

The Memorial Church of Harvard University
Music Notes for Sunday, April 16, 2023

Simon Lindley was Leeds City Organist from 1976 to 2017 (named City Organist Emeritus that year) and was Organist and Master of the Music at Leeds Minster from 1975 until his retirement in 2016. A noted composer and arranger of works for choir and organ, his contemplative setting of the Easter carol “Now the Green Blade Riseth” offers a more tender and inward response to the Easter message.

Undine Smith Moore taught at Virginia State University from 1927 until her retirement in 1972. She was a prolific composer of choral works, and her oratorio based on the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., *Scenes from the Life of a Martyr*, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. “I Believe This Is Jesus” is an exuberant setting of the traditional spiritual, whose powerful impact is due largely to its simple and direct compositional approach.

Resurrection is an evocative sonic portrayal of the Easter story in four connected movements (Lament, Rising, Ecstasy, and Reflection) by one of the most original voices in twentieth-century American church music, Larry King, who was for over twenty years Director of Music at Trinity Church, Wall Street.

Harvard graduate Carson Cooman is Composer in Residence at the Memorial Church, which has witnessed the premieres of many of his works. His *Fantasy on “Victimae paschali laudes”* is based on the traditional plainchant, prescribed in the liturgy as the Sequence for Easter Sunday.