MAGA/ZINE

Issue 21: December 2021





DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

Year after year, the snow globe sits there; holding everything it needs inside the glass, waiting to be shaken and admired. We shake it vigorously until the snow goes flying around, but then it eventually settles. I don't know about you, but I certainly felt like our Christmas was shaken up last year. It felt like everything was flying around. We didn't have the opportunity to engage with the community or our church family in familiar ways that have become tradition.

Over the last few months, rehearsals and events have started again and I find myself filled with a renewed sense of enthusiasm for the gift of music ministry. Every step of the way, there have been restrictions to juggle and interpret, but the way in which our groups have made it work and push through has been amazing. I see youth bands returning from a long break, eager to play together and participate in parades. I see concerts being planned, and groups gathering to play carols on the kettles to raise money for the work of The Salvation Army. I see songs that can help our congregations engage, whether it be through corporate worship or through choral presentation. I see dramatic Scripture readings that help our minds travel to a new place in the Word.

But what does Christ see in this flurry of activity? Young people gathering in His name? Music groups playing and singing in His name? Congregations singing in His name? Scripture being shared in His name? Everything we do in ministry is in His name.

Lastly, you might also see that there are those who are missing from action. Do we need to reconnect with them? Can we reach out to encourage them? Do we need to pray for them?

This has been a time where there have been so many changes in our lives. Shaken up, you might say. Some priorities have shifted or moved people to new places. There is still opportunity to renew our commitment to ministry. Let us share the love and joy in which we serve others so that they may discover it themselves.

CANADA

BERMUDA

MUSIC AND GOSPEL ARTS

IN THIS ISSUE:

- NEW CHORAL MUSIC
- SANTA CLAUS PARADE
- 5 SONGS FOR ADVENT PLUS MORE

MAGAZINE - ISSUE 21 - DECEMBER 2021 EDITOR: MARCUS VENABLES ADDITIONAL EDITING: CRAIG LEWIS, RACHEL EWING PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY: THE SALVATION ARMY MUSIC AND GOSPEL ARTS DEPARTMENT, CANADA AND BERMUDA TERRITORY.

DRUMBEAT OF HEALING



Introducing the Indigenous Artist Series By Major Shari Russell Territorial Indigenous Ministries Consultant

The gift of music spans many genres, languages, cultures and even faith expressions. As Indigenous peoples, the call of the drum reminds us of the mother's heartbeat and speaks to us not only of comfort and reassurance, but also of family, community, celebration, prayer, and our relationship with Creator and creation. For many decades, our songs, drums, dances, and ceremonies were forbidden and outlawed. Despite this, our songs remained and today are being sung using our traditional instruments such as flutes, rattles and even the drum.

To begin this musical series, we have Jonathan Maracle, a Mohawk musician from Tyendinaga and the founder of the music group Broken Walls. Broken Walls was founded in 1995 after Jonathan sang at the Sacred Assembly. This Sacred Assembly was a gathering of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people called by Elijah Harper in Ottawa/Hull. As various First Nations speakers shared, they spoke about the walls that had been built between First Nations people and the newcomers to this land. As Jonathan listened to the need for those walls to be broken, the words of a song came to him, which he titled *Broken Walls*, and on the spot, he performed it on the drum.

When the drum beats. it resonates beyond your body. It becomes the heartbeat of Creation as it was meant to be. To sing with it is to offer a blessing to all that is and to receive blessings back. That's why drums echo. Put your hand on your chest. Close your eyes. Feel the drum in your chest. Sing with it and blessings become your breath, indrawn and expelled, emptying and filling, all the world at once...

Richard Wagamese in Embers: One Ojibway's Meditations

These videos will be available for download here: https://salvationist.ca/musicgospel-arts/online-serviceresources/indigenous-artistseries/

In the past few years at the Celebration of Culture held at Pine Lake Camp in the month of August, we have been blessed by various Indigenous music artists who have shared with us. It has been a rich and Spirit-filled time as Indigenous artists, such as Jonathan Maracle, have shared with us in story and song. In this series you may catch a glimpse of the blessings we have already received. There will be songs and stories about our history, our cultures, our resilience, our faith in God our Creator, and His immense love for all creation. There will be stories and songs about healing, reconciliation, and hope for our future as we walk in right relations with one another. We invite you to use these songs and stories with your congregations – not only on special focused Sundays, but also throughout the year. You may use them as a call to worship or for a prayer focus, or maybe even a round dance. It is our prayer they will be used to encourage conversations, to facilitate learning, and to enrich our worship experience.

NEW PUBLICATION REVIEW BY CRAIG WOODLAND (SONGSTER LEADER, LONDON CITADEL)

A challenge for today's Salvation Army songster brigades and choral groups is finding repertoire that is suitable and adaptable for their ever-changing needs. Salvation Worship is a new publication that was recently released by the Music and Gospel Arts Department of the Canada and Bermuda Territory. It provides a new source of repertoire and other resources that can be used effectively by a wide variety of choral groups.

The focus for this publication is to provide useful resources for the worship team. Lead sheets, chord charts, piano accompaniments, and brass parts are all available for free download. While the main focus is the worship team, the inclusion of choral parts allows for traditional choral groups and songster brigades to also make effective use of the music, either as stand-alone selections or as presentations in combination with a worship team. Perhaps the most attractive feature of this publication for the choral group is the variety of voicing options that are available for each selection. Choral parts are available in 4-part, 3-part, and 2-part voice settings. This allows for groups of varying size, voice complement, and ability to easily access the music. This flexibility will appeal to many songster brigades and choral groups whose membership and voice complement may frequently change from year to year or vary on a weekly basis. Recordings are also available for download which is another useful feature of this publication series. Performance demonstrations are available for each song which can be useful for conductors who want to preview the music to see if it is suitable for their group. These can



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also be a useful tool to facilitate learning and rehearsing the music for performance. Accompaniment tracks are available which can be used both in performance and/or in rehearsal. These tracks make selections accessible for those groups that lack a regular, competent accompanist, or for use on those occasions when an accompanist is unavailable for performance.

Song lyrics are provided in a single page Word document. This is helpful for an audio/visual team that prepares slides to be displayed in support of the selection. The prepared document can be shown as is, or the lyrics can easily be cut and pasted into another format for projection on screen. In addition, there are lyric videos provided that can be used as a visual aid to enhance the presentation of a song. Alongside these musical resources, there are also accompanying devotional materials which can be easily downloaded. Prepared devotions as well as Scripture references are provided for each song. These materials can be used in both a worship service and a rehearsal setting to enhance the message of the song.

Salvation Worship is on course to be an invaluable resource for every Salvation Army vocal ensemble. I encourage you to explore this new online publication and see what materials are suitable for your group. Regardless of the make up of your group, you are sure to find repertoire resources that are practical and adaptable for the needs of your group.

www.salvationworship.com

WATCH UNA VOCE SING LET THE BEAUTY OF JESUS







VIRTUAL SANTA CLAUS PARADE

BY MARCUS VENABLES

Reunited at last! For the first time since the formation of the Ontario Division, the two regional youth bands gathered for a parade rehearsal on October 30th. Over the years, Impact Brass (West) and Solidarity Brass (East) have had many concerts and events together. This day was particularly memorable because it was the first time the groups have gathered since the start of the pandemic. After moments of greeting one another and sharing in fellowship, the rehearsal began for the upcoming Santa Claus Parade filming with the upbeat Christmas piece

Comfort and Joy. While many of the youngsters have had a wide range of practice routines over the last 20 months, the first read through of this arrangement displayed the true joy and enthusiasm that making music brings. Myles Washington-Purser helped keep everyone on track rhythmically with some stellar kit playing, and Phil Rayment led the massed band in refining the finer details. Once the lines for each row were set and a few words were shared from the parade officials, the rehearsal was complete. Fast forward a few weeks and everyone is back at the parking lot of Wonderland for the filming. Just like last year, the parade was filmed at the beautiful Winterfest at Canada's Wonderland. New jackets and hats were handed out by the Ontario Public Relations Department while everyone quickly lined up and made their way to the entrance. After showing proof of double vaccination, the band and timbrels took their places in front of TV cameras and lights alongside Salvation Army flags and divisional leaders Lt-Colonels Shawn and Brenda Critch. One take and the event was over! Be sure to watch CTV on December 4th at 7:00PM to see The Salvation Army lift the name of Jesus through music and proclaim the message that "Christ was born on Christmas Day."





I love Christmas songs! The joy and hope found in the songs we sing during Advent can be infectious. It isn't always easy to keep everyone happy when it comes to Christmas music. Some people love to hear a particular song played the same way every year as it is a marker in their faith calendar. Others tune out when hearing the same old carols and find that it loses meaning. Personally, I love it when we find a way to add meaning to well-known songs by introducing a new melody or additional lyrics. It honours the traditional while keeping it fresh and new in our worship. Here are five songs that you could use with your congregation that will give you some variety this Advent season.

1

HARK BY TRANSMISSION

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing is one of the most played carols at Christmas time. It is a bright and upbeat song that everyone knows. Take that excitement and brightness up a notch with this version from transMission that adds a chorus to the traditional melody.

The added chorus can be learned quite easily. Play it a few times so people get a sense of it before moving to the familiar verses. This song is written in the key of G, but the key of F might be more comfortable for congregational singing. Charts are available for free from their website.

http://www.ussmusicandarts.org/tmcharts

https://open.spotify.com/track/63nkFjXVT4 WA7WwXPANc5b?si=8bfbdb00d1604afb https://music.apple.com/us/album/hark/13 20705251?i=1320705284

JOY TO THE WORLD (UNSPEAKABLE JOY) BY CHRIS TOMLIN

Another Christmas favourite which uses the original melody and an added chorus. The lyrics of the chorus speak to the joy we have living this side of Christmas, Easter, and the Resurrection to see the plan God was putting in place for us. Like many other Chris Tomlin songs, this song uses a wide range in the melody. There is a key change that you could use or leave out and continue the third verse and chorus in the original key. I would use the key of G or A for congregational singing which is a little bit low for the traditional carol but makes singing the chorus much easier and not too high. You can find this chart on CCLI Song Select and Praise Charts.

https://open.spotify.com/track/1lK4SFE2T MeqEziR3TURFO?si=11a10c800f804241 https://music.apple.com/us/album/joy-tothe-world-unspeakable-joylive/1440857100?i=1440857264

3

EMMANUEL BY LOVE AND THE OUTCOME

This original song can be played at an upbeat tempo. I love the line in the chorus that says, "Our God has come close" which speaks of Christ coming to earth and God's love setting us free. The line that says, "The world needs to know, this good news we have to tell. Emmanuel" makes this not just a nice song about Christmas but speaks of how we need to share the message of Christmas with those around us.



The melody is easy to follow but the range of the melodic line is quite wide. I would suggest playing it in the key of B-flat or A if you plan to use this with your congregation. Depending on the instrumentation of your team, there are a lot of fun things you could do with this song. You can find the chart on CCLI Song Select.

https://open.spotify.com/track/7ao5flRwid 6YyF9MAvTm1V?si=8b57efb0f14e477b https://music.apple.com/us/album/emmanu el/1163083872?i=1163083891

AS WITH GLADNESS BY TRANSMISSION

4

This song uses a new melody and adds a wonderful chorus. The chorus is what initially attracted me to this song, encapsulating the story of the verses that says, "So most gracious Lord, lead us evermore to your mercy seat, surrender at Your feet. All our treasures bring to Christ our King and sing hallelujah." This chorus takes us from the warm and fuzzy feelings of Christmas to a place where we can consider our response to the gift of Christ who came to earth to save us.

The 6/8 lilt of the song will help everyone to learn the melody quickly, but don't push the tempo too much or it becomes too tricky to fit in the words during the chorus. The song is written in F-sharp major which is available for free on the transMission website. You may want to move the key down to F to make it easier for use with your team.

https://open.spotify.com/track/0Kseh5jmG w0Jqdfq2h4IBr?si=ba0561787dda428b https://music.apple.com/us/album/as-withgladness/1320705251?i=1320705280

5 HE SHALL REIGN FOREVERMORE BY CHRIS TOMLIN

This original Christmas song hints to *In the Bleak Midwinter* through some of the lyrics but uses an original melody. This would fit into the style of a Christmas anthem for your congregation. The main refrain, echoed throughout the song says, "He shall reign forevermore." This is a confident cry that the congregation can proclaim to the world after the sentiment of the verses which recognized where our world was without Christ, and the sovereignty of His reign over our world and in our lives.

This song relies heavily on syncopated rhythms so make sure that your singers are comfortable. You want to avoid making the song sound more difficult than it is and ensure it doesn't seem laborious to sing. I suggest using this song in the key of F. Sheet music is available on CCLI Song Select and Praise Charts.

https://open.spotify.com/track/039SqZzGT MObPw0o3ghXRI?si=85cd131ec2df4fe3 https://music.apple.com/us/album/he-shallreign-forevermore-live/1440827258? i=1440827561



AN EASY WAY TO HOST A CAROL SING WITH JUST THE CLICK OF A BUTTON





MINISTRY MONOLOGUES

BY WENDY WOODLAND

In a dramatic work, a monologue gives a character the opportunity to share previous events, their inmost thoughts, and their hidden feelings; it's a time of reflection. These moments of solitude allow the listener to connect with the character, feel their pain, laugh with them, or be inspired by their situation. In a worship service, a sermon is very similar to a monologue. It's a message using biblical truths, given to inspire and provoke thought amongst the congregants.

THE CHOICE | THE DRINK | THE SERVER

When we think about the Bible and its many varied characters and stories, it can be a powerful tool in ministry to bring them to life so people can hear their message. Many of these characters had life-changing experiences, and as Christians, they have influenced life as we know it. We can only fill in the blanks on what their feelings in the moment might have been based on what Scripture tells us. This information was the inspiration for a new series entitled Ministry Monologues. Each monologue is an interpretive perspective of the characters we often hear very little from such as the Samaritan woman at the well, Martha, Haggar etc.

The Ministry Monologues are short items to be used to support the sermon or theme of a service. The biblical characters have been modernized to reflect current circumstances in which people may find themselves and life as we know it today. Connecting to a character in a tangible way can help with introspection on the part of the viewer and listener.



MINISTRY MONOLOGUES CONTINUED...

Each monologue should be well prepared and presented, and to be most effective, should occur in a service without introduction. Treat the presentation as an act of worship that is integral to the meeting rather than a performance. Each script has a list of supporting scripture references and thematic song choices so that the theme can truly be the focus within the service or devotional time. There are many possibilities for placement of the monologue within a service – before, after, or during a sermon followed by a supporting song; after a scripture reading; between two worship songs etc.

Currently, there are three scripts available on the drama resource page of our website. Video productions of each script will be provided in the future. These downloadable videos will make use of the resource a possibility if finding a suitable actor is a challenge. New scripts will be added on occasion so be sure to visit the drama page regularly for updates.

AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT: <u>HTTPS://SALVATIONIST.CA/SAMAGACB</u> /DRAMA/MINISTRY-MONOLOGUES/

HAVE YOU DONE SOME CREATIVE WRITING OF YOUR OWN? IF YOU, OR A GROUP FROM YOUR CORPS, HAVE CREATED DRAMATIC ARTS MINISTRY ITEMS THAT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR WORK SO IT CAN BE REVIEWED AND SHARED.

<u>HTTPS://SALVATIONIST.CA/SAMAGACB/DRAM</u> <u>A/SUBMIT-YOUR-SCRIPT/</u>



WELCOME BACK

BY KATHERINE DIBBON

In March of 2020, Newfound Brass was on a high. We were ready for our major fundraiser with the Spirit of Newfoundland. In fact, the cancellation of that fundraiser is my mental bookmark for the start of the pandemic. We were in the heights of our preparations for the Voit-See Youth Congress in Montreal. It felt like we had so much to look forward to, and as we have all learned throughout this pandemic, the things and people that make you happy are not guaranteed. On March 14, we had to hit the pause button.

The pandemic had taken away our performances, practices, and fun that we had together as a group. However, it also proved to be a key time for growth and reflection so that we could build back better in a postpandemic world. On October 2, 2021, after 20 months of being apart from each other, we were back together and doing exactly what we loved. We all know the power of music and for many, Newfound Brass facilitates this musical connection.





Despite meeting online for check-in sessions, nothing compares to the energy that was felt in the room during our first rehearsal where we played our first B-flat major scale together and played through *Christmas Joy* for the first time since we had marched in the Toronto Santa Claus Parade two years earlier. Although not as large or magical, we are excited to be marching in the St. John's Christmas Parade at the end of November.

For all of us, COVID-19 has presented challenges. It is important to remind ourselves that our message and passion have remained the same; the only change was the mechanism by which we do our work.

As a chemistry major, I spend my days in the lab wondering what the results of my research will be, but my Saturday mornings take on a new twist as I engage in an activity that I know the results of - it always enhances my understanding of the complexity of the human spirit and the impact music has on it. Newfound Brass is a special group where we foster passion, musicality, and friendships. It feels some good to be back!

WELCOME BACK CONTINUED...













On November 18, The Salvation Army Ontario Division launched the annual kettle campaign with excitement at the historic Distillery Winter Village in Toronto's Distillery District.

Complete with a performance stage, kettles with TipTap, and a visual draw for the crowds walking by, as well as the largest Salvation Army Christmas Kettle in the world – standing at a whopping 35 feet high.

The event also included brief words of welcome from Mayor John Tory, Chris Greenfield of TipTap, Lt-Colonel Shawn Critch, as well as a carol sing accompanied by the brass ensemble coordinated by the Music and Gospel Arts Department. The kettle and stage as well as many music groups will be there all season. The Salvation Army's presence in one of the most popular spots in the city is huge. Be sure to check it out!

IS YOUR GROUP INTERESTED?

It's not too late to sign up for a carolling slot at the Distillery District. For more information, contact the Ontario PRD: <u>ON.Events@SalvationArmy.ca</u>



Maple Leaf Bras

Recent Maple Leaf Brass titles

No. 97 Song Arrangement No. 98 Festival Arrangement Make No Delay No. 99 Prelude No. 100 Song Arrangement

Arise Triumph Evermore To Answer Thee

[Philip Rayment] (Ryan Broughton) (Marcus Venables) (Rachel Ewing)

https://salvationist.ca/music-gospel-arts/publications/maple-leaf-brass

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS

Feel free to send us your ideas, articles, videos, posters and pictures. This newsletter is meant to cover all music ministry types from across the territory, and we need your help to reach every corner. Forward any information to Marcus.Venables@salvationarmy.ca and we'll do our best to put you in our next issue!



ROY THOMSON HALL SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11 AT 7:30 PM ET TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT ROYTHOMSONHALL.COM | 416-872-4255 VISIT SALVATIONIST.CA/CHRISTMAS FOR MORE DETAILS

SPECIAL GUESTS: Kathryn & Kyle Higgins

FEATURING: Canadian Staff Band, Bandmaster John Lam Canadian Staff Songsters, Songster Leader Major Len Ballantine