

MARTIN TEL

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

C. F. SEABROOK DIRECTOR OF MUSIC (1996-PRESENT)

Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey

Responsibilities include:

- Coordinate and direct music for daily worship liturgies
- Conduct seminary choirs
- Coordinate a concert series offered to the larger Princeton community
- Serve as a member of the Faculty of Practical Theology (rank of Assistant Professor), teaching courses in church music
- Provide leadership in continuing education events for pastors and church musicians, both on and off campus

ORGANIST (PART-TIME) (2010-PRESENT)

First Presbyterian Church of Dutch Neck, Princeton Junction, New Jersey

Responsibilities include:

- Musical accompaniment of all liturgies
- Liturgical planning

EDUCATION

D.M.A., The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, 2002

Fulbright Scholar, Instituut voor Liturgiewetenschap, the University of Groningen (The Netherlands), 1995-1996

M.A., Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1993

M.M., University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, 1991

B.A., Dordt University, Sioux Center, Iowa, 1989

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Guild of Organists

Central New Jersey Chapter, sub-dean, 2024-2026

Central New Jersey Chapter, dean, 2026 to present

Hymn Society of the United States and Canada

Editorial Board of *The Hymn: Journal of Congregational Song*, 2018-2020

Annual Conference Program Chair, Princeton, 2025-2026

Named "Fellow of the Hymn Society" (FHS), 2026

Presbyterian Association of Musicians

Montreat Routley Lecturer, 2013

Montreat Service Musician, 2024

COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT (PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY)

The Book of Acts in Christian Worship (cross listed, New Testament and Worship)
co-taught with Eric D. Barreto

Chapel Choir (Worship)

Church History and Hymnody in Worship (cross listed, Church History and Worship)
co-taught with Paul Rorem

Collaborative Preparation for Worship (Worship)
co-taught with Westminster Choir College (Rider University) faculty

Holy Week Proclamation (Worship)
co-taught with Gerald Liu

Musical Resources for the Congregation (Worship)

Philosophy of Church Music (Worship)

The Psalms in Christian Worship (Worship)

Strategies for Inclusion of Cognitive Disability through Church Music (Worship)
co-taught with Patricia Thel

Taizé in the North American Context (Worship)

EDITED HYMNALS

Psalms for All Seasons: A Complete Psalter for Worship (CICW/Faith Alive/Brazos Press, 2012), senior editor.

Lift Up Your Hearts: Psalms Hymns and Spiritual Songs (Faith Alive, 2013), contributing editor.

Santo, Santo, Santo: Cantos para el pueblo de Dios / Holy, Holy, Holy: Songs for the People of God (GIA, 2019), contributing editor.

BOOK CHAPTERS

"Music: The 'Universal Language' That's Dividing the Church" in *Making Room at the Table: An Invitation to Multicultural Worship*, ed. Brian Blount and Leonora Tubbs Tisdale (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001), pp. 162-174.

"North American Psalters," in *Hymns and Hymnody: Historical and Theological Introductions, Volume 3: From English West to Global South* (Cascade, 2019), pp. 190-203.

"Calvinist and Reformed Practices of Worship," in *Historical Foundations of Worship: Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant Perspectives* (Baker Academic, 2022), pp. 178-191.

SELECT ARTICLES

"Truthfulness in Church Music" in *The Princeton Seminary Bulletin*, Vol. XIX No. 1 New Series 1998, pp.26-39.

"The Joe R. Engle Organ" in *The Princeton Seminary Bulletin*, Vol. XXII No. 1 New Series 2001, pp.33-44.

"Gebruyck of Ongebruyck: A Brief Overview of Historic Trends in the Use of the Organ in the Calvinist Churches of the Netherlands" in *The Princeton Seminary Bulletin*, Vol. XXIV No. 3 New Series 2003, pp. 313-327.

"With Gratitude" in *Theology Today*, Vol. 63 No. 1 (April 2006), pp. 5-10.

"They Just Don't Sing Like They Used To: Why Congregational Singing Has Fallen on Hard Times" in *Reformed Worship*, Vol. 84 (June 2007).

"A Love Stronger than Death: Celebrating Easter with the Song of Songs" in *Reformed Worship*, Vol. 94 (December 2009).

"Difficult Psalms for Difficult Times" in *Reformed Worship*, Vol. 96 (June 2010)

"The Psalter in the Hymnal" in *Reformed Worship*, Vol. 107 (May 2013).

"Necessary Songs: The case for singing the entire Psalter" in *Christian Century*, Vol. 131, issue 1 (January 8, 2014).

"Mirroring the Psalms in Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany" in *Reformed Worship*, Vol. 113 (August 2014).

"Singing the Meaning of Christ's Death" in *Reformed Worship*, Vol. 114 (November 2014).

"Quodlibet: A Holy Mash-up" in *Reformed Worship*, Vol. 115 (February 2015).

"Psalm 1: A Walk in the Woods" in *Reformed Worship*, Vol. 116 (June 2015).

"Calvinists and Catholics: Holding the Psalter Together" in *Pastoral Music* Vol. 41 (September 2017), pp. 25-28.

"[Re-]Framing Welcome through Song" A Field Report" in *The Hymn: A Journal of Congregational Song* Vol. 72, No. 2 (August 2021), pp. 18-26. (Based on a plenary lecture presented at the 2021 annual meeting of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada (online), July 13, 2021.)

"Lectionary Aids: Psalms and Canticles for Year A" in *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts* Vol. 56.1 (May 2022).

"Lectionary Aids: Psalms and Canticles for Year B" in *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts* Vol. 57.1 (July 2023).

"Lectionary Aids: Psalms and Canticles for Year C" in *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts* Vol. 58.1 (June 2024).

"How Can We Sing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land? The demise (and resurgence) of metrical Psalm-singing in North America" in *The Hymn Society Bulletin* (The Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland), Vol. 24 no. 9 (Winter 2026). pp. 341-350. (Based on a plenary lecture presented at the 2025 annual meeting of The Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland, July 25, 2025.)

INVITED LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Conference Organizer, *The Organ in Christian Worship*, Princeton Theological Seminary, February 2001.

Invited Lecturer, Tainan Theological College and Seminary (Tainan, Taiwan) and Taiwan Seminary (Taipei, Taiwan), May 2004.

Invited Lecturer, St. Andrew Centre, Coonoor, Tamil Nadu, India, May 3-8, 2010.

Invited Lecturer, Delhi Bible Institute, New Delhi, India, May 10-14, 2010.

Hymnal Showcase for *Psalms for All Seasons* at the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada annual conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba, July 18, 2012.

"An Exploration of the Psalter as Teacher of Song and Prayer," keynote lecturer for the inaugural meeting of the Chinese Bible Teachers Fellowship, Toronto, Canada, August 19, 2012.

"Difficult Psalms for Difficult Seasons," lecture at the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada annual conference in Richmond, Virginia, July 15 and 18, 2013. Selected for Encore Presentation.

"The Psalter as Scaffolding and Structure for Worship," lecture series presented at Princeton Theological Seminary's Institute of Worship, Princeton, New Jersey. 1. *Back to School: Grammar Lessons from the Psalter*; 2. *Five Possible Stances for Praying the Prayer of Wrath*; 3. *Singing the Christian Year through the Psalms*, July 21-26, 2013.

"A Panorama of Psalmody: The View Beyond Psalm 23," Routley Lecture Series at the Montreat Conferences on Worship and Music, Montreat, North Carolina. 1. *Antecedents of Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal* (parts I and II); 2. *Back to School: Grammar Lessons from the Psalter*; 3. *(Off-) Road Trip: Unexplored Territory in the Psalter*; 4. *Singing the Christian Year through the Psalms*, June 16-28, 2013.

"Let US Worship God: finding the liturgical plural in a singular culture," lecture delivered at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, January 13, 2014.

"No Door Can Keep Them Out: welcoming the unsung Psalm," lecture delivered at the Philadelphia chapter of the American Guild of Organists "January JumpStart," January 18, 2014.

"The Psalter: Taking Worship to the Gym," lecture series presented at Virginia Wesleyan College Sacred Music Summer Conference, Virginia Beach, Virginia. 1. *All the Muscle Groups*; 2. *Twisting with the Psalms*; 3. *The Most Difficult Psalms*, July 29, 2014.

"Lament-able Worship," lecture delivered at Suffolk County chapter of the American Guild of Organists, Brooklyn, New York, September 19, 2014.

"Framing Liturgy," lecture delivered at Westminster Choir College Summer Re-Charge, Princeton, New Jersey, August 7, 2014.

"Psalms for All Seasons," hymnal showcase presented at the International Hymn Conference, Robinson College, Cambridge, England, July 29, 2015.

"Uncovering the Psalms in Worship," lecture presented at the Festival of Worship and Sacred Music at Greyfriars Church, Edinburgh, Scotland, August 8, 2015.

"Gained in Translation," lecture presented at the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada annual conference in St. Louis, Missouri, July 18, 2018.

"Praying (and Singing!) the Prayer of Wrath," St. Columba Lecture, Parkview, Johannesburg, South Africa, October 23, 2018.

"Joy to the World: A Reappraisal of Isaac Watts' 1719 Psalter," lecture presented at The Foundation for Reformed Theology conference, Princeton, New Jersey, October 3, 2019.

"Gracious Bilingual Singing," workshop presented at the Calvin Worship Symposium, Grand Rapids, Michigan, January 31, 2020.

"Worshipping in Unity | Adorando en Unidad," lecture presented with María Eugenia Cornou at the Princeton Theological Seminary Continuing Education Pastoral Ministry Series, Princeton, New Jersey, February 10, 2020.

"Big Ideas for the Small Church," workshop series presented at the Montreat Conferences on Worship and Music, Montreat, North Carolina, June 16-28, 2024.

"Hearing Voices in the Psalms," lecture presented (online) at the "Practices of Faith in Times of National and Global Crises" conference, Stellenbosch University, South Africa, March 16, 2021.

"In Seasons of Distress and Grief ... Learning from the Psalms How to Lament in Worship," lecture presented at the "Singing the Psalms Conference," The Methodist School of Music, Singapore, September 11, 2021 (online).

"The Genesis and Genius of the Genevan Psalter (and its relevance for worship today)," lecture presented as part of the Independent Presbyterian Church's Religious Arts Festival, Birmingham, Alabama, February 2, 2026.

ECCLESIAL SERVICES

- Deacon (Reformed Church in America)
- Ruling Elder (Presbyterian Church (USA))
- Commission on Christian Worship (Reformed Church in America), 2001-2005
- Bi-Denominational Hymnal Commission (Reformed Church in America and Christian Reformed Church in North America), 2007-2012