

# MARQUAND READER

Volume 11, Issue 11: Week of November 10, 2013

The newsletter of Marquand Chapel, Yale Divinity School

## THIS WEEK IN MARQUAND

*Services begin at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome!*

Monday:	"In Medias Res" – as service of prayer in the middle of things.
Tuesday:	A Service of the Word with Professor Thomas Troeger
Wednesday:	Sung Morning Prayer – <i>Thankfulness</i>
Thursday:	A Service of Word and Prayer around the theme of water.
Friday:	Holy Communion featuring Bach's Cantata No. 29. Presider: Professor Bryan Spinks

### Monday: "In Medias Res"

*In Medias Res* is Latin for "in the middle of things" or "in the very midst of." Many within the community have hit a point, mid-semester, where we are struggling with tiredness and stress. Others are experiencing the sense of displacement that comes from being in a new place, or in the midst of transition. God meets us in the midst of our joys, pains, and sorrows, and in those moments where we have left one situation behind and can't yet see where we are going next. Today we will write and hang our prayers around the Chapel, knowing that even when we are in the middle of things, with no clear view of the future, God is there with us.

### Tuesday: A service of Word and Song with Tom Troeger

Over our heads there will be music in the air! Today in Marquand we will receive words of encouragement from Professor Thomas Troeger. We will engage our voices in a variety of hymns, readings and prayers. Movements of the service will include learning from the Sorrow Songs, Music of Pulse and Breath, Sighs too Deep for Words, and Music from the Air.

### Wednesday: Sung Morning Prayer

This week we will begin a new cycle of *Sung Morning Prayer: "Thankfulness."* The songs come from a variety of musical styles and the service is a companion to the cycle with which we began the year, *"Faithfulness."* Some highlights include the canon "Jubilate Deo," "Sweet Hour of Prayer," "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" sung to the tune *Salzburg*, and "Let All Things Now Living" to the traditional English folk tune, *The Ash Grove*.

### Thursday: A Service of Word and Prayer

Water is a common theme in Christian worship. Water is used in Baptism, and at Holy Communion. The Bible, and Christian theology, is littered with uses of water as a metaphor for quenching our spiritual thirst, renewal, commitment, cleansing, and as a promise of life. Come and worship today to dwell on these themes in word and song.

## **Friday: Holy Communion. Presider: Professor Bryan Spinks.**

### **Bach Cantata BWV29, "Wir danken dir, Gott, wir danken dir" (We thank you, God, we thank you).**

Each semester in Marquand we reserve one communion service for a major musical work. Join us for a feast of musical worship as the Marquand Chapel Choir teams up with instrumentalists to lead us in worship through Johann Sebastian Bach's Cantata No. 29. Congregational hymnody will be drawn from Bach's chorale settings, and Professor Bryan Spinks will preside over the Communion table.

#### **Bach Cantata BWV29,**

Among Bach's many duties as Cantor at the Thomaskirche in Leipzig was the provision of music celebrating the election of the town council. These elections always took place in August; Monday, August 29, 1731 was the first performance of BWV 29. This work drew on an older work, the Prelude to the E Major unaccompanied violin partita, dressed up in a full orchestra version, with the solo being taken by the organ. This elaborate, dazzling sinfonia is the perfect introduction to the brilliant cantata. The chorus that follows, a grand setting of words from Psalm 75 would be used two years later in the Gloria of the B Minor Mass. In 1749 when the Mass reached its final form, the work would reappear as the Dona nobis pacem. Our Cantata has an ingenious symmetrical form to the arias. The brilliant tenor aria with violin obbligato is the basis for the alto aria with organ obbligato that ends the cantata. In between is a lovely quiet siciliano for soprano oboe and strings. A grand harmonization of "Sei Lob und Preis" ends the cantata.

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### **This Joy That I Have...**

Growing up, I had always heard my church choir singing "This joy that I have, the world didn't give it to me... The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away." Those words were more than lyrics to a hymn. Those words would become a piece of my personhood.

When asked the question, "What robs you of your joy," I find it difficult to answer. Joy is not something that can be robbed. No one thing can give me joy, and no single event can take it away. Joy is a fruit of the spirit that is planted deep inside of us from the moment that we are formed. It is not synonymous with happy. Happy is an emotion that has an opposite extreme, unlike joy. When one understands that living into the joy of life is a choice, joy can be found in the most difficult situations. The storms of life may rage, but we can still have our joy within.

*Porsha Williams, Chapel Minister*

### **Participation in Chapel**

As always, if you would like to read in Chapel, serve communion or volunteer in another way, please sign the lists outside Chapel, or contact a chapel minister or [Christa Swenson](#).

### **Suggestions? Questions Comments?**

Do you have a suggestion, an encouragement for the team, or an impression of what you would like to see repeated, or something we haven't done yet you'd like to see? Let the team know! Randall, Joe, Porsha, Katie, Maggi, Christa and Brett are always happy to hear from you.

#### **The Marquand Chapel Team, 2013-14**

##### *Staff*

Maggi Dawn *Dean of Chapel*  
Christa Swenson *Liturgical Coordinator*  
Mark Miller *Marquand Gospel & Inspirational  
Ensemble Director*  
Brett Terry *Interim Director of Chapel Music  
and liturgical assistant.*

##### *Student team members*

Katie McNeal, Porsha Williams,  
Joe Brewer, Randall Spaulding *Chapel Ministers*  
Knox Sutterfield *Chapel Choir Director*  
Tripp Kennedy, Wesley Hall,  
Patrick Kreeger *Organ Scholars*