



The Church of St. Mary

420 Irving Street † Alexandria, MN 56308 † Ph: 320-763-5781 † stmaryalexandria.org

Friends, Family, Committees, and Volunteers:

At this time we have suspended the use of all David Haas music due to credible accusations of sexual abuse and spiritual manipulation. It is certain that more details will come to light over the next few weeks and months. At this time, the music staff and church leadership have made the decision to not use his music unless the allegations are retracted or proven to be without merit, and/or all royalties paid to Mr. Haas goes to the victims. These allegations date back to the late 70's/early 80's. I am personally, extremely upset for a variety of reasons, but mostly - we sent young people to his camps. They have all been contacted.

We take very seriously Jesus' teachings regarding forgiveness. However, following Christ's example, we acknowledge that with such openness of spirit comes an enormous responsibility to advocate and care for those who are vulnerable and who have been hurt by their church leaders.

We grieve the loss of these beloved songs, and at the same time we recognize that other songs occupy similar musical, affective, and theological territory. I apologize for any problems or grief that this may cause. I grieve with you.

Some of the more beloved hymn tunes that will be dropped from our repertoire include:

You Are Mine	Now We Remain	Song of the Body of Christ
Holy Is Your Name	We Have Been Told	Table Song
We Are Called	The Harvest of Justice	We Give You Thanks
Blest Are They	We Will Rise Again	Saints of God
Mass of Light	We Shall Rise Again	Love is the Sunlight
You Are the Voice	Jesus, Wine of Peace	Jesus, Heal Us
Faith, Hope, and Love	Let Us Break Bread Together	
Come To Me (green Gather #650)	Without Seeing You	

This is by no means a complete list. If you have questions on a piece of music, please ask. I encourage you to pass this along to your committee members and other volunteers.

Blessings,

Laurie J. Youngers
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Additional Information:

[National Catholic Reporter Article](#)
[Statement Regarding David Haas - Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis](#)
[Catholic News Agency Article](#)
[Statement from GIA Publications](#)
[Statement from National Association of Pastoral Musicians](#)