

# RECOMMENDED CHORAL MUSIC FOR WEDDINGS

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[sung texts in regular type, *translations in italics*]

## CHOIR MOTET [good for seating of mothers, or visitation to Mary]

*Ave Maria*  
Franz Biebl  
b. 1906

Ave Maria, gratia plena: Dominus tecum,  
benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

*Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you,  
Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

## CHOIR MOTET

*Beati quorum via*  
Charles Villiers Stanford  
1852-1924

Beati quorum via integra est, qui ambulant in lege Domini.

*Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.*

~ Psalm 119

## CHOIR MOTET [possibility in place of psalm response]

*Cantate Domino*  
Hans Leo Hassler  
1562-1612

Cantate Domino canticum novum: cantate Domino omnis terra.  
Cantate Domino, et benedicite nomini ejus:  
annunciate de die in diem salutare ejus.  
Annunciate inter Gentes gloriam ejus,  
in omnibus populis mirabilia ejus.

*O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord all the earth.  
Sing to the Lord, and bless God's Holy Name:  
tell of God's salvation from day to day.  
Tell of God's glory unto the Gentiles,  
and God's wonders unto all peoples.*

~ Psalm 96

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*Christ Our Passover*  
Healey Willan  
1880-1968

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
Alleluia. Therefore let us keep the feast  
with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.  
Alleluia. O give thanks unto the Lord who is gracious,  
and whose mercy endureth forever. Alleluia.

## CHOIR MOTET [communion]

*Ego sum panis vivus*  
William Byrd  
1543-1623

Ego sum panis vivus, qui de coelo descendi.  
Si quis manducaverit ex hoc pane, vivet in aeternum. Alleluia.

*I am the living bread, who from heaven descended.  
If you partake of this bread, you shall have eternal life. Alleluia.*

~ John 6

## CHOIR ANTHEM [good for unity candle lighting]

*Eternal Light*  
Leo Sowerby  
1895-1968

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts,  
Eternal Light, shine into our hearts,  
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil,  
Eternal Power, be our support,  
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,  
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## CHOIR MOTET

*Exultate Deo*  
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina  
c. 1525-1594

Exultate Deo, adjutori nostro, jubilate Deo Jacob.  
Sumite psalmum et date tympanum, psalterium jucundum cum cithara;  
Bucinate in neomenia tuba insigni die solemnitatis vestrae.

*Sing with joy to God our strength, shout in triumph to the God of Jacob.  
Raise a song and sound the timbrel, the merry harp and the lyre;  
blow the trumpet at the new moon, and when the moon is full, the day of our feast.*

~ Psalm 81

## CHOIR MOTET

*Exultate Justi*  
Ludovico Viadana  
1564-1645

Exultate justi in Domino; rectos decet collaudatio.  
Confitemini Domino in cithara, in psalterio decem chordarum.  
Psallite illi, cantate ei, canticum novum, bene psallite ei in vociferatione.

*Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise is fitting for the upright.  
Give praise to the Lord upon the harp, play to God upon the ten-stringed lute.  
Sing to God a new song, sing skillfully with a strong voice.*

~ Psalm 33

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*God Be In My Head*  
John Rutter  
b. 1945

God be in my head and in my understanding.  
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in mine heart and in my thinking.  
God be at my end and in my departing.

## CHOIR MOTET [good for offertory]

*Gustate et videte*  
Heinrich Isaac  
1445-1517

Gustate et videte quoniam suavis est Dominus:  
beatus vir qui sperat in eo.

*Taste and see how good the Lord is:  
blessèd the one who trusts in him.*

~ Psalm 34

## CHOIR MOTET [possibility in place of psalm response]

*Jubilate Deo*  
Orlando di Lasso  
1532-1594

Jubilate Deo omnis terra:  
servite Domino in laetitia.  
Intrate in conspectu ejus in exultatione.  
Quia Dominus ipse est Deus.

*Let all the earth rejoice in God:  
serve the Lord with gladness.  
Enter God's presence with joy,  
for the Lord is God indeed.*

~ Psalm 148

## CHOIR MOTET [communion]

*O esca viatorum*  
Heinrich Isaac  
1445-1517

O esca viatorum, O panis angelorum, O Manna coelitum!  
Esurientes ciba, dulce dine non priva corda quaerentium.

*O food of travellers, O bread of angels, O Manna from heaven!  
Hungering for food, sweet repast do not deny us, whose hearts are drawn to you.*

## CHOIR ANTHEM [good for unity candle]

*O Holy Spirit, Lord of Grace*  
Christopher Tye  
c. 1505-1572

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace, eternal source of love,  
Inflame, we pray, our inmost hearts with fire from heav'n above.  
As thou dost join with holiest bonds the Father and the Son,  
So fill us all with mutual love and knit our hearts in one.

## CHOIR MOTET [good for offertory or communion]

*O Sacrum Convivium*  
Giovanni Croce  
1557-1607

O Sacrum Convivium, in quo Christus sumitur,  
recolitur memoria passionis ejus,  
mens impletur gratia,  
et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur. Alleluia.

*O Sacred Feast, wherein Christ is received,  
the memory of his passion is renewed in us,  
our souls are filled with grace,  
and the pledge of everlasting glory is given unto us. Alleluia.*

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*O Sing Joyfully*  
Adrian Batten  
1591-1637

O sing joyfully, O sing joyfully unto God our strength:  
Make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.  
Take the song, bring hither the tabret:  
The merry harp with the lute.  
Blow up the trumpet in the new moon:  
Even in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feastday.  
For this was made a statute for Israel:  
And a law of the God of Jacob.

## CHOIR MOTET

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*  
Hugo Distler  
1908-1942

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation!  
O my soul, praise him for he is thy health and salvation!  
Gather ye round, let us make music resound!  
Praise him with glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth.  
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth;  
Hast thou not seen how thy heart's wishes have been  
Granted in what he ordaineth?

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*Rejoice in the Lord Always*  
anonymous  
16th century

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.  
Let your moderation be known unto all. The Lord is e'en at hand.  
Be careful for nothing; but in all prayer and supplication let your petitions  
be manifest unto God with giving of thanks.  
And the peace of God which passeth all understanding,  
Keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

## CHOIR MOTET

*The Call*  
Leo Nestor  
b. 1948

Live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,  
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,  
bearing one another through love.  
Living the truth in love, let us grow in every way into Christ, who is the head;  
Christ, who brings about the body's growth and builds it up in love,  
and builds it up to serve in love.  
In caritate servire: to serve in charity.

~ Ephesians 4:1b, 2, 15, 16b

## CHOIR MOTET

*Sicut Cervus*  
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina  
c. 1525-1594

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum:  
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.

*As a hart longs for flowing streams,  
so longs my soul for you, O God.*

~ Psalm 42

## CHOIR MOTET [good for unity candle, offertory or communion]

*Ubi caritas*  
Maurice Duruflé  
1902-1986

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exultemus et in ipso jucundemur.  
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

*Where true love and charity are found, God is there.  
The love of Christ has gathered us together into one.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in him.  
Let us fear and love the living God,  
and love each other from the depths of our heart.*