

# Proclaiming Christ 2024

Let Us Sing of Jesus: Celebrating 500 Years of the First Lutheran Hymnals  
Hymn Festival and Conference  
October 25-26, 2024

## Schedule of Events

### Friday, October 25

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- 7:00-7:30 pm** **Prelude** (featuring music for organ, choir, handbells, and other instruments)  
**7:30-8:45 pm** **Let Us Sing of Jesus: A Hymn Festival of Reformation Hymns** (with commentary by Rev. Dr. Thomas Aadland and Rev. Jordan Voges of Saint James Lutheran Church)

### Saturday, October 26

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- 8:30-9:00 am** Registration and Coffee  
**9:00-9:20 am** Service of Matins – Rev. Dr. Thomas Aadland  
**9:20-10:00 am** **Presentation 1 – Let Us Sing of Jesus: The Beginnings of the Lutheran Chorale and the Great Musical Tradition That It Fostered**  
*Dr. Martin Dicke (Saint James Lutheran, West Saint Paul)*  
**10:00-10:15 am** Break  
**10:15-11:00 am** **Presentation 2 – King David and Martin Luther: Two of a Kind When it Comes to Singing the Faith**  
*Rev. Kantor Richard Resch (Professor Emeritus of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne and President of the Board of Directors of David's Harp)*  
**11:00-11:15 am** Break  
**11:15-12:00 noon** **Presentation 3 – The Hymns of Luther's German Mass: The Foundation of the Lutheran Chorale**  
*Rev. Dr. Lowell Sorenson (Immanuel Lutheran, Red Wing)*  
**12:00-12:45 pm** Lunch  
**12:45-1:30 pm** **Presentation 4 – Is Lutheran Hymnody 'Relevant'? God's Word through Music from Age to Age**  
*Rev. Kantor Timothy Frank (Saint Paul's Lutheran, Council Bluffs and Resource Development Director for David's Harp)*  
**1:30-1:45 pm** Break  
**1:45-2:30 pm** **Presentation 5 – A Living Tradition: Singing of Jesus Now and Into Eternity**  
*Panel Discussion*  
**2:30-2:40 pm** Break  
**2:40-3:00 pm** Service of Vespers – Rev. Jordan Voges

See the other side for information about the presenters and a brief description of their presentations.

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## Conference Presenters and Presentations

**Presentation 1** *Let Us Sing of Jesus: The Beginnings of the Lutheran Chorale and the Great Musical Tradition That It Fostered*

**Dr. Martin Dicke**

How did a small book of only eight hymns grow into a great legacy of song and music? The story is very interesting and compelling, although not well known. How did Luther's theology of music affect this tradition? What are the primary characteristics of these songs? Of the many chorales published in the three Lutheran hymnals of 1524, which do we still sing today? These and other questions will be addressed in this opening presentation.

**Presentation 2** *King David and Martin Luther: Two of a Kind When It comes to Singing the Faith*

**Rev. Kantor Richard C. Resch**

In King David's Psalms, God gave His Church examples of how she is to sing of Him through all her days – 150 models of confessing Him in song. Martin Luther lived in these Psalms daily and treasured them dearly. So, it is no surprise that, more than anything else, David's hymns shaped Luther's earliest hymns.

**Presentation 3** *The Hymns of Luther's German Mass: The Foundation of the Lutheran Chorale*

**Rev. Dr. Lowell Sorenson**

In this presentation we will examine the hymnody of Luther's *Deutsche Messe* (German Mass which is Divine Service 5 in the *Lutheran Service Book*). Specifically, we will discuss how these hymns functioned in the development of the Lutheran chorale and explore the sources of Luther's hymnody.

**Presentation 4** *Is Lutheran Hymnody 'Relevant'? God's Word through Music from Age to Age*

**Rev. Kantor Timothy Frank**

This presentation will first explore ways in which our members of our congregations can be led to receive and treasure our rich Lutheran musical heritage. Second, it will explore ways in which congregations can use a Lutheran understanding of music in a very practical way as they engage their communities with the Gospel.

**Presentation 5** *Singing of Jesus Now and Into Eternity: A Living Tradition of Proclamation*  
**Panel Discussion**

**Dr. Martin Dicke** is organist at Saint James Lutheran. He has served as a Lutheran school teacher; a parish musician in Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois; and a Music Specialist with the LCMS Office of International Mission serving in Papua New Guinea and Taiwan. Among other things he is the Artistic Director of the Peoria Bach Festival. He recently served as composer for *Hymns of the Reformation*, a primer level book for piano and organ of 10 of the great Reformation chorales published by David's Harp. For more information and a list of his music and arrangements visit his blog at [www.jubalslyre.com](http://www.jubalslyre.com).

**Rev. Kantor Richard C. Resch** is a professor and Kantor *emeritus* of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he also served as Kantor for Saint Paul's Lutheran Church. During his tenure at the seminary, he founded the Seminary Kantorei, the Good Shepherd Institute, and the annual Organist Workshops. In retirement, he serves as President of the Board for David Harp and is a board member of the Bach Society of Minnesota.

**Rev. Dr. Lowell Sorenson** has served the historic Immanuel Lutheran Church of Hay Creek Township (Red Wing, Minnesota) since 2005. A graduate of Concordia University, Saint Paul and Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, he earned a Doctor of Ministry in 2018 from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary having completed a thesis on Luther's *Deutsche Messe* (German Mass). He regularly provides musical and pastoral leadership for the LCMS Minnesota South District and has served as contracted professor of ministry and practice for Concordia University, Saint Paul.

**Rev. Kantor Timothy Frank** holds degrees in church music from Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, Minnesota (BA) and Concordia University Wisconsin (MCM) as well as an MDiv from Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, Ind. He serves as Associate Pastor and Kantor at Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa and as administrator and teacher at Saint Paul's Music Conservatory. In 2019 he and Rev. Nathan Sherrill established David's Harp ([www.davidsharpmusic.org](http://www.davidsharpmusic.org)) to promote the instruction of music in parishes across the country and overseas. He currently serves as its Director of Resources.

**Sara Sorenson** is an organist, violinist, and church musician. A graduate of Concordia University, Saint Paul she served parishes in Indiana and has been at Immanuel Lutheran Church Hay Creek Township (Red Wing, Minnesota) since 2005 where she is the organist and directs the choir, handbells, and children's chime choir. In 2019 she earned a Master of Church Music (MCM) from Concordia University, Mequon. She has studied organ with John Eggert, Allan Mahnke, John Behnke, James Freese, and Kristina Langlois. She is beginning her 10<sup>th</sup> year serving on the Board of Directors of the LCMS Minnesota South District and works as an Administrative Assistant for the Goodhue County Education District in Red Wing. She and her husband Lowell have two daughters, Chloe (18) and Leah (12).