

## Music Blurbs for 10-7-18

### News and Notes

This week we welcome Matt Scheeser as guest musician at the 10:30 service, and our own James Rathvon at the 8:00 service. Our hymns will include "Love divine, all loves excelling," "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee" and "Come down, O love divine" (10:30). Also for Sunday's offertory we will welcome the congregation's participation in singing Jack Noble White's setting of "The First Song of Isaiah."

### Sunday Bulletins

While eating breakfast on a preaching visit to Williams College in 1907, Henry van Dyke presented the text of "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee" to the president of the college. He said, "Here is a hymn for you. Your mountains [the Berkshires] were my inspiration. It must be sung to the tune of Beethoven's 'Hymn to Joy.'" That tune, of course is in the glorious culmination of Beethoven's ninth symphony. Due to the influence of Lowell Mason, a prominent Boston music educator, making hymns using great European masters played a large role in 19thC American hymnody. Edward Hodges adapted the choral ode from Beethoven's symphony probably for use at Trinity Wall Street back in 1846, where he was organist. The present text was meant to be a Christianized adaptation of Schiller's text, used in the Beethoven symphony. While van Dyke wrote his text with the Hodges adaptation in mind, the *Episcopal Hymnal 1940* assigned the text to another tune. Finally in a supplement to the 1940 hymnal published in 1976 the text and tune were coupled and have remained so in our present hymnal.