**Intergenerational Music ideas Year A Advent 3 Dec 11 2016**

**Songs linked to Isaiah 35**

*When the King shall come again*
Hymns for Today's Church  #200

The lyrics of verses 2, 3 and 4 perfectly reflect the text of Isaiah. It is best sung to the lively tune that is familiar as ‘Good King Wenceslas', so will be accessible to many generations.

Those who are less enthused about singings and more interested in the words, may like to do a word hunt across the lyrics of this hymn and the text of Isaiah 35 (See example below) and highlight all the correlations. Make individual worksheets, or a large graffiti wall copy for multiple sleuths to work on.

[http://www.jubilate.co.uk/music_lyrics/lyric/when_the_king_shall_come_again](http://www.jubilate.co.uk/music_lyrics/lyric/when_the_king_shall_come_again)

**Songs linked to Luke 1:46b-55**

*Oh for a thousand tongues (various hymn books)*
This is ready made with intergenerational features. Low voices (adults) have a part at the beginning of the refrain, and high voices (children and other adult sopranos) echo.

Much of the intuitive part singing culture has been lost from communities, so this will need to be relearned – but taking the time to do it is well worth it for the sense of building an interesting sound together, and taking extra time sifting over the words.

A great way to start this song to unpack the opening line “O for a thousand tongues to sing my great redeemer’s praise” is to begin with one person singing the line

“O for a thousand tongues to sing”

Keep repeating this opening line, adding one or two voices with each repetition until everyone has joined in.

Introduce this process by highlighting the sense of the line which is not expressing the desire for one person to have lots of tongues, but for many people to join in the praise of God – and in fact, for many languages to join in God’s praise.
My Soul Magnifies the Lord  
Chris Tomlin

Listen: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HH2evDE3xhU  
lyrics and charts here: http://www.worshiptogether.com/songs/my-soul-magnifies-the-lord/  
or here: http://www.praisecharts.com/songs/details/9282/my-soul-magnifies-the-lord-sheet-music/


To create antiphonal sound in the chorus, in your gathering divide into 2 groups. Give one group the phrase ‘My soul, My Soul’ and the other group ‘Magnifies the Lord’ – and combine for ‘he has done great things for me’

Bring Heaven to Earth (We are Blessed)  
Andy Flanagan

http://www.andyflan.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/we_are_blessed.mp3


http://www.andyflan.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/we_are_blessed.ppt

Like Mary’s passionate protest poem prayer song in Luke 1 this song describes a number of reversals or switches from the expected – and announces that kingdom of God. We recognize this as what God’s work looks like. We also note that Mary described herself as ‘blessed’ to be part of God’s kingdom constructing work. We are blessed for this work too.

Including all the generations: The repeated ostinato motif played by the violin throughout the verses makes it easy for beginner players as well as more skilled musicians to participate (playing either the repeated semiquavers or taking is easy with quavers crotchets or minims).

To bring out the political protest flavor of both Mary’s song, and this song, create some protest style placards with select lyrics from the song, and invite volunteers to hold these up in the midst of the gathering during the song.
Teach a simple part that sustains the first two words of each line, held across the whole bar. For example:

![Sheet music for Bring Heaven to Earth (We are Blessed)](image)

**Miracle Child**
http://www.resoundworship.org/song/miracle_child
audio, sheet music and lead sheet are free to download with a (free) registration. Really simple stepwise melody – if you have any beginner instrumentalists, teaching the main 3 note ascending and 4 note descending phrases in the verses and for ‘Glory to God’ in the chorus which are simple scales.

**Songs linked to Matthew 11:2-1**

**The One we’ve been waiting for**

This is an original song by Melbourne musician Beth Barnett – so will be unfamiliar to many, but can be used freely. It directly asks the same question as John the Baptist in Matthew, and highlights the connections of Jesus’ answer with the texts from Isaiah, Luke and Psalm 146:

“The Blind who are now seeing,
the crippled now dancing,
the lost who are found and are on their way home,
the hungry now feasting,
the mourners now laughing…”

To introduce the song, teach the refrain ‘the one we’ve been waiting for...’ which recurs about 10 times.

When the King shall come again

1 When the King shall come again
   all his power revealing,
splendour shall announce his reign,
life and joy and healing:
earth no longer in decay,
hope no more frustrated;
this is God's redemption day
longingly awaited.

2 In the desert trees take root
   fresh from his creation;
plants and flowers and sweetest fruit
join the celebration.
Rivers spring up from the earth,
barren lands adorning;
valleys, this is your new birth,
mountains, greet the morning!

3 Strengthen feeble hands and knees,
fainting hearts, be cheerful!
God who comes for such as these
seeks and saves the fearful.
Deaf ears hear the silent tongues
sing away their weeping;
blind eyes see the lifeless ones
walking, running, leaping.

4 There God's highway shall be seen
   where no roaring lion,
nothing evil or unclean
walks the road to Zion:
ransomed people homeward bound
all your praises voicing,
see your Lord with glory crowned,
share in his rejoicing!

Christopher Idle from Isaiah 35
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Isaiah 35:1-10

1 The wilderness and the dry land shall be
glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom
abundantly, and rejoice with joy and
singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They
shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty
of our God.
3 Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance, with terrible
recompense. He will come and save you."
5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be
opened, and the ears of the deaf
unstopped;
6 then the lame shall leap like a deer, and
the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the
wilderness, and streams in the desert;
7 the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
8 A highway shall be there, and it shall be
called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not
travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
9 No lion shall be there, nor shall any
ravenous beast come up on it; they shall
not be found there, but the redeemed shall
walk there.
10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall
return, and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.