

April 16, 2010

Fourth Presbyterian Church

## Friday Noonday Concert

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Paul Carr, organ

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Paraphrase: "See the conq'ring hero comes!" (opus 90)	<i>Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)</i>
Choral et Fugue (opus 57)	<i>Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)</i>
Fantasia in F Minor	<i>Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1781)</i>
Scherzo	<i>Gaston Litaize (1909-1991)</i>
Vocalise	<i>Sergei Rachmaninov (1873-1943)</i>
Coronation March 1937: Crown Imperial	<i>Sir William Walton (1902-1983)</i>

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**Organist Paul Carr** is Organist and Director of Music at St Paul's in Birmingham, Chicago's sister city in the United Kingdom. He leads a busy schedule as both solo recitalist and choral accompanist. Paul studied under Roy Massey (MBE) at Hereford Cathedral and David Saint at Birmingham Conservatoire, graduating with first-class honours. Paul has performed on many of the finest instruments in the UK. Recent and forthcoming venues include Westminster Abbey; Lichfield Cathedral; Blenheim Palace; Truro Cathedral; Kelvingrove Art Gallery, Glasgow; St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh; and Alexandra Palace. In February 2010, Paul was a guest recitalist of Birmingham City Organist Thomas Trotter, performing to a large audience on the celebrated William Hill instrument at the historic Birmingham Town Hall. Paul recently gave a recital at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and has toured with choirs to Poland and the Czech Republic. Later this year he will tour Slovakia with Birmingham Festival Choral Society and return for the ninth time to perform in Germany. Every month, Paul plays a concert in his series "Sunday Afternoon Organ Music," which he founded at Holy Trinity Parish Church in Wordsley, Stourbridge, in 2003. He is also Artistic Director of "Thursday Live," a new series of organ recitals at St Paul's in Birmingham.

Between 1993 and 2003, he performed a series of 100 recitals on the 1909 Norman & Beard organ at Cradley Heath Methodist Church. Leading up to and following the closure of the church in July 2004, Paul and his wife, Hannah, worked tirelessly to re-home the instrument, which was eventually relocated on the other side of the world at the Gulangyu Organ Museum in Xiamen, China. It is now the centre piece of the largest museum of its kind in the world. Future plans include a visit to Xiamen, where Paul will give concerts on this and other instruments acquired by the museum. Paul also regularly accompanies visiting choirs in cathedrals around the UK. He is frequently in demand for choral accompaniment, especially for the Romantic and twentieth-century French repertoire. He is currently President of the Birmingham Organists' Association, a registered charity that exists to promote the art of music, with particular reference to liturgical and organ music, in the Birmingham area ([www.paulcarr.co.uk](http://www.paulcarr.co.uk)).

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Contributions in support of the Noonday Concert Series can be made at the exits on your way out today.