

Christian music: Here are my favorites

Have you noticed how we all have our favorites when it comes to almost any subject? At the slightest suggestion we will usually tell other people about those favorites too.

Just watch in some cafe far from Seattle at the moment that one of us is served a cup of ordinary coffee. Waiters and patrons alike will usually learn about how we grind and brew and discard stale coffee in Seattle. They may learn more than they wanted to know. Don't blame us; it is because we have our favorites and we want to share what we favor with others.

Take music for example. Music is always personal and by its nature involves the totality of the human self: mind, heart and body. Whenever we think about music we have our favorites. If you want to have a lively discussion with a friend or family member just bring up the subject of music and ask about their favorites.

The Christian faith has a long and friendly alliance with music. It goes far back into the Old Testament and has

continued until now. Throughout that journey of tunes and words and rhythms, certain ones will stand out as our most favored Christian music.

Let me share some of the titles of Christian songs and works that mean the most to me:

1. First the carols of Christmas — they stand apart in their own special place. I love them all, especially *O Come, All Ye Faithful* and

Silent Night

2. Great works — for me the greatest four are: *Messiah* by

Handel, *Requiem* by Brahms, *Requiem* by Mozart, *Passion of St. Matthew* by Bach

3. Praise music — my favorite is *Give Thanks*

4. Gospel — my favorites are *Redeemed, Blessed Assurance, Amazing Grace*

5. Spirituals — *Deep River, Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

6. Great hymns — *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Now Thank We All Our God

O Worship The King

Crown Him With Many Crowns

And Can It Be That I Should Gain?

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

O God of Earth and Altar

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

.Praise The Savior, Ye Who Know Him

How Great Thou Art!

Maybe my list will stir you to name your own list of favorites in Christian music.