

SERIES I

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Sub-series A - Alphabetical File

Folder: 1389

Folder title: Temple, Music, 1952-1953

Folder code/number: 9-1-39



11-28-52

For Rabbi Silver: In re Community Thanksgiving Service

I put in a lot of work on this service with disappointing results. As these services will no doubt go on in this part of the town I am writing down here while it is still fresh my ideas on the subject in hopes that it may perhaps be of service next year to who ever has the same job, and also with the hope that more of a 'combined choir' can be secured, with the resulting improvement to the music.

I attach a sheet with the names of the choir directors of the churches involved. Every one of these was contacted by phone, and to make sure that all details would be covered a follow-up letter was sent. (copy attached) In spite of this and the details being of the simplest, only 13 singers from other churches came.

The Unitarian Society sent	5	
Euclid Avenue Cong	3	
Euclid Ave. Christian	5	13

The Church of the Master has moved up on the Heights, and the choirmaster reported trouble in securing volunteers

The Church of the Covenant had its own service on Thanksgiving Day and the choirmaster did not want to ask for attendance at two services

Calvary Presbyterian Church also had its own service and Dr.

Goodwin the director thought the same as Mr. Stofer.

Wade Park Methodist, and

Fidelity Baptist, made no promises, nor did I hear anything further from them after my initial contact by phone.

As The Temple has peculiar advantages for a combined choir service from the size of its choir gallery, the fact that attending choirs do not have to robe, they do not have to march in procession always a difficult thing to arrange for a mixed number, the choirs can be seated in plain view of the organist so that the best possible results can be gotten from strangers, we have in the Chapel a fine place to rehearse, etc., etc., all of these made me hope for better results that were had from the lack of interest on the part of some of the participating groups.

As stated at the start of this note, this is written in the hopes that it may be of value to next year's combined service, and I shall be only too glad to do what I can to further help the choir director who had next year's job.

A.R.W.

Choir letter attached

Choir director list attached

Program

The Neighborhood Thanksgiving Service
1952

8:00
TIME - 8:15 Wednesday Evening, November 26, 1952
PLACE - The Temple - Rabbi Silver - 105 and Ansel Road

Suggestions for the assisting Choirs.

No less than nine Religious Groups are joining in this service, and it is plain that if all sent their full choirs, there would not be room in The Temple Choir gallery to hold so many singers. So it is suggested that those wishing to co-operate, send but six to eight singers, each. And also that there should be some attempt at a balance between the high and the low voices. Do not send all soprano's or all basses, but one or two of each voice. The Combined Choirs will be expected to lead the hymn singing and to sing one Choir number. This will be Kremser's - "A Prayer of Thanksgiving" - Netherlands Folk Song, Schermer Edition. This is in unison, except for a line of harmony at the ending climax. Each group should bring their own copies, and it is suggested that each group have some one person to give out and return its own music.

7:30
IMPORTANT - Short, but necessary rehearsal Wednesday evening before the service at 7:45. Singers are asked to come in by the Ansel Road side door of The Temple, and to go straight down the hall to the chapel. As the Temple choir sings behind a screen at all times, no choir robes will be necessary, and street clothes will be alright.

A representative and balanced turn-out of singers is hoped for.

A. R. Willard

Organist and Choir-master
The Temple

AR:rg

*This letter was sent, supplementing
my phone calls.*

-:- Community Thanksgiving Service -:-

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1952, 8:00 O'CLOCK P. M.

Organ Prelude

The Reading of the Thanksgiving Proclamation
of the President of the United States

The Rev. Walter F. MacGowan

The Call to Worship and Invocation *The Rev. Jesse L. Cavileer*

Hymn 263 "God of Our Fathers Whose Almighty Hand"

Responsive Reading - Page 500 Union Hymnal

Rabbi Earl S. Stone

Anthem—A Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Kremser*) Combined Choirs

Reading from the Scripture, Psalm 16 *The Rev. William H. Dudley*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Rev. John B. Olds

Thanksgiving Offering

The Rev. Robert C. Newell

Offertory—"From Thee, O Lord"

(*Haydn*)

Trio

Address: "The Sources of America's Greatness"

The Rev. Harry B. Taylor

Hymn 262 "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

Benediction

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

Organ Postlude

NOTES

Statement about the offering: The proceeds of the offering will be shared by The Cleveland Community Chest and The National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Committee of Laymen: Aaron Mercer, Church of the Covenant; A. M. Luntz, The Temple; Clyde B. Aldridge, Wade Park Methodist Church; John Howland, Unitarian Society of Cleveland; Charles Auerbach, The Temple.

Organist and Choir Director: A. R. Willard, The Temple.

Sponsoring Institutions: Church of the Covenant, Church of the Master, Euclid Avenue Christian Church, Euclid Avenue Congregational Church, Fidelity Baptist Church, The Temple, Unitarian Society of Cleveland, Wade Park Methodist Church.

- ✓ Wade Park Methodist, Ce-1-1119
Mrs. H.L. Beerman, choir director
- No ans.* ✓ Church of the Master, ~~ga-1-6930~~ *ge-1-7928*
Mr. Hehr, Choir director *TU-5-2565*
- ✓ Euclid Avenue Christian Church, Ce-1-4388
Mrs. Wagner,
- ✓ Unitarian Society, Sw. 1-9226
Miss MacGibney
- ✓ Euclid Avenue Congregational Church, Ga. 1-2638
Mr. Vincent Percy
- ✓ Church of the Covenant, Ga. 1-0482
Mr. Robert Stofer
- ✓ Fidelity Baptist Church, Sw. ~~1-9779~~ *See 1-9779*
Mr. Handel Wadsworth
- ✓ Calvary Presbyterian Church, Lo-1-3379
Mrs. Gladys Goodwyn



String quartet

2 violins

1 viola

1 cello

two hour rehearsal

plus Sunday service

\$110.00

String trio

1 violin

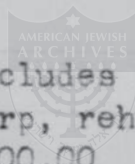
1 cello

1 harp

includes transportation of
harp, rehearsal and service

\$100.00

WRHS



- Silverbury

- ?

- We Bld also

Henry Brown vld



For Rabbi Silver:-

Notes for the service of January 25th

Many of the orchestra are unfamiliar with the service, they have music to arrange, and also are not in front of me so cannot be alerted as can the choir in case of last minute change. So I note the following, and would like to have it approved or changed in advance

Service #1 to be used.

Opening Psalm, Mah Tov, to be sung as usual when I have been notified that those in charge of the service have entered the platform.

Bor'chu, as usual

Sh'ma, and
Veehavtch, have been beautifully joined by Bloch, and I'd like to sing them as one, as was done at the Centennial service.

Michomocho, closed, no reading in this

Kedusha, closed, no reading in this

May the Words (in Hebrew) has an instrumental introduction

Hymn 54, verses 1-2-5. An understanding on this is important as the parts for the orchestra are written for 3 verses.

After the Scripture reading
Toras Adoncy, and Etz Chayim (possibly the best number in the service.

After the Address - Mr. Gingold

Vaanachnu - to be introduced as in the Friday Chapel services. At
cue "boruch hu" Bloch "Vaanachnu" follows

At end of service, choir Amen as usual, followed by
Bloch "Adon Olom"

The Service for Rabbi Silver, on Jan. 25th, 1953

For our records - The Bloch Service forces

The Choir.

Sopranos, Margaret Crays, soloist, Margaret Mazzolini, Jean Wilson,
Eleanor Diamond, Lydia Roberts, Martha Schrock, Gladys Fine

Altos, Ilona Strasser, soloist, Charlotte Bossinger, Marian Friend
Shirley Abrams, Frieda Schumacher, Mrs. Kaufman

Tenors, Anthony Fitch, soloist, Karl Driggs, Robt. Bossinger,
Charles Cammock, Roland Patzer. (C. Williams out on
account of sudden operation of wife.

Basses, Melvin Hakola, soloist, Thomas Stinchcomb, David Berger,
Sidney Kaufman, David Hershberger, Neil Davis

The Orchestra

Violins - Ben Silverberg, Joseph Knitzer, Fred Rosenberg,
Jack Pollack, Sam Salkin

Violas - Fred Funkhauser, Tom Brenand

Cellos - Harry Fuchs, Charles McBride

Bass - Jacques Posell, Olin Trogdon

Harp - Alice Chalifoux

Flute - Maurice Sharp

Oboe - Harvey McGuire

Clarinet - Alfred Zetzer

Bassoon - Marcello Bucci

French Horn - Martin Morris



APW

Temple B'rith Kodesh

117 GIBBS STREET
Rochester 5, N. Y.

THE RABBI'S STUDY

July 3, 1953

Dear Colleague

Heinrich Schalit as you know is an outstanding composer of Jewish religious music. His compositions are being sung in congregations throughout the country and are in the repertoire of a number of reknowned concert soloists. Mr. Schalit conducted the music at the recent CCAR sessions at Estes Park, and made a profound impression.

When I talked with him at the Conference, Mr. Schalit suggested a plan in which I think you might be interested. He is prepared to visit a few congregations for a Friday ~~service~~ service devoted largely to Jewish music, with some special emphasis on Schalit's compositions. He would arrive for example in your congregation on Wednesday or Thursday, meet with your choir for rehearsals and then at the service he would play the organ and conduct the choir if necessary. He will be glad to advise your choir director about available Jewish music.

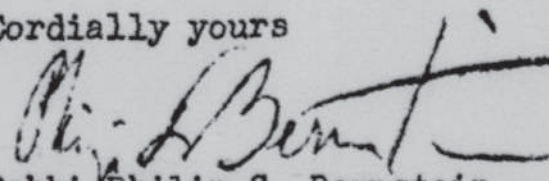
Such a program could be arranged during Jewish Music Month or earlier in the season if desired. Mr. Schalit's fee would be \$100 plus shared expenses. The latter would include his hotel expenses while in your city, and the railroad fare from the preceding place where he will have performed. Considering Mr. Schalit's international reknown, the beauty and meaning of the program he will present, this strikes me as a modest arrangement indeed. Herbert Friedman brought him to Milwaukee especially for such a program which deeply moved that community. I am enclosing Herbert's comments.

If you are interested in such a program, write directly to:

Heinrich Schalit
1067 Steele Street
Denver, Colorado

With best wishes for a pleasant summer.

Cordially yours


Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

PSB:js

REMARKS MADE BY RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN
Temple Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun
2419 East Kenwood Blvd.
Milwaukee 11, Wisconsin

Schalit came to our congregation in Milwaukee for a great concert on Friday evening, November 21, 1952. There was a huge congregation to greet him and everyone had an air of expectancy. Schalit himself came to the pulpit to explain in a few words the background of the organ fantasy "The Eternal Light" which he had written and dedicated to our congregation.

The people caught the flavor of his personality and then waited while he ascended to the organ loft to play this piece. The local morning newspaper "The Milwaukee Sentinel", had quite a review of the concert and offered this line about "The Eternal Light": "The fantasy is a lovely composition which combines much delicacy with deep religious feeling."

Schalit played this same program at a Friday evening service at the Temple in Denver a few months later, on February 20, 1953, and the Denver Post had this to say about the organ fantasy: "A work of more spiritual qualities than descriptive notes in the program suggested, this meditative work reaches a stirring climax, yet never loses its serenity." JEWISH
ARCHIVES

In addition to the organ fantasy, the program at both the Milwaukee and Denver concerts included a rendition of Seven Sacred Songs which Schalit had written. These songs were sung by various members of the choir and the Cantor, with Schalit himself accompanying at the organ.

The Kedusha, which completed the program, was, in my judgment, the most outstanding selection of the evening. It was moving, soul stirring, exciting, and caught the flavor of the tremendous concept of holiness which Isaiah was trying to express.

All in all, it was a tremendously valuable experience for the entire congregation, for everyone realized that he was listening to one of the great composers of the day and all had the feeling that Schalit's music was destined to become most widely accepted in American synagogue usage. Some found the music rather difficult to understand, but they appreciated the fact that there was genuine creativity based upon traditional Jewish motif. The Sisterhood and the Men's Club, which had undertaken the project jointly, were thrilled at the excellent reception and felt that they had made a very valuable contribution to the cultural life of the congregation and the community as a whole.