



# OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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For Immediate Release

## **Our Saviour's Presents 'Many Voices of the Violin'** *Fairfield Violinist George Philips in Concert May 22 at 3 p.m.*

**FAIRFIELD, Conn.**, May 12, 2011 – Our Saviour's Lutheran Church will present Fairfield violinist George Philips in "Many Voices of the Violin," a musical trip to the zoo and beyond, on Sunday, May 22, at 3:00 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

Philips, a 2005 graduate of Fairfield Warde High School and the Eastman School of Music in 2009, will demonstrate the incredible range of the violin as he plays a series of classical pieces that evoke the sounds of swans, ghosts, frogs, crickets, cuckoo birds, hens, roosters, bees, cows, a beautiful young girl, a beautiful evening, and a trip to a rodeo. The concert will include a musical rendition of Munro Leaf's classic children's book, "The Story of Ferdinand," later made into an animated short film, "Ferdinand the Bull," and arranged for solo violin by Alan Ridout.

"This is a wonderful and whimsical journey that shows how the violin can mimic all sorts of sounds in nature," said Dr. Alice Caldwell, music director at Our Saviour's. "It's great entertainment for children of all ages."

After graduating from the Eastman School of Music, Philips, 23, moved to India and served as a violin teacher at a school in Madras founded by A.R. Rahman, Oscar-winning composer for the film, "Slumdog Millionaire." During his year in India, Philips developed a strings program for children from the slums of Madras. His work there was the inspiration for his May 22 concert at Our Saviour's.

"We found that playing music with visual narratives was very engaging for the students," said Philips. "They put on a concert called 'A Trip to the Jungle,' where they played songs representing various creatures and scenes you would see in a jungle, such as monkeys, crocodiles, snakes, and stars twinkling at night. This was a very effective way to introduce them to classical music."

The May 22 concert will feature the classical pieces "The Swan" by Saint-Saens, "Graceful Ghost" by Bolcolm, "Ferdinand the Bull" by Ridout, "The Bee" by Schubert, "Hoe-Down" by Copland, "Sonata Representativa" by Biber, and "Beau Soir" and "Girl With the Flaxen Hair" by Debussy.

Philips will be accompanied by LiPi Hsieh on piano and Alice Caldwell on harpsichord. Pianist Emeric Viani will be the narrator for "Ferdinand the Bull."

Philips will be pursuing his Master's degree in Music Education at New York University starting this fall. He was a music intern at Our Saviour's from 2005 to 2007, performing regularly in special music programs at the Fairfield church as part of its resident string ensemble, the Collegium Musicum.

For more information about the concert and other programs, contact Our Saviour's at (203) 255-0545. The church is located at 160 Hill Farm Road (corner of Duck Farm Road) in Fairfield.

**About Our Saviour's**

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), reaches out to the world and to its local communities with the Good News of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The congregation receives strength for this mission through Worship, Christian Education, Service, Benevolent Giving, Witness, Mutual Support and a commitment to grow in faith and participation. Our Saviour's is guided in the belief that, "As God Gives to Us, So We Give to Others."

Holy Communion is celebrated during worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. The church also offers Sunday School and Adult Discussion programs at 9:30 a.m. For more information, please call (203) 255-0545 or visit us at [www.oursaviours.net](http://www.oursaviours.net).

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