

April 7, 2020

Every once in a while, these days I let my mind anticipate our return to the church and think about what the first music will be we hear. That will be Karin Jurek's decision but somewhere in that first time being back I hope we hear Beethoven's, Ode to Joy.

Ode to Joy is the title of a poem that Beethoven incorporated into his Ninth Symphony one of his last works written when his deafness was pretty much complete and his frustration with his deafness was taking a toll on his nerves.



While the Ninth Symphony was not received well at all when it was first played in May of 1824 by the time of Abraham Lincoln's assassination in 1865 it was played by orchestras all over the world minus the fourth movement, Ode to Joy, as the only appropriate

music to do justice to such a heinous event.

Since then it has become like an anthem for humanity as it is the music that accompanies significant moments both tragic and noble.

You should listen to it on one of the myriad sources available as I anticipate and hope that the next time it is played live this terrible time will be past and we will be able to be happy without intimidation or fear.

Another piece of music that I would like to hear that day is Halleluiah by Leonard Cohen and Ain't No Sunshine by Bill Withers and Gentle Woman and On Eagles Wings and Be Not Afraid, all those old songs that will mean so much sometime soon, but I really hope we have this one, A Day of Peace by Janet Sullivan Whitaker.

On our Facebook page you can find some links to two of these pieces of music.

Day of Peace: <https://youtu.be/Pfr7jDg7-9k>

Beethoven 9: <https://youtu.be/rOjHhS5MtvA>