

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE CHOIR

God is our
**REFUGE &
STRENGTH**



2025 SPRING TOUR

MARCH 15-23



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

WELCOME

*Please turn off all electronic devices prior to the concert.
Thank you.*

We're delighted you are here! We pray that you are blessed by the message sung to you by the MLC College Choir (and, for two concerts, also the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chorus): **God Is Our Refuge and Strength**. Though world events and personal challenges may sometimes make us fearful, this concert will assure us that all who trust in Jesus are held securely in his nail-marked hands. What a refuge and strength Jesus is for every sinner who hopes in him!

And here's another reason we're delighted you are here: Every member of the choir before you is a tangible reminder of our God's love. God is at work through Martin Luther College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary to raise up for his dear Church a new generation of gospel messengers. A musician before you today could very soon be the pastor proclaiming that gospel from your pulpit, or the teacher teaching your children or grandchildren, or the staff minister leading your congregation's outreach. The message they sing is not only their Spirit-worked personal conviction, but also the truth they will proclaim in their public ministries.

So thank you for attending this concert! May this reminder that **God Is Our Refuge and Strength** fill you with hope. May it also lead you to partner with MLC—and your seminary—with your prayers, your words of encouragement, and your gifts. In this way, you assist all these singers to proclaim to the world the Savior God who is our only true refuge and strength.



In Him,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rich Gurgel'.

Rich Gurgel
President, Martin Luther College



Martin Luther College Choir



The **Martin Luther College Choir** is an auditioned choir representing the various education programs offered at MLC.

The choir rehearses five times a week to prepare a program of choral music to take to various areas of WELS. In recent years the choir has sung at congregations in Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, North Dakota, South Dakota, Colorado, New Mexico, Tennessee, Texas, Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The choir was also privileged to travel to our missions in Mexico in 2008.

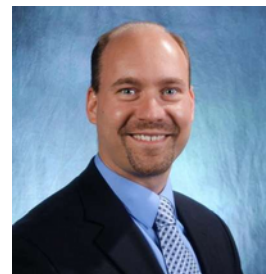
In addition to this choir, Martin Luther College offers students other opportunities for ensemble performance. We have three other choirs: Chorale, Männerchor, and Women's Choir. In the instrumental area, we have a Wind Symphony and a handbell choir, the Hosanna Ringers. These ensembles are open to all students and entry is via an audition process.

Academic programs in the area of music at MLC include programs in K-12 vocal music education, K-12 instrumental music education, and parish music. For further information about these or other programs at MLC, visit the MLC website at mlc-wels.edu or call 507.354.8221.

If you are interested in purchasing recordings of the MLC College Choir, contact the Martin Luther College Bookstore at mlc-wels.edu/bookstore or 507.354.8221 x214.

Adrian Smith is a doctoral candidate in conducting at the University of Oklahoma. He holds a Master of Church Music degree from Concordia University Wisconsin and studied graduate choral conducting at Oakland University-Rochester MI. As an undergraduate at Martin Luther College, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Education with an emphasis in music. Adrian has served as a called worker in WELS for more than twenty years in various ministry positions: as a classroom teacher, school and church music director, and minister of music. Adrian has been a presenter and clinician at various choral, organ, and handbell workshops, regional and national handbell festivals, and elementary and secondary choral festivals.

Adrian is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association and the National Association for Music Education and served on the psalmody committee for the WELS Hymnal Project. Adrian currently serves as a professor of music at Martin Luther College, where he conducts both Männerchor and the College Choir and teaches courses in choral conducting, music fundamentals, music history, and music in world cultures.



GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH

Part I

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." — Psalm 46:1-3, 91:1-2

The Church's One Foundation

Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

AURELIA, Samuel Wesley, 1766-1837

Arranged by Dan Forrest, b. 1978

Please stand to sing the final stanza.

Choir/Cong. 1. The chur - ch's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
Choir 2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
Choir 3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der the world sees her op - pressed,
Choir/Cong. 4. Yet she on earth has un - ion with God the Three in One,
she is His new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by he - re - sies dis - tressed,
and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won:
From heav'n He came and sought her to be his Ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly Name she bless - es par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
O bles - sed heav'n - ly chor - us, Lord, save us by your grace,
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Organ: Benjamin Foster

Trumpet: Jason Horn, Josiah Smith

Horn: Katie Ungemach

Trombone: Adam Conrad, Noah Sulzle

Tuba: Isaiah Ruddat

Percussion: Caleb Krahn, Emma Pufahl

Be seated

Richte, mich Gott

Psalm 43

Translated by Joyce Warman
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, 1809-1847
1844 MWV B 46

Richte mich, Gott, und führe meine Sache
wider das unheilige Volk
und errette mich von den falschen und bösen Leuten.

*Justify me, O God, and lead my struggle
against a faithless people.
Rescue me from the deceitful and wicked people.*

Denn du bist der Gott meiner Stärke;
Warum verstößest du mich?
Warum lässest du mich so traurig geh'n,
wenn mein Feind mich drängt?

*For you, God, are my strength;
Why must you keep me so far away?
Why must I go about in mourning,
with the enemy oppressing me?*

Sende dein Licht und deine Wahrheit,
daß sie mich leiten
zu deinem heiligen Berge,
und zu deiner Wohnung.

*Send forth your light and your truth,
that they may guide me
and bring me to your holy mountain,
to your dwelling place.*

Daß ich hineingehe zum Altar Gottes,
zu dem Gott, der meine Freude und Wonne ist,
und dir, Gott, auf der Harfe danke, mein Gott.

*Then will I go in to the altar of God,
the God of my joy and my bliss.
Then will I give you thanks upon the harp, my God.*

Was betrübst du dich, meine Seele,
und bist so unruhig in mir?

*Why are you so downcast, O my soul?
And why are you so troubled within me?*

Harre auf Gott!
Denn ich werde ihm noch danken,
daß er meines Angesichts,
und mein Gott ist.

*Hope in God!
Then I will again give him thanks
that he is the face of my help [my Savior]
and he is my God.*

Kyrie

Steve Dobrogosz, b. 1956

Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.*

Piano: Micah Vanderhoof
Violin: Carissa Avery, Lydia Meyer, Bethany Spike
Viola: Sebastian Smith
Cello: Wenda Liu
Bass: Timothy Manning

Psalm 57

Betty Jackson King, 1928-1994

Oh God, be merciful unto me.
For my soul taketh refuge in thee,
Yea, in the shadow of thy wings, will I take refuge
Until these sorrows pass over.
My heart is fixed, God, my heart is fixed
For thy loving kindness is great unto the heav'ns
And thy truth unto the skies.
Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens;
Let thy glory be above all the earth. Amen.

Hope

Zachary J. Moore, b. 1992

Alleluia!

Shaker: Joseph Panning
Djembe: Caleb Krahm

The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6
Jack Noble White, 1938-2019

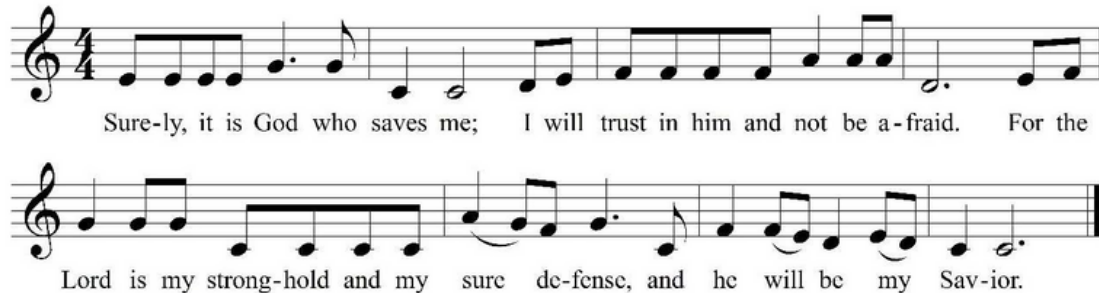
Please join in singing as indicated.

Surely, it is God who saves me.

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

Congregation: REFRAIN



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a-fraid. For the
Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav-ior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, "Give thanks to the Lord, and call upon his name."

Congregation: REFRAIN

Make his deeds known among the peoples;
See that they remember that his name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
And this is known in all the world.

Congregation: REFRAIN

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
For the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Congregation: REFRAIN (sung twice)

Organ: George Hogan

Piano: Laura Stelljes

Trumpet: Jason Horn, Caleb Jensen

Trombone: Adam Conrad, Benjamin Foster

Timpani: Caleb Krahm

Handbells: Carissa Avery, Isaiah Carlovsky, Eva Doebler,

Ruby Freese, Madelyn Italiano, Grant Klas,

Bethany Schneekloth, Eric Smith, Nicole Trapp

DEVOTION

RYAN BOGGS
MLC College Choir President

Ryan is a senior at Martin Luther College. He will graduate in May and continue his studies for the pastoral ministry at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in the fall.

OFFERING

A freewill offering will be collected at this time.
The offering collected on March 20 will be directed to St. John's on the Hillside.
All other offerings will go to MLC tuition assistance.

If you'd prefer to support Martin Luther College electronically:

- Text **AID** to **507.223.4344**
- Go to **mlc-wels.edu/donate**
- Scan the QR code and go to **MLC Financial Aid**.



Flute Sonata in B Minor, BWV 1030
III. Presto-Allegro

Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750

Flute: Emma Pufahl
Piano: Laura Stelljes

GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH

Part II

The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation. He is my stronghold, my refuge and my savior.

— 2 Samuel 22:2-3

Lord, Thou Hast Been Our Refuge

Psalm 90
R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Semi Chorus

Lord, thou hast been our refuge
From one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
Or ever the earth and the world were made,
Thou art God from everlasting and world
Without end.

Thou, turnest man to destruction;
Again thou sayest,
Come again, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in thy sight
Are but as yesterday, seeing that is past as
A watch in the night.

For we consume away in thy displeasure and
Are afraid at thy wrathful indignation.

The years of our age are three score years and
Ten, and though men be so strong that they
Come to four score years, yet is their strength
But labour and sorrow.

Turn thee again, O Lord, at the last.
Be gracious unto thy servants.

O satisfy us with thy mercy,
And that soon.

Both Choruses

Lord, thou hast been our refuge from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever the earth and the world were made,
thou art God from everlasting and world without end.
And the glorious majesty of the Lord be upon us.
Prosper thou the work of our hands, O prosper thou our handiwork.

Organ: Benjamin Foster
Trumpet: Josiah Smith

Semi Chorus:

Soprano: Ella Bergemann, Ruby Freese, Abbee Olsen
Alto: Abigail Schmitz, Grace Seim, Katie Ungemach
Tenor: George Hogan, Jason Horn, Caleb Jensen
Bass: Adam Conrad, Benjamin Foster, Joseph Panning, Josiah Smith

Full Chorus

O God, our help in ages past,

Our hope for years to come,

Our shelter from the stormy blast,

And our eternal home.

As soon as thou scatterest them,
They are even as a sleep
And fade away suddenly like the grass.

In the morning it is green and groweth up,
But in the evening it is cut down,
Dried up and withered.

We consume away in thy displeasure.

For when thou art angry,
All our days are gone;
We bring our years to an end
As a tale that is told.

So passeth it away, and we are gone.

Turn thee again, O Lord, at the last.
Be gracious unto thy servants.

So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of
Our life.

Cornerstone

Shawn Kirchner, b. 1970

Psalm 118:22 The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

O the stone that the builders rejected
Became the cornerstone of a whole new world.

John 12:24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

A grain of wheat may be knocked to the ground
And suffer through the winter's cold,
Only to rise right up again
And bear its seed a thousandfold.

Isaiah 11:6 The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.

Never can our journey fail;
A little child will lead the way,
Whose eyes are filled with a shining light,
To whom the night is bright as day.

I Corinthians 15:55-57 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The love that rolls the stone away
Gives us life that we may sing,
"Grave, where is thy victory?
Death, O death, where is thy sting?"

Soloists: Jason Horn, Olivia Robinson

Trio: Nicole Schumann, Morgan Ritter, Katie Ungemach

Piano: Luke Staude

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

John 11:25-26
Heinrich Schütz, 1585-1672

I am the Resurrection and the Life.
He that believeth in me, yet shall he live, though he were dead.
And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

Be Thou Faithful Unto Death

Friedrich Reuter, 1863-1924

Friedrich “Fritz” Reuter was the first full-time music professor called to Dr. Martin Luther College, now known as Martin Luther College, in New Ulm, Minnesota. Reuter was 44 years old when he became a professor at DMLC in April 1908 and came highly qualified in keyboard, choral conducting, music history, stringed instruments, music theory, composition, and pedagogy. Fritz Reuter gave music “a place and a dignity hitherto unknown at the college” (Morton Schroeder, “Gifted Musician,” *Northwestern Lutheran*, June 1997). He began singing classes, started mixed and male choirs, taught a 32-hour course load per week, and gave keyboard and violin lessons. Reuter valued music as a means to share the good news of the gospel. He was described as a very religious man, often times meditating with scripture in hand, pondering a text he expected to set to music. “Be Thou Faithful” is an example of this careful pairing of scripture and text. It is an a cappella setting of Revelation 2:10, and while the music reflects influence of late nineteenth century Romantic harmonization, the use of dynamics and tempo variation give life to the words and express the timeless comfort of God’s promise to the believer: “Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

Be thou faithful
Unto death,
And I will give thee a crown of life!

Celestial Spring IV. Glorification

Oscar R. Overby, 1892-1964

F. Melius Christiansen, 1871-1955

Hosanna, a new Hosanna within is ringing, new glory bringing to God on high,
Who has exalted this lowly mortal to heaven’s portal beyond the sky.
Hosanna, a new Hosanna all life embraces, while growing praises to God arise;
Soon my spirit shall sing victorious with him,
The glorious, shall sing victorious with him in paradise.
A new Hosanna shall arise! A new Hosanna now is ringing; my heart is singing now: hallelujah.

I Will Rise

Chris Tomlin, b. 1972, Jesse Reeves, Louie Giglio, b. 1958, and Matt Maher, b. 1974
Arranged by Craig Courtney, b. 1954 and Lynda Hasseler

“...because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself.” -2 Corinthians 4:14

There's a peace I've come to know, though my heart and flesh may fail.
There's an anchor for my soul. I can say, "It is well."

Jesus has overcome, and the grave is overwhelmed.
The victory is won, he is risen from the dead.
And I will rise when he calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain.
I will rise on eagle's wings. Before my God, fall on my knees and rise.

There's a day that's drawing near when this darkness breaks to light.
And the shadows disappear, and my faith shall be my eyes.

I will rise, and I hear the voice of many angels sing, "Worthy is the Lamb!"
And I hear the cry of ev'ry longing heart, "Worthy is the Lamb!"

I will rise when he calls my name, no more sorrow, no more pain.
I will rise on eagle's wings. Before my God, fall on my knees and rise.
I will rise!

Piano: Laura Stelljes
Violin: Carissa Avery, Lydia Meyer, Bethany Spike
Viola: Sebastian Smith
Cello: Wenda Liu
Bass: Timothy Manning

Soloists (in order): Luke Staude, Elise Nolte, Jesse Childress
Vocal Trio: Ryan Boggs, Ruby Freese, Zoe Scharf

Benediction

John Newton, 1725-1807
Elaine Hagenberg, b. 1979

Elaine Hagenberg was commissioned by the Martin Luther College Choir to compose an a cappella setting of the hymn *May the Grace of Christ Our Savior*, a text by John Newton, for their 2022 spring tour. The text of this hymn is spoken as a blessing by the choir at the conclusion of every rehearsal. Speaking this after each rehearsal provides a beautiful reminder about the Triune God and the blessings he provides. It also reflects that the Martin Luther College Choir is more than just an academic class that is part of a curriculum and program plan. Indeed, the rehearsals of the choir are a daily preparation to share God's Word through music in the most excellent way possible, and this only comes through diligent practice and preparation.

May the grace of Christ our Savior
And the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor
Rest upon us from above. Amen.

Martin Luther College Choir

Adrian Smith, Conductor

Soprano 1

Ella Bergemann	Bolingbrook IL
Faith Blauert	North Freedom WI
Ruby Freese	Spring TX
Katelyn Gilkey	Sparks NV
Greta Kopp	Appleton WI
Nicole Schumann	North Mankato MN
Estrella Strackbein	New Ulm MN

Soprano 2

Carissa Avery	Aurora CO
Madelyn Italiano	Crete IL
Naomi Kassulke	Tucson AZ
Abbee Olsen	Kiel WI
Emma Pufahl ⁺⁺	Phoenix AZ
Bethany Schneekloth	Mabel MN
Bethany Spike	New Ulm MN
Nicole Trapp	Saginaw MI

Alto 1

Eva Doeblen	Garden Grove CA
Lydia Meyer	New Ulm MN
Grace Seim	Beaver Dam WI
Alana Sulzle	Cottonwood AZ
Hope Sulzle	Cottonwood AZ
Katie Ungemach	Manitowoc WI
Hazel Wagie	Menomonee Falls WI
Micaiah Wagner	Appleton WI

Alto 2

Mora Enoke	Taylorsville UT
Dorothea Grubbs	New Ulm MN
Meghan Johnson	La Crosse WI
Elise Nolte	Appleton WI
Zoe Scharf	New Ulm MN
Ella Schlei	Lamberton MN
Abigail Schmitz	New Ulm MN
Lilianne Zimpelmann	Manitowoc WI

Tenor 1

Jacob Bergstrom	Albertville MN
Isaiah Carlovsky	New Ulm MN
George Hogan	Voorheesville NY
Jason Horn	San Diego CA
Caleb Jensen	Ixonia WI
Joshua Kallies	Glendale AZ
Eli Krueger	Appleton WI
Luke Staude	Germantown WI

Tenor 2

Ryan Boggs ⁺	Watertown WI
Caleb Carlovsky	New Ulm MN
Benjamin Loescher	Jackson WI
Matthew Marquardt	St. Paul MN
Joseph Schultz	Rhineland WI
Eric Smith	New Ulm MN
Micah Vanderhoof	Menomonee Falls WI

Bass 1

Hans Boeder	Escondido CA
Jesse Childress	Spartanburg SC
Adam Conrad	St. Joseph MI
Corey Deyo	Sparta WI
Caleb Krahn	Two Rivers WI
Wenda Liu	Beijing, China
Isaiah Ruddat	De Pere WI
Josiah Smith	New Ulm MN
Sebastian Smith	New Ulm MN

Bass 2

Isaac Boettcher	Salt Lake City UT
Benjamin Foster	Grand Ledge MI
Grant Klas	Randolph WI
Zachary Maedke	Coleman WI
Timothy Manning	Mankato MN
Matthew Nygaard	Fond du Lac WI
Joseph Panning	Litchfield MN
Lucas Prange	Kenosha WI
Noah Sulzle	Cottonwood AZ

⁺Choir President

⁺⁺Choir Secretary

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Richte, Mich Gott

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Kyrie

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Psalm 57

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Hope

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zacharyjmoore.com

The First Song of Isaiah (Festival Edition)

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GCMR9610

Lord, Thou Hast Been Our Refuge

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Cornerstone

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I Am the Resurrection and the Life

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Edition Peters 6591

Be Thou Faithful

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His Robes for Mine

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Glorification from *Celestial Spring*

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I Will Rise

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CU1010

Benediction

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Commissioned by Martin Luther College Choir

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MLC College Choir

2025 Spring Tour Schedule

Saturday, March 15	Martin Luther, St. Louis MO	7:00 pm
Sunday, March 16	Christ Alone, Dardenne Prairie MO (<i>service</i>)	9:15 am
	Beautiful Savior, Clarksville TN	7:00 pm
Monday, March 17	Christ Our Savior, Columbia TN	7:00 pm
Tuesday, March 18	Bethlehem, Carmel IN	7:30 pm
Wednesday, March 19	Peace, Loves Park IL	7:00 pm
Thursday, March 20	St. Paul LES, Muskego WI	11:00 am
	St. John's on the Hillside, Milwaukee WI	7:00 pm
Friday, March 21	Wisconsin LHS, Milwaukee WI	9:45 am
	Kettle Moraine LHS, Jackson WI	2:15 pm
Saturday, March 22	Christ, North St. Paul MN	7:00 pm
Sunday, March 23	Holy Trinity, New Hope MN (<i>service</i>)	10:00 am
Sunday, March 23	MLC Chapel of the Christ, New Ulm MN	4:00 pm
Saturday, March 29	MLC College Choir/Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Joint Concert	
	MLC Chapel of the Christ, New Ulm MN	7:00 pm





MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

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