

MUSIC NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2025

THE CADENCE

MUSIC AT WPC



*"After silence, that which comes nearest to
expressing the inexpressible is music."*
- Aldous Huxley



November's Music Message

Siblings in Christ,

I want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who participated in and helped with the Requiem concert. We had an amazing turnout—280 people in attendance in addition to our choir! It was truly thrilling to welcome so many into our sanctuary for an afternoon of incredible music. We also had the joy of hosting Les Délices in October, who gave a stunning concert that was deeply appreciated by all. And congratulations to everyone who took part in our five weeks of hymn classes—what a wonderful journey of learning and singing together!

Looking ahead, November will be a quieter month as we prepare for a very full and festive December! Our handbell choir will ring in church on November 16, adding their bright tones to worship. Then in December, we'll welcome Les Délices back on December 5, followed by the Firestone Madrigals in church on December 7 and again for their Madrigal Feast in WHH on December 10. Our Christmas Carol Sing will be held in the sanctuary on December 21, and finally, our annual Festival of Lessons and Carols will take place on Christmas Eve—December 24—with a half-hour prelude of music beginning at 4:30 p.m. and the service starting at 5:00 p.m.

I am so looking forward to the Advent season ahead! Thank you once again for all your efforts, support, and enthusiasm that make our music ministry such a joy. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Cheerfully in Christ,
Nik Stackpole



NOVEMBER'S CHORAL ANTHEMS:

Sunday, November 2: Christ Be Our Light; Farrell, Bruce Rous

Sunday, November 9: Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above; Richard Williamson

Sunday, November 16: Jubilate Deo; Peter Anglea, Laurel Labbe Conducting

Sunday, November 23: O Word of God; Craig Courtney

Sunday, November 30: Thou Shalt Know Him; Mark Sirett

Updated schedules and recordings are on the church's website. Recording links of each piece are available at westminsterakron.org under the "Events and Newsletter" tab, scroll to the bottom.

NOVEMBER NORTHEAST OHIO MUSICAL EVENTS

Sunday, November 2- 5:00 PM: Cantate Singer's Concert;
Rutter's Requiem- Trinity United Church of Christ, Wooster

Sunday, November 2- 4:00 PM: Wit's Folly- Bath UCC- Bath

Sunday, November 2- 4:00 PM: Complete Choral Works of
Maurice Durufle; Choirs from St. Paul- St. Paul's Episcopal
Church, Cleveland Heights

Wednesday, November 5- 12:00 PM: CSU Choral
Ensembles- Trinity Cathedral- Cleveland

Friday, November 14- 7:00 PM: Mirror Visions Ensemble-
Christ Presbyterian Church- Canton

Sunday, November 23- 5:00 PM: Singer's Companye Bath
UCC- Bath

If you need an address for any concert or would like
additional information, please reach out to Nik!

Hymn of the Month

All My Hope on God is Founded

The hymn All My Hope on God Is Founded combines a timeless text of trust with one of the most moving modern hymn tunes ever written. The original German poem, *Meine Hoffnung stehet feste*, was written in the late 17th century by Joachim Neander—who also penned *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*. In 1899, British poet Robert Bridges translated the text into English, crafting a version that balances poetic beauty with theological depth. Its words express an unwavering confidence that all earthly powers—wealth, pride, human strength—ultimately fade, while only God’s goodness endures. The text’s combination of humility and assurance makes it one of the most profound affirmations of faith in the hymn tradition.

The tune, MICHAEL, was composed in 1930 by English composer Herbert Howells. The story behind it is deeply personal: Howells originally wrote the tune for the Charterhouse School, where Bridges had once been a student, and later named it after his own son, Michael, who tragically died of polio at the age of nine. In naming the tune after his son, Howells transformed it into a musical act of remembrance—a melody of both grief and hope. Its soaring phrases and tender harmonies seem to carry that dual spirit, at once lament and trust. Every time the hymn is sung, it becomes not only an expression of faith in God’s constancy but also a quiet testament to a father’s enduring love.

All My Hope on God Is Founded

Joachim Neander, 1680

MICHAEL

Herbert Howells, 1930



1. All my hope on God is found - ed: he doth still my trust re - new.
2. *Pride of man and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown be - tray his trust:*
3. God's great good - ness aye en - dur - eth, deep his wis - dom, pass - ing thought:
4. *Dai - ly doth th'al - might - y Giv - er boun - teous gifts on us be - stow.*
5. Still from man to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of praise be done,



Me thro' change and chance he guid - eth, on - ly good and on - ly true.
what with care and toil he build - eth, tow'r and tem - ple fall to dust.
 splen - dor, light, and life at - tend him, beaut - y spring - eth out of naught.
His de - sire our soul de - light - eth, plea - sure leads us where we go.
 high a - bove all prais - es prais - ing for the gift of Christ his Son.



God un - known, he a - lone calls my heart to be his own.
But God's pow'r, hour by hour, is my tem - ple and my tow'r.
 Ev - er - more from his store new - born worlds rise and a - dore.
Love doth stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his com - mand.
 Christ doth call one and all: ye who fol - low shall not fall.



MUSIC AT WPC PRESENTS:

FIRESTONE CLC MADRIGAL CHOIR

Music offered during our 10:30
church service on the First
Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7
10:30 AM

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH,
1250 W EXCHANGE ST.
AKRON, OH 44313



MUSIC AT WPC PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS
CAROL SING



21 DEC
2025

4 00
PM

FREE
ENTRY

Come celebrate the season with us on
Sunday, December 21, as we sing all
your favorite Christmas classics
together!

1250 W EXCHANGE ST.
AKRON, OH 44313



MUSIC AT WPC PRESENTS:

A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Celebrate Christmas Eve in our
Sanctuary at 5:00 pm, a musical
prelude beginning at 4:30pm.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24
4:30 PM

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH,
1250 W EXCHANGE ST.
AKRON, OH 44313





Music at WPC

2025-2026 CONCERT SERIES

1250 W. Exchange St.
Akron, OH 44313

Sunday
December 7
10:30 AM

Firestone Madrigals

Sunday
December 21
4:00 PM

Christmas Carol Sing

Sunday
January 25
4:00 PM

Ensemble Mercury

Friday
March 13
7:30 PM

University of Akron Choirs

Sunday
April 26
4:00 PM

Stow Heritage Ringers

Friday
May 1
7:30 PM

University of Akron Choirs

Sunday
May 24
12:00 PM

Picnic and Carillon Concert



wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com



(330) 836-2226 EXT. 104



westminsterakron.org

Make Music With Us!

Music
at WPC



Whether you're a seasoned musician or brand new, there's a place for you in our music program. Come as you are—no experience needed!

CHOIR

The choir gathers each Sunday at 8:45 a.m. Together, we lead music in worship every week.

HANDBELL CHOIR

Our handbell choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 3:45 to 4:45. We share our music in worship once a month and travel each year to ring at the Area 5 Festival.

CONCERT SERIES

Our concert series brings exceptional musicians and ensembles to our community, offering inspiring performances throughout the year. These events celebrate the joy of music and invite everyone to experience its beauty together.

WHY IS MUSIC IMPORTANT?

COMMUNITY

Music builds community by bringing people together and turning shared sound into lasting connection.

CREATIVITY AND GROWTH

Music fosters creativity and personal growth, helping us discover new skills, express ourselves, and gain confidence.

WORSHIP AND CONNECTION

Music deepens worship and connection, opening our hearts to God and drawing us closer together in faith.

Contact: wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com
(330) 836-2226 EXT. 104