



Music at Midday *April 2024*

Thirty-minute concerts are offered free of charge on the second and fourth Fridays of the month, January – June (except in Lent) at 12:30 p.m.

April 12

Sarah Simko, organ

Prelude and Fugue in G Minor, op. 7, no. 3

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

from Twelve Pieces on Gregorian Chant Themes, op. 8

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

Variations on *O filii et filiae*

In manus tuas

Choral-Improvisation sur *Victimae paschali laudes*

Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)

About the Artist

Sarah Simko earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Organ Performance at the University of Michigan where she studied with James Kibbie. She is an Adjunct Faculty Instructor at Madonna University. She completed her Master of Music degree at the University of Michigan and her Bachelor's degree from the Eastman School of Music.

Dr. Simko is the recipient of a Graduate Award from the Presser Foundation, to be used in creating a comprehensive set of recordings of organ music by living American female composers. The goal of this project is to expand the accessibility of a rich, and overlooked body of repertoire. More information, including purchasing information for this series of three CDs, can be found under the "Living Voices" tab on her website, sarahsimko.com.

Dr. Simko currently serves as the Cathedral's Associate Organist and Communications Coordinator. Previous positions include Choral Accompanist at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Ann Arbor; Interim Director of Music at University Presbyterian Church, Rochester Hills; and Senior Organ Scholar at Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills. She has also served Bethany Presbyterian Church, Greece, New York, as the organ scholar. Ms. Simko has given recitals in such notable venues as Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Methuen, Massachusetts; St. Paul's Cathedral (Anglican), London, Ontario, Canada; Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, Detroit; and Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor; among others.

April 26

Students from the University of Michigan

Ye Mee Kim

Wir glauben all an einen Gott, BWV 680
Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam, BWV 684

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Grace Jackson

from Quatre pièces, op. 37, no. 4
Cantabile
Choral

Joseph Jongen (1873-1953)

David Stultz

Allegro from Symphonie No. 2, Op. 20

Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

About the Artists

Ye Mee Kim is in the second year of the Doctor of Musical Arts program in Sacred Music where she is a student of Nicole Keller (organ) and Peter Sykes (Harpsichord). She is originally from Korea with academic credentials achieved in the U.S. In 2003, she earned the Bachelor's degree in Organ Performance at Houghton College, New York, and went back to her home country where she served as a church musician and a pharmacist until her return to the US in 2011. She met the late Marilyn Mason who gave private lessons and led her to pursue the Master of Music in Organ Performance at the University of Michigan. She has also studied with James Kibbie, Karl Schrock, and Michele Johns. She has served as an organ scholar at St. John's Episcopal Church, Detroit. Ye Mee has performed in many churches in Korea, and in Wesley Chapel in New York, Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church in Dearborn, Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth, and Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor.

David Stultz is from Chattanooga, Tennessee. In 2021, he graduated with a bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville where he studied with Edie Johnson. Following his undergraduate success, David was awarded a full tuition scholarship at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana where he obtained, under Kola Owolabi, a master's degree in sacred music and organ performance in 2023. His time at Notre Dame also saw him contribute as a graduate assistant organist at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Currently immersed in a three-year doctoral program at the University of Michigan, David is under the mentorship of Professor Nicole Keller, specializing in sacred music and organ performance. Additionally, he continues to refine his organ improvisation skills under the tutelage of Bálint Karosi. Beyond academia, David serves as the Associate Director of Sacred Music at St. Hugo of the Hills Parish in Bloomfield Hills. He is a first prize winner in the Southeast Regional American Guild of Organists Competition for Young Organists.

Grace Jackson is pursuing the Doctor of Musical Arts degree with a concentration in organ and sacred music from the University of Michigan studying with Professor Nicole Keller. In May of 2023, Grace received the Master of Sacred Music from the University of Notre Dame with a concentration in organ having studied with Kola Owolabi. During her time at Notre Dame, she served as organist and graduate assistant for the Liturgical Choir at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. A native of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Grace completed a Bachelor of Music degree in organ and piano performance from Oklahoma City University (OCU) studying with Melissa Plamann and Sergio Monteiro. During her time at OCU, she was honored with the Theodore Presser Scholar award and served Westminster Presbyterian Church as organ scholar (2017-2020). She was also music assistant for Bishop W. Angie Smith Chapel, and held leadership positions in the Oklahoma City Chapter AGO. Grace has been Alpha Zeta chapter president of Sigma Alpha Iota, and from 2020-2021 she served St. Joseph Old Cathedral as Director of Music and organist in Oklahoma City. Grace currently serves St. John's Episcopal Church of Detroit as organ scholar under the direction of Dr. Huw Lewis.

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul

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