We Live in That Far Future

(A Centennial Celebration)

for Irving Park Lutheran Church Chicago, Illinois

Music by: Michael C. Haigler

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I. The Wind Blows Where It Wills
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- II. We Live in That Far Future
- III. Prayer to the Holy Spirit
- IV. Collage (or Development)
- V. Finale

First Performed May 30, 2004 at Irving Park Lutheran Church

Performing Forces:

SATB Adult Choir Intermediate Ensemble (young adults) Children's Choir 2 flutes oboe clarinet bassoon horn in F trumpet in C trombone 1 percussionist (timpani, bass drum, cymbals, glockenspiel) 2 violins viola cello double bass organ (ad lib)

John 3:8

The wind blows where it wills; you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where is comes from, or where it is going. So with everyone who is born from the spirit."

Prayer To the Holy Spirit

(G.A. from Oxford Book of Prayer)

O Holy Spirit, whose presence is liberty, grant us that freedom of the spirit which will not fear to tread in unknown ways, nor be held back by misgivings of ourselves and fear of others, ever beckon us forward to the place of thy will, which is also the place of thy power O ever-leading, everloving Lord.

We Live in that Far Future

(commissioned for the event)
We live in that far future
our founders could not see,
that strange new world and culture
that time would bring to be,
yet God gave them a vision
and fed their prayer and praise
inspiring their decision
to build for future days.

And when we sing God's glory and hear and do God's word we pass along the story that our own parents heard and told to us confessing how they themselves received the gospel and its blessing from parents who believed:

The Word that shaped creation spans all of time and space and greet each generation with that same gift of grace that brightened one small manger where sheep and oxen fed and welcomed every stranger and served them wine and bread.

Though crucified, now living, Christ is the Word we sing, compassionate, forgiving, whose love and presence bring the grace to keep believing that though our words and deeds in ways past our conceiving God plants the future's seeds.

The grain we sow for reaping will ripen to the ear while we in Christ are sleeping and waiting till we hear in one quick eyelid's flutter the final trumpet call when age to age shall utter that God is all in all.

(The Wind Blows Where it Wills)









(We Live in That Far Future)















(Prayer to the Holy Spirit)









































