

Greetings from Valparaiso and Lutheran Summer Music Academy!



This comes to you from my first days at Lutheran Summer Music at Valparaiso University. Sunday was move-in day for the students, and audition day. We ended with Evening Prayer. [Here's a time-lapse video! \(no sound\)](#)

I got to be one of the white-robed people, serving as an anointer, saying to the students “Receive this oil as a sign of your calling to music.” It was a powerful moment.

Monday began with Morning Prayer at which the entire community [sang Luther's morning prayer in a 4-part acapella vocal setting by Carl Schalk](#).

I'll be playing a Shruti Box tonight at Evening Prayer as we sing about Miriam dancing with her tambourine. My first class with the composition students is on Tuesday morning. We're going to collectively compose a psalm refrain that will be sung at the next Evening Prayer service, Psalm 96, “Sing to the Lord a new song!”

I'll be teaching composition lessons to four students in addition to the composition class of approx. 25 students. Very exciting!

So – that's what I've been up to in the past couple of days. I would welcome your prayers for Lutheran Summer Music, students, faculty, and staff. There's a lot going on. It's a life-changing experience.

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Director of Music Ministries