

Music Blurbs for 2-16-20 - Go forth for God

News and Notes

This week will feature special music with Semyon Ziskind on violin and David Chentian on cello joining Newton Lewis at the piano to perform the Mozart Piano Trio in B Flat before and after the service. The choir will sing "Christ Is the World's True Light." by Walter Stanton and we will sing "The Servant Song" and "Go forth for God."

Sunday Bulletins

Several years ago when we did a survey at St. James' of people's favorite hymns I was pleasantly surprised to find that "Go forth for God" was in the top ten. The text, by British priest and poet John Peacey, is an amplification of the petitions of the postcommunion prayer "send us now into the world in peace....to love and serve you," and the dismissal "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord."

The music was written for use with this text by The Rev. Dr. Erik Routley, noted composer and hymnologist. The tune is called LITTON and was commissioned in 1982 by Trinity Episcopal Church in Princeton, New Jersey in honor of the end of James Litton's tenure there as Organist and Choirmaster. Routley and Litton were good friends and fellow faculty members at Westminster Choir College in Princeton.

This was one of Routley's last hymns. James Litton went on to be the director of the American Boychoir in Princeton and upon his retirement he spent two years here in Washington as the Interim Choirmaster at National Cathedral.