

# MENDELSSOHN

CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH



## PRE-VISIT STORY

### Sensory-Friendly

# Concert

Our thanks to Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre for allowing us to adapt their materials.

# Westminster Presbyterian Church



I am going to Westminster Presbyterian Church in Upper St. Clair.

This is where the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh will sing for this concert.

# The Promise of Light



The title of the concert is *The Promise of Light*. The concert includes music that focuses on themes of darkness and light.

Some of the music is loud, and some is soft.  
Some of the music is fast, and some is slow.

I will hear different sounds and styles of music from the choir.

# Greeters



When I arrive, I will see a greeter.

The greeter will welcome me into the Westminster Presbyterian Church lobby.

The greeter will offer me materials for crafts and activities, and help me get around.

# Lobby



When I enter Westminster Presbyterian Church, I will enter the lobby.

The lobby might be crowded and noisy.

There are activities I can do before finding my seat.

If I don't like the lobby, I can go to a quiet area in the church at any time.

# Quiet Areas



If I need to take a break, I will tell the person I came with.

I can leave the lobby activities or the concert any time I want to go to a quiet area.

I can relax in the quiet areas. I can use tools in the quiet areas to help my body feel calm.

Ushers can help me get to quiet areas.

# Restrooms



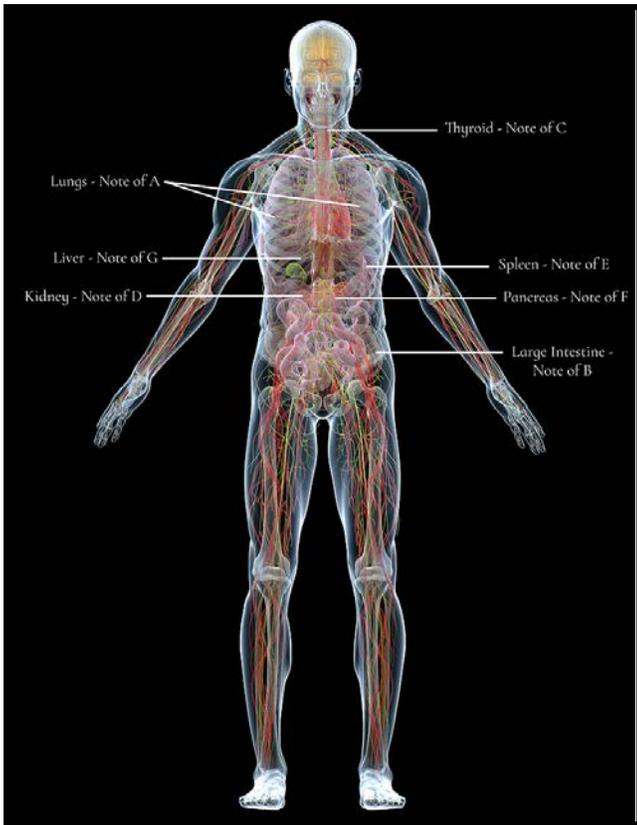
If I have to go to the bathroom, I will let my caretaker know.

I can go to the bathroom any time I need to.

I need to flush the toilet myself.

The sound of the flushing toilet can be loud, but it will only be for a short time.

# Music and Healing Activity



I can participate in a Music and Healing activity before the show.

This activity will let me explore my senses with colors, relaxing sounds, and other items.



This activity will be led by Gerald.

# Vocal Activity



I can participate in a singing activity before the show, where I can do different things to explore using my voice.



This activity will be led by Katy.

# Adaptive Dance Activity

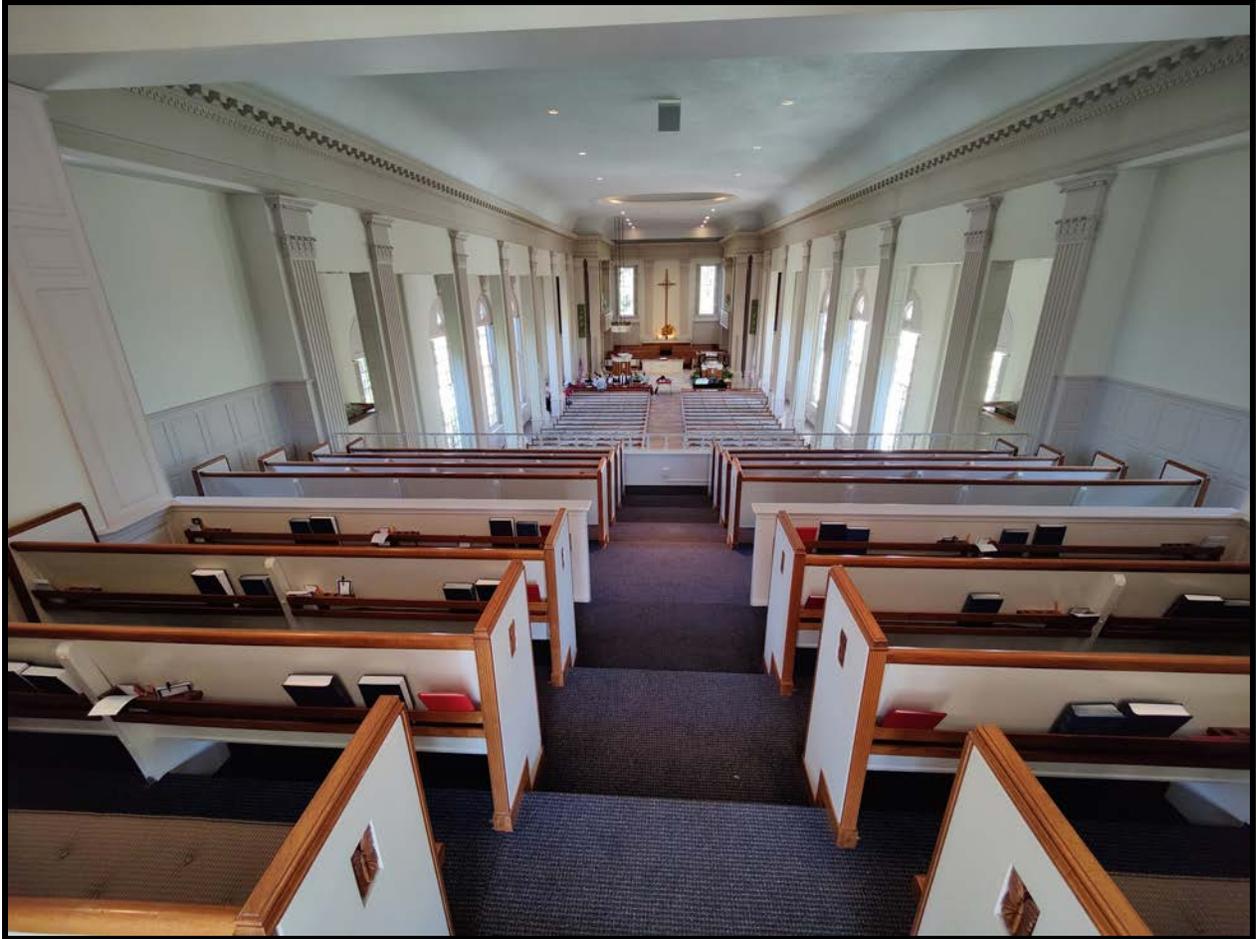


I can participate in a dancing activity before the show, where I can do different things to explore using my body.



This activity will be led by Lindsey (left) and Kati (right).

# Sitting in the Hall



During the concert, I can sit anywhere I'd like.

I can sit anywhere in the hall, either on the ground floor or in the upper balcony.

Sitting in different places will make the music sound different from the choir.

# Volunteers



Volunteers are helpers at the concert.

Volunteers can tell me where everything is, show me to my seats, and help me if I need to go to the bathroom or a quiet area.

# Host



The concert has a host. The host tells us what will happen during the concert.

Katy Williams is today's host. Katy is a singer, educator, and speaker.

# Musicians



A choir is a group of musicians who sing together.

Sometimes they will sing with an accompanist playing the piano. Other times they will sing without any other instruments.

# Conductor



When the choir is on stage, I will see a person standing in front of the choir. This person is called the conductor.

I will see the conductor move his arms to tell the musicians how to sing the music.

Today's conductor is Matthew Mehaffey.

# Listening to the Music



During the concert, I will hear many different kinds of songs.

Some songs will be fast, some will be slow. Some songs will be loud and some will be soft.

If the music is too loud, I can cover my ears, wear headphones, or go to a quiet area.

# Audience Participation



During the concert, I can sing, move, and dance to the music if I want to.

I can answer questions that the host asks the audience.

# Leaving



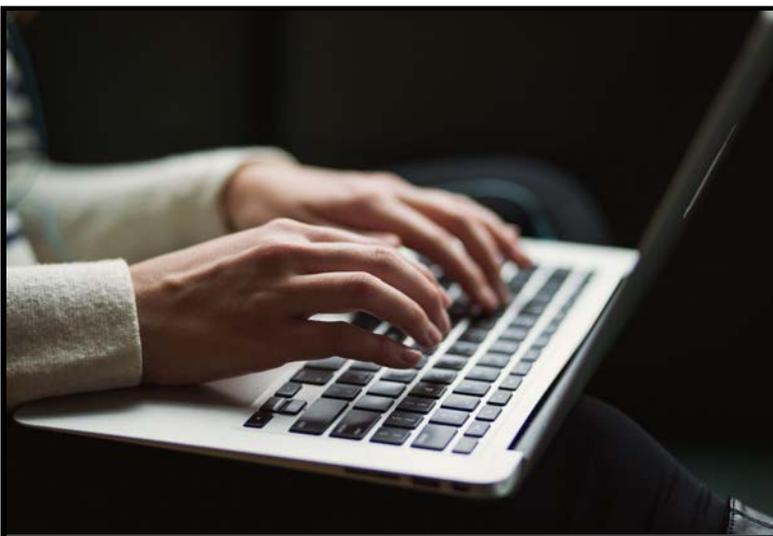
After the concert, I will leave my seat and walk in the aisle to leave the concert hall.

I will walk slowly while leaving the concert hall.

# Surveys



After the concert, I can fill out a survey to talk about my experiences at the concert.



This survey will be sent out by email for me to complete on the computer.

# Special Thanks!

These awesome people helped create this pre-visit story!



Lindsey and Kati from the  
Pittsburgh Ballet



Roger from The George Washington  
University School of Medicine and Health  
Sciences



Suzanne from the  
Pittsburgh Symphony  
(left)

Jessi from the Minnesota  
Orchestra (right)

