

“Church Music”
September 19, 2010
Grove Presbyterian Church

Old Testament Lesson

II Chronicles 29: 25-31

Reflection

We get a glimpse today with today’s choir and our guest composer, Joseph Martin, what worship was like 2,700 years ago.

What wonderful music these thousands of Levites and Priests, these guild members of temple musicians

Music from day one has been a vital component for worship
Singing the songs from the Psalms, the words of David and Asaph
Singing praises to God
Playing the instruments
The lyre, the trumpets, cymbals and harps

We keep trying to get music right here – hence the experimentation, variety.

But what is really right about church music?

How music attunes intellects and harmonizes our emotions.

What is really right about church music?

How it involves all of us.

We take a lesson from Hezekiah.

What is right about church music is how it focuses the minds and hearts of the people upon the worship, upon the burnt offering.

They come for the burnt offering.

The occasion?

Hezekiah’s reform of worship, recovery of worship and community identity
Cleansing of the Temple
Rededicating it because they have strayed
They need to recover the traditions and rituals.
Worship is why they are a people.

Where even the King bows down before God, one of the people, bowing for he is not the ruler – God is (constitutional monarchy)

Cleansing and rededicating is key to Hezekiah's rule

Along with his many public work projects: Siloam tunnel, repairing the walls

Endangered by Assyrians who recently have massacred and obliterated Israel and all her people

Hezekiah knows they must strengthen themselves externally; but more so, internally, spiritually.