



Te Deum Fellows Program  
Summary and Schedule  
2025-26

The 2025-26 Te Deum Fellows Program in Sacred Music has three components:

- (1) A Trinity Term session focusing on theology of music and aesthetics, **July 20-25, 2025.**
- (2) Online seminars, once a month or five times (August through December), focusing on research and writing on music and liturgy.
- (3) An Epiphany Term session focusing on liturgy and building music programs, **January 11-16, 2026.**

Trinity and Epiphany Terms will be intensive in-residence weeks, consisting primarily of lectures and liturgies. Required readings must be completed prior to the in-residence sessions. These terms coincide with the Theopolis Fellows Program; worship, meals, and fellowship times will be shared by Te Deum and Fellows Program students.

At the end of the Epiphany Term, students will be asked to submit a proposal for a Te Deum Honors project. Examples of suitable projects would be: editing a hymnal or liturgy, a composition project, or a research project on historic Christian liturgico-musical practice. Final projects are due Spring 2026 (date TBD).

**Faculty.**

*Lecturers:*

John Ahern, PhD Musicology, Princeton University.  
Paul Buckley, Colleyville Presbyterian Church, Colleyville, Texas.  
Peter Leithart, President, Theopolis Institute.  
Jeffery Meyers, Pastor, Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church (CREC),  
Saint Louis, Missouri.  
Brian Moats, Theopolis Institute.  
Jarrod Richey, Music Program Director and Director of Choral Activities at Geneva Alastair  
Roberts, Adjunct Senior Fellow, Theopolis.  
Caleb Skogen, Ordination Candidate, Missouri Presbytery.  
Academy in West Monroe, Louisiana.

*Liturgist:* Caleb Skogen, Ordination Candidate, Missouri Presbytery.

*Organist:* John Ahern, PhD Musicology, Princeton University.

*Cantor:* Paul Buckley, Colleyville Presbyterian Church, Colleyville, Texas.



## **Required Texts.**

Trinity Term.

Jordan, "Theses on Worship."  
Leithart, *Theopolitan Liturgy*  
Ahern, "Theses on Church Music and Economics"  
Schmemmann, *For the Life of the World*.

Pesher Group.

Students will select one or more of the following to read (reading list may vary):

Monique Ingalls, *Singing the Congregation: How Contemporary Worship Music Forms Evangelical Community*.  
Andrew Hicks, *Composing the World*.  
Jarrod Richey, *Bach to the Future*.  
Begbie and Guthrie, *Resonant Witness*.

Epiphany Term. Students will read one of the following:

Paul Westermeyer, *Te Deum*.  
Christoph Wolff, *Johann Sebastian Bach: The Learned Musician*.  
Robin Leaver, *Luther's Liturgical Music*.

## **Curriculum.**

We will be teaching the following topics, although details are subject to change.

### Theology of Music and Worship

- Creation + Eschaton (PJL)
- Music in Biblical sacrifice (PJL)
- Theology of psalm singing (BM)
- Shape of liturgy and covenant renewal (JM)
- Worship and life (JRA)
- Music & biblical hermeneutics (AR)

### Aesthetics of Music

- Cosmology and harmony (JRA)

- Art, objectivity, autonomy & church music (JRA)

#### Liturgical Practicum

- Why sung liturgy? (CS)
- How to change a liturgy (CS/JM/JRA)
- How to lead a liturgy (CS)
- How to tell a good hymn from a bad (JRA/CS)

#### Musical Practicum

- Basics of sight-singing (JR)
- Chanting (PB)

#### History of Sacred Music

- Early, Medieval, Reformation (JRA)
- Hymnody (JR)
- Modernity (JRA)
- Church musicians who did it right/zero in on
  - Benedict/Guido (JRA)
  - Praetorius (JRA)
  - Bach (JR)
  - Vaughan Williams (JRA)
  - André Gouzes (PB)

#### Church Music Program

- Fostering musical literacy (JR)
- Choir music (JR)
- Composing new music (JRA/PB)
- Children's music program (JR)