

June Midweek Message series: “Lutheran Stories”

June 23<sup>rd</sup>: Lutheranism and Music

Due to copyright rules, we will share the excerpts Pastor Ryan is referencing to our mailing list as a congregation-wide Bible study; however, we can't post those on our website. Here are the books and passages being used if you'd like to find your own copies:

*Together By Grace: Introducing the Lutherans*, edited by Kathryn A. Kleinhans, copyright 2016, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, Minneapolis. Pages 99-103: “Luther, Music, and the Reformation” by Kathryn Kleinhans (an interview with Sarah Herzer, Kantorin of the Castle Church in Wittenberg).

*Stories from Global Lutheranism: A Historical Timeline*, by Martin J. Lohrmann, copyright 2021, Fortress Press (Lutheran Quarterly Books), Minneapolis. Pages 96-99: “1723: J.S. Bach Hired as Cantor in Leipzig.”

For further reading the Castle Church in Wittenberg:

<https://lutherstadt-wittenberg.de/en/culture/unesco-world-heritage-site/castle-church/>

<https://www.schlosskirche-wittenberg.de/index.php/en/>

And an article about singing the faith:

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2021/03/singing-our-faith/>

And ponder these questions:

What faith songs are embedded in your hearts and minds?

What Bible verses do you remember because you learned them set to music?

Find a hymnal and look through it. Look at the source information in the fine print. Where (and when) do these songs come from?

What does music do with the Word that the Word by itself doesn't always do?

Is there a particular composer/singer/musician/band/genre that the Holy Spirit uses to great effect with you? What moves you? (It doesn't have to be a “Christian” source – for instance, I feel the Spirit working through the song “Fix You” by Coldplay.)

What does music mean for you as a Lutheran?

“Liturgy” means “the work of the people.” How does singing in worship or elsewhere feel like doing God's work?