

## ***THEN LET US SING / CHANTONS ENSEMBLE***

The launch of *Then Let Us Sing / Chantons Ensemble* is getting closer. The project subcommittees have been hard at work this year developing the content and supporting materials for the new collection along with building an online portal for previous material from *Voices United*, *More Voices*, and *Nos voix unis* and worship resources from *Gathering*. The church can look forward to a vibrant tool for music and worship in about a year's time!

As Music United's liaison with the project, I sit on the Material Curation subcommittee which is responsible for developing the new supplement as well as reviewing and updating the previously published material. Over the past year, we reviewed more than 1500 new submissions from across the country alongside a huge swath of previously published material from other collections to develop a list of some 150 songs that could form our new collection. We met in-person twice (once in October 2022 and once in April 2023) to work intensively to review the material, discuss complex issues, and develop our vision for the collection. Of particular importance at our April meeting was the finalizing of the *Then Let Us Sing / Chantons Ensemble* sampler that will be released at the beginning of September 2023.

The project continues to rely on an immense number of volunteers to make this happen. *Then Let Us Sing / Chantons Ensemble* is not only a supplement, it is also a team of marketers, animators, teachers, fundraisers, creators, dreamers, and theologians, all of whom are committed to thinking about what the church will be singing for generations to come. Those of us who serve on the project are especially grateful to our biggest cheerleaders: the members of Music United who continue to ask about the project and anticipate the release of the new material. Thank you for your energy and commitment to this work. And thank you for your ministry in leading the church's song!

Respectfully submitted,  
Josh Zentner-Barrett, Co-Chair, Material Curation subcommittee & Music United representative