



*The William Baker Choral Foundation in Georgia presents*

**Georg Friderich Handel**

# **ISRAEL IN EGYPT**

**A Biblical Oratorio**

**The Cobb Summer Singers  
Orchestra of the American Heartland**

Lynn Swanson, Music Director & Conductor

Ivy Belk Pirl, Rehearsal Accompanist

Albert Clark, Student Intern

Arietha Lockhart, soprano

Lisa Rader, mezzo-soprano

Jonathan Pilkington, tenor

**Sunday Evening, 16 August 2015  
St. Benedict's Episcopal Church  
Smyrna, Georgia**

**[www.FestivalSingers.org](http://www.FestivalSingers.org)**

# The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cobb Summer Singers

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WBCF Executive Associate Music Director

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WBCF Founder & Music Director

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**Leanne Elmer Herrmann**

**Steven McDonald, DMA**

**Ivy Belk Pirl**

**Rosanne St. Clair**

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**The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.**

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## *Lynn Swanson, Music Director & Conductor Director of the Institute for Healthy Singing*



Lynn Swanson, is a native of Atlanta. A life-long resident of the area, she has served the metro community as a leader in the musical arts for nearly 30 years. She holds the Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance from Shorter University in Rome, Georgia, and the Master of Music Education in Choral Pedagogy from the University of Kansas in Lawrence. She has studied conducting with Dr. William Baker, Dr. James Daugherty, and Alexander Mickelthwaite.

She has served as Music Director for several Greater Atlanta churches, building strong and diverse music programs in each. She was appointed Music Director & Organist for the St. Benedict's Episcopal Church in Smyrna, Georgia in August 2011. In less than six months she created a children's music ministry in the young and rapidly growing congregation, and led an acclaimed performance of Handel's *Messiah* with the 70-voice choir and chamber orchestra before a standing-room-only audience from the parish and the wider community. In the four years of her tenure, the Choir of St. Benedict's has performed Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria* and *Beatus Vir*, Franz Joseph Haydn's *The Creation*, Gabriel Faure's *Requiem*, and John Rutter's *Requiem*. The program is now a comprehensive music ministry with graded children's choral and handbell ensembles, in addition to a very active parish choir.

In addition to her service as Executive Associate Music Director of the William Baker Choral Foundation, Ms. Swanson is the Founder of the Northside Young Singers, the Summer Singers of Lee's Summit (co-founder) and the Cobb Summer Singers. In June 2015 she became Music Director of the organization's oldest Festival Singers ensemble. Now called the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, the chorus was founded in 1985 as Gwinnett Festival Singers.



Recent choral/orchestral masterworks have included Handel's *Messiah*; Mozart's *Solemn Vespers*; Faure's *Requiem*; Schubert's *Mass in G*; Haydn's *Te Deum*, Beethoven's *Mass in C*, Vivaldi's *Beatus Vir*, in addition to Bernstein: *Chichester Psalms & Missa Brevis*; Brahms: *A German Requiem*; Handel: *Dettingen Te Deum & Water Music Suite*, Mozart: *Exsultate Jubilate*, *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* and *Coronation Mass*; Bach: *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in F*, *Cantata No. 51 "Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen,"* and *Magnificat*. Her choral ensembles have been featured recently as headline performers at the Christmas Atlanta Festival, Arts International, and appear annually at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina.

Upcoming engagements with Lynn Swanson on the podium include a return performance for the Atlanta-based Festival Singers to Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival, and an Atlanta performance in April 2016 of the *Mass in B minor* of Bach with the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers and the Orchestra of the American Heartland.

# The Cobb Summer Singers

Lynn Swanson, *Music Director & Conductor*

Ivy Belk Pirl, *Jorge and Alice Blanco Accompanist Chair* Albert Clark, *Student Intern*



**The Cobb Summer Singers** was founded in 2006 by Lynn Swanson. After participating in the 2005 Summer Singers of Atlanta under the direction of Dr. William Baker, Ms. Swanson made the decision to create a new ensemble on the same model based in Cobb County. The project was an immediate success with more than 55 singers joining for the first season to perform acclaimed concerts of classics and spirituals before capacity audiences. In early 2009 the Cobb Summer Singers became a constituent ensemble of the William Baker Choral Foundation, a national organization created in Atlanta in 1990 that presently sponsors ten ensembles in three states involving nearly 500 men, women, youth and children. As a result of the support of the Choral Foundation, the Cobb Summer Singers has grown dramatically in artistic accomplishment and enrollment. No audition

is required for participation. Membership is open to all adults and mature youth. Registration for the 11<sup>th</sup> season will open March 1, 2016. The featured work will be Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. Rehearsals will be Tuesday evenings, beginning mid-June. For more information, please contact the Atlanta Office of the Choral Foundation at 404-909-8357, or visit [www.FestivalSingers.org](http://www.FestivalSingers.org).



**Ivy Belk Pirl, Rehearsal Accompanist**, has been with the Cobb Summer Singers since its founding. She is a favorite of Choral Foundation audiences, having also performed with The William Baker Festival Singers and The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers. She is a native of Marietta and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Piano Performance from Florida State University in Tallahassee. She recently completed her Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy from Georgia State University in Atlanta. She is a certified Kindermusik instructor and she teaches piano in private studio. Ms. Pirl makes her home in North Atlanta.

*The appearance of Ivy Belk Pirl is made possible by a grant from Jorge & Alice Blanco*



**Albert Clark, Student Intern**, originally from Baltimore, Maryland, was appointed Student Intern for the Cobb Summer Singers and the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers in May 2015. He holds the Bachelor of Music from the University of South Carolina School of Music in Columbia. There he studied voice with Dr. Tina Milhorn Stallard, and was a member of the exclusive USC Concert Choir. Mr. Clark has served as staff singer for the Trinity Episcopal Church in Columbia, SC. His ensemble participation has taken him to performances in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, Gloucester Cathedral and Canterbury Cathedral in the United Kingdom, and the National Cathedral in Washington, DC. He presently studies conducting with Lynn Swanson.

Over thirty students at the Master & Doctoral level have participated in the Choral Foundation's Student Intern & Choral Scholars program. For additional information about upcoming opportunities call 913-403-9223.



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# HANDEL

Georg Friedrich HANDEL, Born 1685 at Halle, Germany, Died 1759 at London

**Sunday Evening, 16 August 2015 at 6:00**  
**St. Benedict's Episcopal Church, Smyrna, Georgia**

## ZADOK THE PRIEST

*First Performance in London, Wednesday, 11 June 1727, the Composer Conducting  
For the Coronation of George II of Great Britain*  
*Last WBCF Performance, The 2014 Summer Singers of Kansas City, Dr. William O. Baker, conducting*

Zadok the Priest, and Nathan the Prophet anointed Solomon King.  
And all the people rejoiced, and said, God save the King! Long live the King!  
May the King live forever! Amen. Alleluia!  
*-After 1 Kings 1:38-40*

*Conducted by Albert Clark, Student Intern*

## ISRAEL IN EGYPT

*First Performance in London, Saturday, 4 April 1739, the Composer Conducting*  
*Today is the First Performance of the Work under the Sponsorship of the Choral Foundation*

### Overture

### Part I, Exodus

Now there arose a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph;  
And he set over Israel taskmasters to afflict them with burdens, and they made them serve with rigour.

And the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and their cry came unto God.  
They oppressed them with burthens, and made them serve with rigour; and their cry came up unto God.

Then sent he Moses, His servant, and Aaron, whom he had chosen;  
These shew'd his signs among them, and wonders in the land of Ham.  
He turned their waters into blood:

They loathed to drink of the river; He turned their waters into blood.

Their land brought forth frogs, yea even in their king's chambers.  
He gave their cattle over to the pestilence; blotches and blains broke forth on man and beast.

He spake the word, and there came all manner of flies and lice in all their quarters.  
He spake, and the locusts came without number, and devoured the fruits of the ground.

He gave them hailstones for rain; fire mingled with the hail ran along upon the ground.

He sent a thick darkness over all the land, even darkness which might be felt.

He smote all the first-born of Egypt, the chief of all their strength.

But as for his people, he led them forth like sheep:  
He brought them out with silver and gold; there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

He rebuked the Red Sea, and it was dried up.

But the waters overwhelmed their enemies, there was not one of them left.

And Israel saw that great work that the Lord did upon the Egyptians; and the people feared the Lord.

## **Part II, Moses' Song**

Moses and the children of Israel sung this song unto the Lord, and spake, saying:

I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my song; he is become my salvation.

The enemy said: "I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them;  
I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them».

Thou didst blow with the wind, the sea covered them; they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

Who is like unto thee, O Lord, among the gods?  
Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? Thou stretchest out thy right hand:

Thou, in thy mercy hast led forth thy people, which thou hast redeemed;  
Thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance, in the place,  
O Lord, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in, in the sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established.

The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea,  
And the Lord brought again the waters of the sea upon them;  
But the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea.

The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out,  
after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam answered them:

Sing ye to the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously. The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.  
The horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

## **The Cobb Summer Singers & The Orchestra of the American Heartland**

*Lynn Swanson, conducting Arietha Lockhart, soprano Lisa Rader, mezzo-soprano Jonathan Pilkington, tenor*

**Please join us on the cobblestones following the concert for a reception provided  
by the Friends of Music at St. Benedict's Episcopal Church.**

## Soloists



**Arietha Lockhart, coloratura soprano**, has been awarded many prizes and honors, including a fellowship to perform the role of Zerbinetta (Ariadne auf Naxos) at the Aspen Music Festival Opera Theatre, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the first Classical Singer Competition sponsored by Classical Singer Magazine, The National Opera Association Competition's Legacy Award in the professional division, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in The Center for Contemporary Opera International Competition (prize, a New York debut recital at Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall), and the Friedrich Shorr Memorial Prize in Voice and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Oratorio Society of New York competition. During studies at the American Institute for Musical Studies, won the first place vote of the jury in the Meistersinger Competition in Graz, Austria, and received the gold medallion as the audience's 1<sup>st</sup> place choice.

Ms. Lockhart is a member of the Grammy Award winning Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and has performed with the Atlanta Chamber Players and the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra. She is a favorite of Choral Foundation audiences, having performed in several productions with the William Baker Festival Singers, the Cobb Summer Singers, and the Summer Singers of Atlanta, including Bach's *St. John Passion*, Haydn's *The Creation*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Requiem* & *Mass in C. Minor*, and Beethoven *Mass in C* and *Symphony No. 9*. She is a former music educator in the DeKalb School System, and Co-President of the Atlanta Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon Music Fraternity.

*The appearance of Arietha Lockhart, soprano, in today's concert is made possible by a grant from Jennifer Levy in honor of her parents, Steve and Ellen Levy.*



**Lisa Rader, mezzo soprano**, has been singing in the Atlanta area for over 25 years. Dr. William Baker gave her solo career a start, when he selected her as soprano soloist for his DeKalb Choral Guild's performance of Schubert's *Mass in G*. She joined the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus, Chamber Chorus and the Robert Shaw Chamber Singers in the early 90s and continues to sing with the two groups still in existence. She has performed as soprano soloist all around the Atlanta area including Tucker, Lawrenceville, Athens and Atlanta proper, in such works as Handel's *Messiah* and John Rutter's *Requiem*. This is her second appearance with the ensembles of the Choral Foundation, having performed in Buxtehude's *Membra Jesu Nostri* in February 2014 with the William Baker Festival Singers. She presently lives in McDonough, Georgia, with her husband and 11-year-old daughter.



**Jonathan Pilkington, tenor**, is a native of LaGrange, GA. He has recently been a featured soloist in Mozart's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Bach's *Cantata No. 4*, Bach's *Magnificat*, Bruckner's *Te Deum*, and Schütz's *Weihnachts Historie*. Pilkington was the tenor soloist for Elliott Carter's *The Defense of Corinth* at Avery Fisher Hall in New York, and sang the tenor solo in New York's premiere of Felix Mendelssohn's "Humboldt" Cantata. Upcoming performances include scenes from Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* in Peach State Opera's "Operatizers." In September, he will perform a recital of 20th century vocal works, including Barber's Knoxville: *Summer of 1915*, at Piedmont College. Recent recitals featured Vaughan Williams' *On Wenlock Edge*, Britten's *Winter Words*, Beethoven's *An die ferne Geliebte*, Schumann's *Dichterliebe*, as well as other selections from the art song repertoire. In July 2014, he was a guest soloist at the Bassi Brugnattelli International Conducting and Singing Symposium in

Robbiate, Italy. As a professional chorister, Pilkington has performed many major choral works with the New York Philharmonic, American Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Little Orchestra Society, and Taylor Festival Singers. Recently, Mr. Pilkington has made appearances as guest lecturer on vocal pedagogy topics at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and in Sautee, GA for the Sautee Chorale. He holds degrees from Shorter College (B.M.), Westminster Choir College (M.M), and University of Georgia (D.M.A.). Dr. Pilkington is Assistant Professor of Music at Piedmont College in Demorest, and he is a staff singer at Cathedral of Christ the King in Atlanta. His premier performance with ensembles of the Choral Foundation came last week in a performance of Haydn's *The Creation* with Dr. William Baker and the Summer Singers of Atlanta.

*The appearance of Jonathan Pilkington, tenor, in today's concert is made possible by a grant from Anonymous.*



# *The Orchestra of the American Heartland*

*Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor*  
*George Butler, Personnel Manager & Contractor*

**Violin I**

Carolyn Hancock

**Violin II**

Jeanne Johnson

**Viola**

William Johnston

**Violoncello**

George Butler

**Bass**

Lyn DeRamus

**Oboe**

Rebecca Collins

Holly Behre

**Trombone**

Marc Boehm

Richard Brady

Hollie Lawing

**Timpani**

Jeff Kershner

**Organ**

Ivy Belk Pirl

*The appearance of George Butler, cellist, in today's concert is made possible by a grant from Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director, and Ms. Lynn Swanson, Executive Associate Music Director in memory of Kenneth Charles Babcock.*

*The appearance of Marc Boehm, trombonist, in today's concert is made possible by a grant from Anonymous.*

*The appearance of Richard Brady, trombonist, in today's concert is made possible by a grant from Anonymous.*

*The appearance of Hollie Lawing, trombonist, in today's concert is made possible by a grant from Anonymous.*

*The appearance of Jeff Kershner, timpanist, in today's concert is made possible by a grant from Anonymous.*

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Thomas Sheets, Assistant Conductor    Scott Smith, Choral Associate

Ivy Belk Pirl, Rehearsal Accompanist    Albert Clark, Student Intern

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**The William Baker Festival Singers**, Prairie Village, Kansas, 1998

**The Summer Singers of Atlanta**, Midtown Atlanta, 1990  
William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

**The Cobb Summer Singers**, Smyrna, Georgia, 2006

**The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers**, Atlanta, Georgia, 1985  
*Known as The Gwinnett Festival Singers, 1985-1998 & William Baker Festival Singers in Atlanta, 1998-2015*  
Lynn Swanson, Music Director & Conductor

**Zimria Festivale Atlanta**, Dunwoody, Georgia, 2014  
Amy Thropp, Music Director & Conductor

**The Summer Singers of Kansas City**, Kansas City, Missouri, 1999  
William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

**The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, 2014  
Lynn Swanson & William O. Baker, DMA, Co-Music Directors

**The Northwest Georgia Summer Singers**, Cartersville, Georgia, 2010  
Charles Nelson, Music Director & Conductor

**The Institute for Healthy Singing**, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2015  
Lynn Swanson, Founder & Director

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# St. Benedict's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## **The Mission of St. Benedict's**

*St. Benedict's is a welcoming community sharing and spreading Christ's love through worship, education, fellowship and outreach.*

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## **Sunday Services**

8:00 am—Holy Eucharist Rite I spoken liturgy

8:45 am—The Choir of St. Benedict's weekly rehearsal

9:00 am—Bagels and coffee in parish hall

9:30 am—Adult Forums

10:30 am—Holy Eucharist Rite II—with full choir

10:30 am—Children's Chapel - Godly Play

1:00 pm—San Benedicto—Misa En Español

Rev. Brian Sullivan, Priest; [Brian@MySaintB.org](mailto:Brian@MySaintB.org)

Rev. Ramon Betances, Vicar; [Ramon@MySaintB.org](mailto:Ramon@MySaintB.org)

## **The Music Ministry at St. Benedict's:**

*Lynn Swanson, Music Director ; [Lynn@MySaintB.org](mailto:Lynn@MySaintB.org)*

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- 4th-8th Grade: 6:20pm to 7:10pm *singing & ringing handbells*

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Kate Foster  
J.T. & Pattie Frierson  
John K. Goodwin  
Johnny Graveley  
Reuel Hamilton  
Gordon Henke  
Felicia Hernandez

Ellen Hicks,  
*in memory of Katherine Hicks*  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
Kathryn Huey  
Ruth Johnson  
Thomas & Helen Jones  
Mary Ann Kancel  
*in honor of David Sachen*  
Denny Kurogi  
Marlene Link  
Judy Martin  
James & Barbara Meadows  
Kathleen Michaud  
Bill Moody  
Todd Allen Moore  
Carter & Hampton Morris  
Pamela Pendergast,  
*in memory of Mildred Popplewell Dunn*  
Carol Reiser  
Frances Robinson  
Schleicher Construction & Design  
Kathryn Senkbeil  
Edwina Smith  
Harvey & Mary Solomon  
Phyllis Vasquez  
*in memory of Leroy Schnorf*  
Drs. Georgia and Jean West  
Ron and Adrienne Wilson  
Fred Zimmerman

### **IN-KIND GIFTS**

George Butler  
Gene Claxton,  
Unisource Document Products  
Congregation Beth Shalom  
Countryside Christian Church  
IBM Corporation  
Eddie Ross  
St. Benedict's Episcopal Church  
Charles St. Clair  
St. John United Methodist Church  
Saint Mark United Methodist Church  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Lynn Swanson

*Please report corrections to your  
local Choral Foundation office or  
Mail@FestivalSingers.org*