



Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

Psalm 100:2

We are supposed to worship God in several ways. One of these is with music. Every Sunday we do this as we sing four hymns from the hymnal. Congregational singing is one of the ways we worship the Lord with music. It is not, however, the only way we are to worship with music. We may worship Him with special music as we will be doing this morning.

There is yet another way to worship the Lord with music. There are a number of Biblical examples of this. When the wall at Jerusalem was dedicated, we are told that Nehemiah . . . *brought the leaders of Judah up on the wall, and appointed two large thanksgiving choirs. One went to the right hand on the wall toward the Refuse Gate.* Nehemiah 12:31

On that day, Israel worshiped the Lord with two choirs. We have none! When the Ark was returned, we read, *And so it was, when God helped the Levites who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord, that they offered seven bulls and seven rams. David was clothed with a robe of fine linen, as were all the Levites who bore the ark, the singers, and Chenaniah the music master with the singers. David also wore a linen ephod. Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the horn, with trumpets and with cymbals, making music with stringed instruments and harps.*

I Chronicles 15:26-28

Here there was only one choir, along with Chenaniah, the choir director. Again, we have no choir. We could have!

What would we need to have a choir to sing every Sunday or, perhaps, one or two Sundays a month? We would have to have 6 or more people who can, at least, carry a tune. We would have to have an equal number of Hymnals (we have plenty of these) or song books (we have a number of these in our music files).

None of these people would have to be opera singers - just people who would be willing to get up in church and sing a hymn or chorus from the hymnal. Finally, we would need one other person. He is mentioned some 55 times in the Psalms - The Choirmaster.

For a group of people to sing in an organized way, a choir director is needed just as we need a song leader for congregational singing.

So, all we are lacking is someone who would assume this responsibility and we could be praising the Lord with a choir.

To complete our worship of the Lord in music, we need one other person (could be the same person who leads the choir). We need someone who knows the people with musical talents in our congregation (and outside as well). This person would be responsible for making arrangements with these people to provide special music on a regular basis (at least once a month).

If we can find these two people (or a person with two hats), we will be able to worship the Lord in music as we ought to.

As far as who these people might be who could bring us special music, Paul wrote, . . . *Is anyone among you cheerful? Let him sing psalms.* James 5:13
We just need someone who is cheerful (and does not have a "tin ear.")

Would you be willing to be one of these people? Do you know of someone who would assume the responsibility of one of these tasks? If so, bring this to the attention of one of the Elders that it might be considered at Thursday's board meeting

So, in conclusion, as Paul exhorts, *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.* Colossians 3:16

Wayne

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