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For Immediate Release

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**Saint Paul Vocal Forum  
presents  
"Nights of the Soul: A Choral Journey"  
May 30, 31**

*Darkness to Morn - Mourning to Joy...* these words from the poet Madeleine L'Engle provide the inspiration for Saint Paul Vocal Forum's next concert, "Nights of the Soul: A Choral Journey." Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 30 at St. Peter's Catholic Church, North St. Paul and 4 p.m. Sunday, May 31 at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville. The concert is free and open to the public, though donations to SPVF will be accepted.

Joining the vocal ensemble for the first time is the acclaimed **Lake String Quartet** featuring Jennifer Thomas, Nanette Scott Goldman, Ingrid Koller and Daryl Carlson. Pianist **Steve Norquist** is also a featured performer in this concert.

Saint Paul Vocal Forum (SPVF) artistic director, **Karin Barrett**, has programmed beautiful, introspective choral works reflecting darkness and light, resilience and hope including Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo's stunning pieces, *Dark Night of the Soul* and *Luminous Night of the Soul*. Based upon poetry of the Spanish mystic, St. John of the Cross, musicians and audience alike are swept along on a transformative journey, beginning in darkness and ending with glimpses of sunlight.

In addition, three different expressions of James Agee's poem, *Sure on this Shining Night*, will serve as points of reflection, in gorgeous settings by American composers Samuel Barber, Morten Lauridsen and Rene Clausen. Works by Brahms, Craig Hella Johnson, Stephen Paulus and Dan Forrest round out this concert experience.

Concert-goers are encouraged to bring donations of non-perishable food items as SPVF partners with Neighborhood House for this program. Neighborhood House in St. Paul provides the tools needed for people to move from "survive to thrive."

Ignite your spirit of joyful discovery! Join the SPVF this spring, as the chamber ensemble continues its tradition of sharing exquisite choral music with people from all walks of life.

More information: [spvf.net](http://spvf.net) or 612-618-0219.



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



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**St. Paul Vocal Forum**

**1400 Searle Street, St. Paul, MN 55130**

**[www.spvf.net](http://www.spvf.net)**