

Liberty University School of Music

presents

Student Recital Series

Senior Recital **Josh Biery, *piano***

March 7, 2026
Macel Falwell Recital Hall
MUSIC 305
7:30 PM

STUDENT RECITAL SERIES: SENIOR RECITAL

Josh Biery, *piano*

Quinn Spesshart, *guitar*; Elaine Krell, *violin*; Gavin Knoll, *cello*;
Lily Yates, *bass*; Charlie Vandemark, *percussion*

Program

Simple Phrases

Joshua Biery
& Elizabeth Yoho

Holy, Holy, Holy

Reginald Heber
(1783-1826)

New Songs for New Mercies

Joshua Biery, Kastien Chambliss,
& Thomas O. Chrisholm
(1866-1960)

Kastien Chambliss *voice*

What Wondrous Love is This?

Anonymous
arr. Joshua Biery

Just One Grace

Joshua Biery, Majeste Lapera,
& Jessica Marshal

Higher Still

Joshua Biery, Elizabeth Yoho,
& Linda Biery

Gethsemane

Jon Guerra

Belly of the Deepest Love

Gretta & Kyle Miller

Truly

Joshua Biery

Easter Song

Keith Green
(1953-1982)

- PROGRAM NOTES -

Set 1 – Simple Phrases

Simple Phrases

Simple Phrases (the namesake song of my upcoming EP) is a humble prayer that has marked my year powerfully. It began as a poem by my lovely fiancée Elizabeth – a needy and honest request to a God who is mighty, wise, and loving.

*Speak to me in quiet graces
Where You lead me, lead me slowly
I'll learn to pray in simple phrases
Lord I need You, Lord You know me*

This song documents a journey the Lord has been taking us on of relearning how to pray in the simplicity, reverence, and candidness that is befitting of a child of God.

Holy Holy Holy

There is perhaps no more profound or simple a prayer than the one that rings out in the heavenly throne room of Yahweh. I look forward to singing this refrain with all of you for many years to come!

New Songs for New Mercies

My friend Kastien Chambliss and I wrote this song as a morning prayer. The lyrics reflect on a sunrise colored by a biblical imagination of new beginnings, new life, and fresh starts. New mercies worth singing about! The idea of singing new songs repeatedly comes up in scripture (Psalms 33, 40, 96, 98, 144, 149, Isaiah 42, and Revelation 5 & 14), and refers to praising God afresh for new and old ways He has shown Himself worthy! The bridge, the first verse of “Great is Thy Faithfulness”, is an old(ish) song fittingly reflecting upon the steadfast, day-by-day faithfulness of God.

What Wondrous Love is This?

This meditative hymn was published anonymously in the 1800's to be sung as an address to ourselves. The lyrics are few and rich and give plenty of space to ponder the deep, deep love of Jesus and the hope He has secured us forever! I've slightly retuned and reharmonized this classic into the form you'll hear tonight. What wondrous love is this, o my soul?! To God and to the Lamb I will sing. And when from death I'm free I'll sing on!

- PROGRAM NOTES -

Just One Grace

*“One thing I have asked of Yahweh,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of Yahweh
all the days of my life
to gaze upon the beauty of Yahweh
and to meditate in His temple.”*

- David, son of Jesse

Higher Still

I wrote the chorus of this song atop Flat Top Mountain, the highest point in eyeshot of Liberty. Whether with regards to his workings in my life, my journey of knowing Him, or His grand will of redemption for all creation, steady prayer leaves me more and more sure that there is so much more that He has yet to reveal. The EP concludes with the doxology from Roman's 11 set to music by my biggest musical influence: my Mom. To Him be the glory forever! Amen.

Set 2 – The Triumph of Christ

Gethsemane

“Gethsemane” was written by one of my favorite songwriters, Jon Guerra. His deeply scriptural and passionate lyrics have been a massive inspiration for me. Written from Jesus' perspective, this song recounts the anguish of the night before His crucifixion.

Belly of the Deepest Love

Few songs have lead me into worship the way this one has. The song begins by recalling a mother teaching her son about Christ's crucifixion with the visual of a dogwood, the tree fabled to have provided the wood for our Lord's cross. Regardless of the historicity of this legend, it's four-petaled flowers, blushing with red, can remind us Jesus' sacrifice for us. The chorus recounts the gutfelt love Jesus displayed in His dying for us and the way all creation testified to the weight of what was done on calvary.

*From the belly of the deepest love
The hills' trembling throats sing “hallelujah”
Like the flowers on the dogwood tree
Blush with blame You took for me
Oh, how You wish to be with me*

- PROGRAM NOTES -

Truly

“Truly this was the Son of God.”

- Matthew 27:54 & Mark 15:39

“... This man has done nothing wrong. with me

- Luke 23:41

“Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.”

- Luke 23:42

“My Lord and my God!”

- John 20:28

Easter Song

He's risen! Jesus rose again from the dead to reign forever as anointed King of heaven and earth! His life assures us that one day, we will be raised back from the dead to rule with Him on a renewed earth for all eternity! The resurrection truly secures joy to the world! Hallelujah (praise Yahweh)!

Thank you, Mom and Dad, for leading me to the Lord
I'll sing to forever.

Thank you, Elizabeth for being my closest
companion in seeking Him.

Thank you professor Werking for steadily coaching
me into the musician I am.

Thank you Dr. Damon for caring so deeply for my
voice for singing and for the Lord.



Josh Biery is a student of Professor Jon Werking.

*This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the
Bachelor of Music in Commercial Music: Performance Concentration degree.*

**We would like to thank the
Liberty University Administration for
their faithful support of the School of Music.**

Dr. Dondi Costin, President
Dr. Scott Hicks, Provost and Chief Academic Officer
Dr. Stephen Müller, Dean, School of Music
The School of Music Administration, Faculty, and Staff

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