And I Saw a New Heaven

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: For the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away.

(Revelation, 21:1 – 4)

When David Heard

When David heard that Absalom was slain, he went up to his chamber over the gate, and wept: and thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

(Il Samuel 18:33)

Motets for a Penitential Season

Timor et tremor

Timor et tremor venerunt super me,  
et caligo cecidit super me:  
miserere mei Domine, miserere mei  
quoniam in te confidit anima mea.

Fear and terror have come upon me,  
and darkness has fallen over me.  
Have mercy on me, Lord; have mercy,  
for my soul trusts in you.

Exaudi Deus deprecationem meam  
quia refugium meum es  
tu adjutor fortis.  
Domine, invocavi te, non confundar.

O Lord, hear my prayer,  
for you are my refuge;  
you are my strong defense.  
Lord, I call upon you: let me never be confounded.

Vinea mea electa

Vinea mea electa, ego te plantavi:  
quomodo conversa es in amaritudinem,  
ut me crucifigeres et Barrabam dimitteres.

My vineyard, which I have chosen, I have planted you:  
How you are turned to bitterness,  
that you should crucify me and set Barabbas free.

Sepivi te, et lapides elegi ex te,  
et ædificavi turrim.  
(response for Matins on Good Friday, First Nocturn)

I built a fence around you, and cast stones out of you, and built you a watchtower.

Tenebrae factae sunt

Tenebrae factae sunt,  
dum crucifixissent Jesum Judaei:  
et circa horam nonam  
exclamavit Jesus voce magna:  
Deus meus, ut quid me dereliquisti?  
Et inclinato capite, emisit spiritum.

Darkness covered all the land  
when they crucified Jesus of the Jews:  
And about the ninth hour  
Jesus cried out with a loud voice:  
My God, why have you forsaken me?  
And bowing his head, he gave up the spirit.

Exclamans Jesus voce magna, ait:  
Pater, in manus tuas commendo spiritum meum.  
(response for Matins on Holy Saturday, Second Nocturn)

Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said:  
Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.
Tristis est anima mea
Tristis est anima mea usque ad mortem:
sustinete hic, et vigilate mecum:
nunc videbitis turbam, quae circumdabit me:
Vos fugam capietis, et ego vadam immolari pro vobis.

Ecce approquinquat hora, et Filius hominis tradetur in manus peccatorum.
(Response for Matins on Holy Thursday, First Nocturn)

My soul is sorrowful even to death:
tarry with me here, and keep watch with me:
soon you will see a crowd surrounding me.
You will flee, and I will go to be sacrificed for you.

Behold, the hour is approaching when the Son of Man
will be delivered into the hands of sinners.

Requiem

Introit
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine;
et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,
et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.
Exaudi orationem meam.
ad te omnis caro veniet.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord;
and shine perpetual light upon them.

They sing hymns to you, O God, in Zion,
and offer vows to you Jerusalem.
Hear my prayer,
for all flesh comes to you.

Kyrie
Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Offertory

Domine Jesu Christe, Rex gloriae:
libera animas omnium fidelium defunctorum
de poenis inferni
et profondo lacu; libera eas
de ore leonis;
ne absorbeat eas tartarus,
ne cadant in obscurum.
Sed signifer sanctus Michael
repraesentet eas in lucem sanctam.
Quam olim Abrahae promissi et semini ejus.

O Lord Jesus Christ, King of Glory:
deliver the souls of all the faithful dead
from the pains of hell
and from the deep pit; deliver them
from the mouth of the lion;
that hell may not swallow them,
and that they may not fall into darkness.
But may the holy standard-bearer Michael
show them the holy light;
which you once promised to Abraham and his descendants.

We offer to you, O Lord, sacrifices and prayers.
Receive them on behalf of those souls
whom we commemorate today.
Grant, O Lord, that they might pass from death into that life
which you once promised to Abraham and his descendants.

Sanctus
Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis!
Benedictus qui venit in nomini Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis!

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

Pie Jesu
Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them rest.
Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest.
Agnus Dei
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem sempiternam.  

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
grant them rest.  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
grant them eternal rest.

Lux aeterna  
Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,  
cum sanctis tuis in aeternam; quia pius es.  
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis,  
cum sanctis tuis in aeternam; quia pius es.  

Shine eternal light upon them, Lord,  
with your saints forever; for you are merciful.  
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and shine perpetual light on them  
with your saints forever; for you are merciful.

Libera me  
Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda;  
quo  
dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.  
Tremens factus sum ego et timeo, dum disserbo venere  
ateque ventura irae, quando coeli movendi sunt et terra.  
Dies  
dies magna et amara valde.  
Requiem aeternam, dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.  
Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna.  

Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death on that awful day,  
when the heavens and the earth shall be moved:  
when you will come to judge the world by fire.  
I tremble, and I fear the judgment and the wrath to come,  
when the heavens and the earth shall be moved.  
The day of wrath, that day of calamity and misery;  
a great and bitter day, indeed.  
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,  
and shine perpetual light on them.  
Deliver me, Lord, from eternal death on that awful day.  
Deliver me, Lord,  
when the heavens and the earth shall be moved;  
when you will come to judge the world by fire.  
Deliver me, Lord, from eternal death.

In paradisum  
In paradisum deducant te angeli  
in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres,  
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.  
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat,  
et cum Lazaro quondam pauperae aeternam  
habeas requiem.  

May the angels lead you into paradise;  
may the martyrs receive you at your arrival  
and lead you to the holy city Jerusalem.  
May choirs of angels receive you  
and with Lazarus, who was once a pauper,  
may you have rest.

Brandon Burns is a doctoral student in organ, studying with Kimberly Marshall.  
Stephanie Weiss is an assistant professor of voice at ASU. She joined the faculty in the fall of 2016.  
David Schildkret is Professor of Choral Music and Director of Choral Activities at ASU.  
Full faculty biographies: music.asu.edu (click on “our faculty” to access the directory).

A NOTE ABOUT THE CHOIRS

The ASU Concert Choir, directed by Bart Evans, numbers about 35 singers, 20 of whom made up the chorus for the recent production of The Magic Flute. Those who did not participate in the opera worked with David Schildkret on the Duruflé Requiem for tonight’s performance. Members of the Concert Choir are primarily undergraduate music majors with various voice concentrations, ranging from those pursuing performance degrees to those seeking degrees in music education and music therapy. A few of the members are majors in other fields.

The ASU Chamber Singers has a roster of 32 members. Each member of the group chooses to participate in at least two of the three performances every semester. The Chamber Singers are mostly graduate students (and a few undergraduates) majoring in voice or opera. One student is a music education master’s degree candidate, and another is pursuing an MFA in directing from the School of Film, Dance and Theatre.