

Fall Concert Music Background Notes

“I Believe” by Mark A. Miller

Text: Words scratched on the walls of a cellar in Cologne, Germany by a Jew hiding from Nazi persecution.

I believe in the sun even when it's not shining.
I believe in love even when I don't feel it.
I believe in God even when God is silent.

“Ave Verum Corpus” by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

The text for “Ave Verum Corpus” is a short Eucharistic hymn dating from the 14th century said to be written by [Pope Innocent VI](#) (d 1362). During the Middle Ages it was sung at the elevation of the Host during the consecration. It was also used frequently during Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The text used in the Mozart version is one of the four variations of the hymn that have come down to us.

The Austrian composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791), wrote this motet (definition - a choral work with a sacred text) just a few months before he died. This piece was composed within the Classical time period (approximately 1750-1830), during which there was a great deal of emphasis on structure in music. Characteristics of music from the Classical time period include singing with a lighter sound and using a limited range of dynamics (pp-ff only).

Ave verum corpus
Hail the true body,

Natum de Maria Virgine
born of the Virgin Mary:

vere passum, immolatum
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed

In cruce pro homine
on the cross for the sake of man.

Cujus latus perforatum
From whose pierced flank

Unda fluxit et sanguine
flowed water and blood:

Esto nobis praegustatum
Be a foretaste for us

In mortis examine
in the trial of death.

River in Judea

Judea is the name of the mountainous southern part of the region known as [Land of Israel](#) and [Palestine](#), roughly corresponding to the southern [West Bank](#) and northern [Negev desert](#) in [Israel](#) ^{[2][3]} The region is named after the biblical [tribe of Judah](#) and associated [Kingdom of Judah](#), which is commonly dated from 934 until 586 BCE. Judea was sometimes used as the name for the entire region, including parts beyond the river Jordan.