



Wednesday, April 9, 2025

12:30pm

Greer Lyle, soprano

Jo Deen Blaine Davis, organ/piano

Welcome, Scriptures, and Prayer

Prayer David Guion

The Crucifixion Samuel Barber

How Can I Keep From Singing? Sally DeFord and James Loynes

Be Thou My Vision Bob Chilcott

Were You There? Harry T Burleigh

Agnus Dei Bizet

Teach my Heart to See Shail  Elder Claypool

Gethsemane Linda Chapman

Benediction

Postlude: Give me Jesus Moses Hogan

Greer Lyle is an American soprano whose artistry is blooming in the opera world today, being noted for her ability to “combine brilliance with subtle nuance.” (Rutland Herald) Ms. Lyle made her professional debut in 2018 as a Gerdine Young Artist with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis. Once there, she earned the Gaddes Career Award and invitation to return as a Gerdine Young Artist in 2019. In spring of 2021, Ms. Lyle competed at the semifinalist level for Metropolitan Opera's Laffont Competition. Greer is a graduate of the Yale School of Music, where she attended on full scholarship, receiving a Certificate in Performance in May 2022. Ms. Lyle's recent opera performances include Fiordiligi in Mozart's *Così fan tutte* and Flora in Verdi's *La traviata* at Opera North where she joined the company as a resident artist for their 2022 season. Ms. Lyle's ambitions often bring her to projects outside of the operatic sphere. Her concert works include Wayne Oquin's work, *In Dreams Awake* with Chamber Music Amarillo, Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Yale Symphony, Vilette's *Messe da Pacem* with the Yale Camerata, and selections from *Rusalka* and *Le Nozze di Figaro* with the St. Louis Symphony. This September, Greer will join the Hamptons Festival of Music Orchestra to sing Berlioz's *Nuits d'été*. Greer is passionate about not only her solo musical pursuits, but youth music, education, and ministry. Ms. Lyle has a teaching studio of over 40 children in New York City and serves our church as Director of Children's Music Ministry and Youth Worship Arts. To best balance and grow in these pursuits, Ms. Lyle is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Liberal Arts with a concentration in business administration and management at the Harvard Extension School.

Dr. Jo Deen (Jody) Blaine Davis, organ and piano, was the Director of Music Ministries at the Congregational Church of New Canaan from August 2005 to December 2023. She now holds the title of Director of Music Ministries Emerita. An enthusiast of church music, she has served on the board of the National United Church of Christ Musicians Association. Jody has been guest organist at the national United Church of Christ Synods in Baltimore and Milwaukee, playing for plenaries and all worship services. She holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in organ performance from Eastman School of Music and a Doctor of Musical Arts in organ performance from the University of Kansas.

You Are Invited

Sunday, April 13 at 10:00am - Palm Sunday service with Children's and Chancel Choirs

Wednesday, April 16 at 12:30pm- Lenten Musical Moments featuring Anne Maguire

Thursday, April 17 at 8:00pm- Maundy Thursday service with Chancel Choir

Sunday, April 20 at 9:00 and 11:00am services- Easter Day with Chancel Choir, guest instrumentalists and organ. There will be a 15-minute prelude before each service.

For more information, please contact music@godsacre.org or 203/966-2651 #104