

Shabbat Zimrah: A Service Featuring Chavrai Zamir
The Congregational Choir of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim
Alan Levine, Director
Friday, November 17, 2023

Order of Choral Music and Notes

Shiru L'Adonai (p. 344/648),

“Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord, all the earth.” These are the beautiful opening lines of the 96th Psalm. The Psalm calls to praise God in music and dance. Some scholars believe this psalm was composed by [David](#) when he brought the [Ark of the Covenant](#) up to Jerusalem. This lively version was composed by David Neches.

Shalom Aleichem (p. 24, 142)

Shalom Aleichem means peace be upon you. It is a traditional song that was often sung by Jews on Friday nights upon returning home from synagogue prayer. It signals the arrival of the Jewish Sabbath, welcoming the [angels](#) who, according to the Talmud, accompany a person home on the eve of the Sabbath. It has been part of this Congregation’s liturgy for many decades. You may recognize the melody, composed by Samuel and Israel Goldfarb, but the choral arrangement by Gil Aldema, and edited by J. Mark Dunn, is worth listening to.

Sh'ma (p. 34/152)

This choral version of the Sh'ma was composed and arranged by our own Alan Levine, Director of Chavrai Zamir, as part of the “Pop Shabbat” service the choir has presented in the past.

Hashkiveinu (p. 42, 160)

“Grant O God, that we shall lie down in peace, and raise us up, to life renewed.” This is one of two new compositions by Alan that the choir will sing tonight.

L'dor Vador (p. 130/248)

This oft-used phrase in Judaism, which means “from generation to generation,” is part of the K'dushah prayer chanted on Saturday mornings after the T'flah. The choir will be singing a choral version composed by Steve Cohen.

Lo Yisa Goy (p. 61/179)

This Jewish folk tune is based on the passage in Isaiah (2:4), “Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.” Jill Gallina did the choral arrangement.

Oseh Shalom (p. 62, 180)

“May the One, who makes peace in the high heavens, make peace for us, for all Israel, and all who inhabit the earth.” This is the second new composition by Alan.

Eli, Eli (349, 653)

“My God, My God”: The words of this haunting prayer were penned by Hannah Senesch in her poem “A Walk to Caesarea.” The music was composed by David Zahavi, and arranged for choir by Cantor Rena Shapiro.

(over)

Adonai Li (p. 321/625)

“Adonai is with me, and I shall not fear.” The words of this song comprise the final verse of Adon Olam, often the final song of Shabbat services. The composers are Bruce Benson and Don Rossoff. J. Mark Dunn provided the choral arrangement.

Chavrai Zamir

Director: Alan Levine

Sopranos: Lisa Miller, Stacy Wessel

Altos: Randi Jacobson, Elin Ketels, Emily Ritholz, Colleen Stameshkin

Baritones: Kevin Babione, Tyler Mandel, Elizabeth Rackliffe, Harvey Scolnick, David Stameshkin