

Sugar Hill Stake Choir Program - "The Good Shepherd."

Order of Music

Processional – Press Forward Saints

Section I

Praise to the Lord
Here I am, Lord

Section II

Morning Has Broken
For the Beauty of the Earth
Soft Rain
Who Will Buy (Women)
Simple Gifts (Women)

Section III

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee
I Need Thee Every Hour
The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Men)
Dear to the Heart of the Shepherd (Men)
In This Very Room

Section IV

No Man is an Island
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Section I

"For my soul delighteth in the song of the heart. Yea, the song of the righteous is a prayer unto me; and it shall be answered with a blessing upon their head."

Music is the sermon of the soul in each one of us. We draw closer to the Lord and feel his presence more through music than perhaps any other experience.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord and come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture."

"Green pastures are before me which yet I have not seen.
Bright Skies will soon be o'er me where darkest clouds have been.
My hope I cannot measure, my path in life is free.
My Father has my treasure and He will walk with me.

Wherever He may guide me, no want shall turn me back.
My Shepherd is beside me and nothing can I lack.
His Wisdom ever waketh, His sight is never dim.
He knows the way He taketh and I will walk with Him."

Join with us now as we celebrate through music and the spoken word our love for "The Good Shepherd."

Section II

"O world, I cannot hold thee close enough, thy wind, thy wide grey skies - - - Lord, I do fear Thou has made the world too beautiful this year." (Edna St. Vincent Millay)

In this lovely springtime season, this annual awakening when the world is renewed, blossoms and turns green and fresh again, we instinctively turn our thoughts to a rebirth of all that is hopeful. The Good Shepherd has created a world for us that runneth over with beauty. A place for our development and our opportunity to fulfill the measure of our creation and have joy therein. We need only to look around us to appreciate the handiwork of The Good Shepherd, to claim its beauty for our own. From the dawn of each new day to the soft rain of a Spring morning, we are blessed with simple gifts that enrich our lives and leave no doubt in our minds as to the love the Lord has for us. He has entrusted this beautiful world in our keeping.

Section III

The Savior said his doctrines would be recognized by His sheep; that we would know His voice, that we would follow Him. We do not, therefore, follow strangers. Deep within us, His doctrines do strike the promised chord of familiarity and underscore our true identity. Our sense of belonging grows in spite of our sense of separateness, for His teachings stir our souls, awakening feelings within us that have somehow survived underneath the encrusting experiences of mortality.

We cannot teach The Good Shepherd anything but we can listen to Him, we can love Him, we can honor Him, we can worship Him and we can keep his commandments and feast upon His scriptures. We, who are so forgetful and even at times rebellious, are never forgotten by Him. We are his work and his glory and He is never distracted.

"Fear not, I am with thee, oh be not dismayed.
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.
I'll strengthen thee, help thee and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

Section IV

One of the most awe-inspiring sites in the world is the giant redwood forest in northern California encompassing trees that live to be over 2,000 years old and can reach heights of 300 feet, often weighing more than one million pounds. They reign over associated trees because of their impressive height and majestic beauty. However, a little known fact is that they have a very shallow root system and would not be able to withstand the elements if it were not for the fact that the roots from each tree reach out and intertwine with their brother and sister redwoods and other trees as well. They form a unique underground web, which holds them together. In short, they need one another in order to survive.

We mortals are not so different. There is a destiny that makes us brothers, none goes his way alone. All that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own. Perhaps this is one of the greatest lessons the Good Shepherd is trying to teach us – that we love one another as He loves us.

As we pledge ourselves to follow The Good Shepherd, our lives will change and we will come to realize that the living waters he offers will give us peace and joy. We will come to the glorious realization that we are never alone and can then appreciate the promise "I will not leave you comfortless" for "I am the Good Shepherd and know my sheep and am known of mine."