dreary wasteful hail, the light and flaky snow.

the praise of God, and of the second day.
The glorious heav’nly hierarchy,
The marv’lous work beholds amaz’d
And from th’ ethereal vaults resound the praise of God
And of the second day.

and let the dry land appear; and it was so.
And God called the dry land: earth,
and the gathering of waters called He seas;
and God saw that it was good.

and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind,
whose seed is in itself upon the earth; and it was so.

With copious fruit th’expanded boughs are hung
In leafy arches twine the shady groves
O’er lofty hills majestic forests wave,
With verdure clad the fields appear
Delightful to the ravish’d sense;
by flowers sweet and gay adorned is the charming sight.

10. Recitative: And the heavenly host proclaimed

11. Chorus: Awake the harp

12. Recitative: And God said: Let there be lights

13. Recitative: In Brightest Splendour

14. Chorus with Trio: The heavens are telling

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: For the Beauty of the Earth

PART II: Creation of Animals and Man

15. Recitative: And God said: Let the waters

17. Recitative: And God created great whales

18. Recitative: And the Angels

20. Chorus with Trio: The Lord is great

21. Recitative: And God said, let the earth bring forth
- URIEL
And the heavenly host proclaimed the third day, praising God and saying:

CHORUS
Awake the harp, the lyre awake!
With shouts of joy, your song resound!

URIEL
And God said: Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven
to divide the day from the night,

URIEL
In brightest splendour rises now the sun,
and darts his rays; an eager joyful bridegroom
A giant proud and glad to run his measur’d course.
With gentle steps and softer sil’vry beams,

CHORUS
The heavens are telling the glory of God;
the wonder of His work displays the firmament.

GABRIEL, URIEL, and RAPHAEL
To day that is coming speaks it the day
The night that is gone, to following night.

CHORUS
The heavens are telling the glory of God;

Vs. 1, 3, 5 | DIX

PART II: Creation of Animals and Man

GABRIEL
And God said: Let the waters bring forth abundantly

the moving creature that hath life,
and fowl that may fly above the earth
in the open firmament of heaven.

RAPHAEL
And God created great whales,
and ev’ry living creature that moveth,
and God blessed them, saying:
Be fruitful all and multiply!
Ye winged and feathered tribes, multiply and

RAPHAEL
And the angels struck their immortal harps,
and the wonders of the fifth day sang.

GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL, and CHORUS
The Lord is great, and great His might;
His glory lasts forever and forevermore.

URIEL
And God said, let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind

Rejoice in the Lord, the mighty God
For He both heaven and earth has clothed in stately dress.

and to give light upon the earth;
and let them be for signs and for seasons,
and for days, and for years.
He made the stars also.

steals the moon through still and silent night
The boundless span of heaven's vault
Is now adorn’d with numberless golden stars
And the sons of God announced the fourth day
In song divine, with joy proclaim His might

the wonder of His work displays the firmament.

GABRIEL, URIEL, and RAPHAEL
In all the lands resounds the word, never unperceived, ever understood.

CHORUS
The heavens are telling the glory of God;
the wonder of His work displays the firmament.

Rejoice in Him your Lord and God.

Cattle, and creeping thing, and best of the earth after his kind.

22. Recitative: Straight opening her fertile womb

23. Aria: Now Heav’n in fullest glory shone

24. Recitative: And God created Man

25. Aria: In native worth and honour clad

26. Recitative: And God saw everything

27. Chorus: Achieved is the glorious work

OFFERTORY

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: All Things Bright and Beautiful

PART III: Adam and Eve in the Garden

28. Introduction and Recitative: In rosy mantle appears

29a. Duet and Chorus: By Thee with bliss
- RAPHAEL
Straight opening her fertile womb, the earth obey’d the word,
and teams with creatures numberless,
in perfect forms and fully grown.
Cheerful, roaring, stands the tawny lion.
With sudden leap the flexible tiger appears.
The nimble stag bears up his branching head.
With flying mane and fiery look,
impatient neighs the sprightly steed.

RAPHAEL
Now Heav’n in fullest glory shone
Earth smil’d in all her rich attire
The air is fill’d with feather’d fowl
The water swells with shoals of fish
By heavy beasts the ground is trod

URIEL
And God created man in His own image.
In the image of God created He him.

URIEL
In native worth and honour clad,
with beauty, courage, strength adorn’d,
to heav’n erect and tall he stands
a man, the Lord and King of nature all.
The large and arched front sublime
of wisdom deep declares the seat,
and in his eyes with brightness

RAPHAEL
And God saw ev’rything that He had made;
and behold, it was very good;

CHORUS
Achieved is the glorious work;
Our song let be the praise of God
Glory to His name forever

the heavenly choir in song divine
thus closed the sixth day.

He sole on high exalted reigns
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

As hand in hand they go
Their radiant eyes they glow
With ardent joy and thanks
And so with cheerful voice
their God they soon will praise
Then let our voices ring united with their song

CHORUS
Forever blessed His pow’r
His name be ever magnified

The cattle in herds already peacefully graze on fields and meadows green.
And o’er the ground as plants are spread the fleecy, meek, and bleating sheep.
Unnumber’d as the sands,
in swarms arise great swarms of insects.
In long dimension creeps with sinuous trace the worm.

But all the work was not complete
There wanted yet that wondrous being
that God’s creation should admire
With heart and voice and praise His works
with heart and voice

shines the soul,
the breath and image of his God.
With fondness leans upon his breast
the partner for him form’d,
a woman fair and graceful spouse.
Her softly smiling virgin looks,
of flow’ry spring the mirror,
bespeak love, delight, and bliss.

SOLOISTS

Gabriel – Cassandra Black
Uriel – Jamal Madden and Chris Childress
Raphael – Juan Garza
Adam – Alan Saldana-Silva
Eve – Priscilla Salisbury

MDPC SANCTUARY CHOIR AND *TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Dr. Charles Hausmann, Conductor

SOPRANO

Brett Afiwa-Tapoyo	Kelli Estes	Louise Roberts	Megan Shedden
Pattie Barrett	Barbara Hinds	Jahz Rodgers*	Sherri Smith
Fabiana Bezerra	Jennifer House	Dayna Ross*	Yonnie Stevenson*
Cassandra Black	Azariah Murray*	Priscilla Salisbury	Lori Svrcek
Su-Jin Cho	Mary Peterson	Lisa Schwartz	Berlianas Zyas*

ALTO

Megan Berti	Tattin Harvin	Keilani McCann*	Gabrielle Tyler
Nancy Blurton	Miya Hayes*	Christine Oakes	Riley Vagis
Lenni Burke	Joanie Haley	Felisa Ondo	Steffanie West
Misty Chambers	Ellen Hirs	Janet Orman	
Christine Economides	Mary Gwen Hulsey	Norma Rowson	
	Pam Krocak	Glennis Tolunay	

TENOR

Jason Amos	Chris Childress	Jeremy King	Jordan Sanders*
Jordan Beasley	Esteban Cordero	Nathan Lerner	David White
Paul Bitner	Adrian Cortez	Jamal Madden	Blaine Williams

BASS

Robby Black	Muhammad Evans*	Joseph Leveston	Jordan Sanders*
John Bond	Antoine Griggs	Chris Love	Alan Saldana-Silva
Jim Crain	Ben Hulsey	Hal Lundgren	Rusty Sturgis
Paul Ehrsam	Bill Krocak	Bob Menzie	Jeffrey Taylor*

ORCHESTRA

Rick White, Orchestra Manager

VIOLIN I	CELLO	CLARINET	TROMBONE
Christopher Neal,	Jeff Butler	Chris Schubert	Ryan Rongone
Concertmaster	Erika Johnson	Roman Cisneros	Rick White
Mila Neal	Shino Hayashi		Rick Reeves
Harry Chang		BASSOON	
Aloysia Friedmann	BASS	Michael Frederick	TIMPANI /
	Paul Ellison	James Roberson	PERCUSSION
VIOLIN II	Stephen Martin	Micah Doherty	Terry McKinney
Susan Barnes-Lerner		HORN	
Laurilyn Butin	FLUTE	Brian Mangrum	ORGAN
Elizabeth Frederick	Kathryn Ladner	Deborah Harvey	Kathryn White
Karen Wilkson	Rebecca Garfield		
	OBOE	TRUMPET	
VIOLA	Grace Tice	John Parker	
Elisio Salazar	Meera Bhatia	Tetsuya Lawson	
Lorento Golofeev			
Elizabeth Golofeev			

PROGRAM NOTES

“God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.” Genesis 1:31

Over the course of my career, I have had the privilege of singing or conducting *The Creation* twenty-eight times. You might imagine that such familiarity would make the work feel redundant or predictable. Instead, the opposite has been true. Each performance has revealed something new—some fresh detail in the orchestra, a different color in the voices, or a deeper resonance in the story itself. Like the witness of Scripture, it is a story that does not change and yet continues to speak anew in every generation.

In this extraordinary work, Joseph Haydn draws deeply from the opening chapters of Genesis, where creation unfolds not as chaos without meaning, but as an ordered, purposeful act of God. We begin in mystery, in music that feels unsettled and searching, and then—suddenly—light breaks forth. “And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light.” It is a moment that never loses its power. After so many performances, I find it speaks less as a dramatic surprise and more as a profound assurance: that God brings order out of disorder, and light out of darkness—a truth that echoes throughout the whole of Scripture.

What continues to move me most deeply is the spirit of joy that permeates this music. Again and again in the Genesis account, we hear that God saw what was made, “and indeed, it was very good.” Haydn captures something of that divine delight. The natural world comes alive in sound—sun and moon, birds and beasts—not only as objects of beauty, but as signs of God’s goodness and sustaining care. In the Reformed tradition, we often speak of creation as a testimony to God’s glory, and here that testimony is given voice in music that invites us into wonder, gratitude, and praise.

This evening, we are not only listeners, but participants in that praise. The hymns sung before the three parts of the oratorio are not interruptions, but extensions of the same act of worship. In singing together, we embody what the Psalms so often proclaim—that all creation is called to praise the Lord. Over the years, I have come to treasure these moments especially, as the boundary between choir and congregation lessens and we become one voice offering thanks to God.

In the final part of the work, the focus turns from the vastness of creation to the intimacy of human life. Here we are reminded that humanity is created in the image of God, placed within creation not as distant observers, but as stewards and companions. This shift feels especially meaningful, pointing us toward our calling to live faithfully within the world God has made—caring for it, and for one another, in love and responsibility.

After twenty-eight journeys through this music, what remains most is a quiet and enduring sense of joy. It is my hope that, in hearing and in singing tonight, you may encounter something of that same joy—a renewed sense of wonder, a deeper awareness of God’s presence in creation, and a grateful heart for the good gift of life itself.

Dr. Charles Hausmann