



Chatham Chorale
P.O. Box 1111
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Singing for Cape Cod since 1971
Joseph Marchio, Music Director
www.chathamchorale.org

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**CHATHAM CHORALE PRESENTS “LET MUSIC LIVE!”
Concerts Feature Chamber Singers and Four-Hand Piano**

Chatham, MA / June 2, 2022 – Audiences will discover something for everyone in an upcoming set of concerts by the Chatham Chorale and friends, led by Music Director Joe Marchio. Performances take place on Saturday, June 11 at 2:00 and 5:00 pm, and Sunday, June 12 at 2:00 pm, all at the First Congregational Church of Chatham.

The program opens with a stirring anthem called “The Awakening,” composed in 1995 by Joseph Martin. That piece, says Marchio, also inspired the name *Let Music Live!* “The lyrics call on our souls to *awake and sing . . . Let music live!*” he notes. “They spoke to me about awakening from the numbness of the pandemic to celebrate and praise the world we live in.” This sentiment is echoed in other music on the program, from Mack Wilberg’s new arrangement of the hymn “Morning Has Broken” to the lyrical fourth movement of Brahms’ German Requiem, “How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place.”

American composers and themes stand out on the program. Wilberg is heard again in his setting of the beloved folk song “Shenandoah” for women’s voices, followed by “O Susanna” sung by the men. The Chatham Chorale Chamber Singers will offer three pieces from Randall Thompson’s cycle *Frostiana: Seven Country Songs* — settings of Robert Frost poems. Choral selections from *West Side Story* highlight that show’s fabulous score by Leonard Bernstein and lyrics by a young Stephen Sondheim. Bernstein’s friend and colleague Aaron Copland is represented by “The Promise of Living,” the climactic chorus from his opera *The Tender Land*. Adding some jazz flavor, flugelhorn player (and Chorale baritone) Joe Mongelli steps forward to play a Keith Jarrett arrangement of “I Loves You, Porgy” from George Gershwin’s masterpiece *Porgy and Bess*.

Chorale concerts always feature a strong instrumental component. This time it’s music for “piano four hands” (that is, two players at one keyboard) performed by Chorale accompanist Donald Enos and well-known Cape keyboardist Ann Franciose Perrault. They will play a sonata by Francis Poulenc as well as accompanying the Chorale on several works. And Music Director Marchio shows off the church’s magnificent organ in Charles Ives’s Variations on “America.” The concert signs off with Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus.”

The Chatham Chorale is one of Cape Cod’s longest-established choral ensembles, for more than 50 years presenting an annual concert series with programs ranging from choral masterworks to

Broadway, pops stylings, and premieres of new works by regional composers. The Chorale also regularly collaborates with the Cape Symphony and sings in service to the community.

Tickets (\$25, open seating) can be purchased at www.chathamchorale.org/tickets, by phone (774-212-9333) or at the door the day of the concert. Students and those under 18 admitted free with a ticket; call the number above. ***For these concerts, masking is optional, but proof of vaccination is required.*** For more information, visit www.chathamchorale.org.

Captions for accompanying photos (all photos used with permission):

The Chatham Chorale presents ***Let Music Live!*** on June 11 and 12 at First Congregational Church in Chatham. Photo by Bob Tucker/Focal Point.

Chorale accompanist Donald Enos and Music Director Joe Marchio. Photo by Bob Tucker/Focal Point.

Joe Mongelli with his flugelhorn. Photo by Susan Crowley/Monomoy Photography.

Pianist Anne Franciose Perrault. Photo courtesy of Michel Perrault.