

SERVICE OF LIGHT

JANUARY 29, 2023
4 P.M.

DR. JEFF MCLELLAND,
DIRECTOR

STEFAN ENGELS,
ORGANIST

REV. SUSAN A. CLAYTON,
OFFICIANT

JOSEPH ELWOOD SCHOLL,
LINDSEY RYAN SCHOLL,
ACOLYTES

THE IPC CHOIR

THE REV. KEVIN J. LONG, *PASTOR*
INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA



GOD'S
BLESSINGS
THROUGH
COLOR
AND LIGHT

52nd ANNUAL
**RELIGIOUS
ARTS
FESTIVAL**

JAN 29-FEB 5, 2023

Independent Presbyterian Church
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA



WELCOME

ORGAN – *Cathedral Windows, Op. 106: No. 2, Ave Maria*.....Sigfrid Karg-Elert
(1877-1933)

READING – "First Day of Creation" by Sarah Klassen

ANTHEM – "O Lux Beatissima".....Howard Helvey
(b. 1968)

O lux beatissima, Reple cordis intima Tuorum fidelium. Sine tuo numine, Nihil est in homine, Nihil est innoxium.

O Light most blessed, Fill the inmost heart Of all thy faithful. Without your grace, There is nothing in us, Nothing that is not harmful. *attributed to Stephan Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury*

ORGAN – *Le Tombeau de Jean Langlais*.....George Baker
(A Threnody for the Heartbeat of Humanity) (b. 1951)

ANTHEM – "Ubi Caritas".....Maurice Durufé
(1902-1986)

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsulemus et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Amen.

Where charity and love are, there God is. The love of Christ has gathered us into one. Let us exult, and in Him be joyful. Let us fear and let us love the living God.

And from a sincere heart let us love each other. Amen. *Paulinus of Aquileia*

ORGAN – *Three Impressions, Op. 72: No. 1, Harmonies du Soir*.....Sigfrid Karg-Elert

ANTHEM – "Northern Lights".....Ola Gjeilo
(b. 1978)

Pulchra es amica mea, saavis et decora filia Jerusalem, Pulchra es amica mea, saavis et decora sicut Jerusalem, terribilis ut castrorum acies ordinata. Averte oculos tuos a me quia ipsi me avolare fecerunt.

Thou art beautiful, O my love, sweet and beautiful daughter of Jerusalem, Thou art beautiful, O my love, sweet and comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army set in array. Turn away thy eyes from me, for they have made me flee away. *the Latin Pulchra Es text from Song of Solomon*

READING – John 1:1-18

ORGAN – *Le Banquet Céleste (Heavenly Feast)*.....Olivier Messiaen
(1908-1992)

“Celui qui mange ma chair et boit mon sang demeure en moi et moi en lui.”

“He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.”

after the evangelist St. John

ANTHEM – "O Gracious Light".....Frank Ferko
(b. 1950)

O Gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,

O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light,

We sing your praises, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Phos Hilaron, an ancient Christian hymn

READING –

"The Buddha's Last Instruction" by Mary Oliver with commentary by Parker J. Palmer

ORGAN – *Three New Impressions, Op. 108: No. 2, Starlight*.....Sigfrid Karg-Elert

ANTHEM – "The Blue Bird".....Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924)

The lake lay blue below the hill
O'er it, as I looked, there flew
Across the waters, cold and still
A bird whose wings were palest blue

The sky above was blue at last
The sky beneath me blue in blue
A moment, ere the bird had passed
It caught his image as he flew

Mary E. Coleridge

ORGAN – *L'orgue mystique: Cycle de Noel, Op. 55*.....Charles Tournemire
V. Fantaisie (Epiphany Sunday) (1870-1939)

God's Blessings Through Color and Light
52ND ANNUAL RELIGIOUS ARTS FESTIVAL

January 29 - February 5, 2023

Sunday, January 29 • 4 p.m. • Sanctuary

Service of Light

Service of music and reflective readings with organist Stefan Engels and IPC Choir

Monday, January 30 • 11 a.m. • Great Hall

***"A Window to Our Past - The Stained Glass Windows of Independent
Presbyterian Church"***

Lecture with Kevin Grabowski, a stained glass expert and artisan from Conrad Schmitt Studios, WI
\$10 / The deadline to reserve a lunch has already passed, but the lecture is free

Tuesday, January 31 • 7 p.m. • Great Hall

"What is the big deal about Tiffany?"

Kevin Grabowski explores the legacy and works of Louis Comfort Tiffany (Of "Tiffany lamp" fame)

Thursday, February 2 • 6:30 p.m. • Great Hall

"Where Would Jesus Sit? A Theology of Bricks and Mortar"

Festival Banquet and Program

The Rev. Jennifer Deaton of Mississippi explores how spaces affect prayer and vice versa

\$25 / Please make reservations by today, January 29

RSVP online at ipcmusic.org

Friday, February 3 • 7 p.m. • Sanctuary

Orlando Consort

The Orlando Consort performs favorite pieces during their farewell tour

Sunday, February 5 • 4 p.m. • Sanctuary

A Festival Service with Choirs and Brass

featuring the music of William Bradley Roberts

Composer William Bradley Roberts conducts several local church choirs with brass



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About the Performers



STEFAN ENGELS was appointed professor of organ and Leah Fullinwider Centennial Chair in Music Performance at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, in 2014, where he is also head of the organ department at the Meadows School of the Arts. The position is the first endowed Centennial Chair in Meadows, made possible by a gift from Sarah and Ross Perot, Jr., in honor of Sarah's mother, Mrs. Leah Fullinwider.

Engels joined SMU from one of Europe's oldest and most prestigious musical institutions, the University of Music and Performing Arts "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" in Leipzig, Germany, where he had served as professor of organ from 2005 until 2015. Prior to that he was associate professor of organ and chair of the organ department at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ, from 1999 to 2005.

During his appointment in Leipzig, Engels shaped the university's Organ and Church Music Institute into a center for organ performance and organ pedagogy of international acclaim. He also founded and served as artistic director of the European Organ Academy Leipzig, which attracts faculty and students from around the world. Furthermore, as an advocate and specialist for the music of the late-Romantic German composer Sigfrid Karg-Elert, he founded the Karg-Elert Festival in Leipzig, demonstrating and discovering the unique works of this Leipzig composer.

From 2006 until 2012 Engels was artistic director of the Jordan International Organ Competition based at Columbus State University in Columbus, GA. As a juror, he is in frequent demand at international organ competitions such as the Mendelssohn Competition, the Bach Competition and the Deutscher Musikwettbewerb, all in Germany, as well as the St. Albans International Organ Festival, the Canadian International Organ Competition and the Miami International Organ Competition.

Engels maintains a vigorous international concert schedule and is a sought-after teacher, having presented lectures and master classes across Europe, North America, South Korea and Russia. Recital engagements have included Smetana Hall in Prague, St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Victoria Hall in Geneva, the Berlin Philharmonic, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Moscow Cathedral, KKL in Luzern, Gewandhaus Leipzig, Torch Centre in Seoul, St. Augustine in Vienna, Chartres Cathedral, Hallgrímskirkja Reykjavik, Sydney Cathedral, St. Jakobi Lübeck, St. Michaels Hamburg, Harvard University, the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, King's College Cambridge, Spivey Hall in Atlanta, Balboa Park in San Diego and the Cadet Chapel of West Point. He was a featured recitalist at the 2006 national AGO convention in Chicago and at three regional AGO conventions in 2017.

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Engels has recorded two highly acclaimed CDs with works by Marcel Dupré on the Naxos label, and one with works of Karg-Elert, Reger, Messiaen and Germani on the Priory label as part of their Great European Organ Series. His specialization in the organ works of Sigfrid Karg-Elert has resulted in the world premiere recording of the complete organ works of Karg-Elert, also on the Priory label. This recording project came to its completion in 2017 with 15 CDs, which have been reviewed to the highest international critical acclaim: "... this series will surely stand as the greatest project the gramophone has achieved in organ music for very many years ..." (Choir & Organ); "... fantastic volumes of some of the most creative and complex organ music ever written has been released by Priory in this groundbreaking series of Karg-Elert's complete organ works – much of it unrecorded ... Engels has the measure of both music and instrument – there is much to marvel at here ..." (prestoclassical.co.uk) "Engels is a player of exceptional talent and in his hands Karg-Elert receives as sympathetic an advocacy as one could ever imagine ..." (International Record Guide) "Stefan Engels' performance is superlative ..." (Organists Review) "Engels delivers interpretations that may never be bettered ... A magnificent disc." (Gramophone)

Engels received his broad musical education in Germany and the United States. He studied organ, piano, harpsichord, choral conducting and church music at universities in Aachen, Düsseldorf and Cologne. From 1993 until 1998 he pursued further organ studies with Wolfgang Rübsam in Chicago and the late Robert Anderson in Dallas, receiving an Artist Certificate degree from SMU Meadows in 1995. He achieved his international breakthrough when he was awarded the "Concerto Gold Medal" at the 1998 Calgary International Organ Competition. Since then he has been represented by Karen McFarlane Artists Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio.

Although not by definition a professional group, **THE INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHOIR** strives to maintain professional attitudes and high musical standards. The repertoire consists of over 750 anthems and 50 major choral works. The members perform concerts with orchestra twice yearly and sing the Service of Evensong for a variety of seasons. In 1977, the choir took its first tour to The Netherlands, England, and Scotland. A second tour in 1981 included Belgium, Switzerland, France and Germany. The Dutch Immigration Society invited the choir to represent the U.S.A. in celebration of the Bicentennial of good relations between the two countries in 1982 by performing in many cities of Holland. In 1987 the choir returned to England and Scotland to sing in some of the most beautiful cathedrals and churches there. In 1990, the choir visited the most famous music centers of Austria and Germany. A tour to France in 1996 featured performances in Notre Dame and Chartres Cathedral. In 2004, the choir sang a one-week residency at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Edinburgh, Scotland, and in 2006 it toured to Italy, singing in churches and basilicas in Florence, Assisi and St. Peter's Rome. They sang in churches, castles and monasteries throughout Prague, Bratislava and Vienna in 2011. The year 2015 took them to Spain where they performed at the Basilica La Sagrada Familia, the Palau Musica Cantalana concert hall and the Basilica Sancta Maria del Mar in Barcelona, the Mosque-Cathedral of Cordoba, and the San Sebastian Church in Sevilla. The latest tour was to France in 2022 where they sang at the L'eglise de la Madeleine and the American Church in Paris, and the Chartres Cathedral. The choir is well represented on recordings with thirteen releases since 1965, most recently *The Lord is My Light* (2007) and *A Babe is Born* (2010) and *O Clap Your Hands* (2016).