

MENDELSSOHN

CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH



TIP SHEET

Sensory-Friendly Concert

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

Preparation

This concert will be completely free! All you need to do is register your family beforehand! Visit <https://www.themendelsohn.org/westminster-presbyterian-church/> to register and receive more information, including our pre-visit story for the venue.

What to Wear

There is no dress code. Feel free to wear what is most comfortable to you. Please be considerate of those who may have allergies or chemical sensitivities. It is recommended that you refrain from using strong perfumes and colognes so as not to distract the patrons sitting around you.

What to Bring

Please bring any items that will help you adjust to the concert space. These may include headphones, weighted vests, and other items that are not sharable.

Arrival and Wayfinding

When you arrive, enter the building through the front doors facing Washington Road. Patrons with mobility concerns may enter the church via the ramp to the right side of the church building, facing Washington Road.

Ushers and volunteers will greet you and help you navigate inside to the lobby, bathrooms, and various pre-concert activities.



Provided Materials

There will be goodie bags offered to each family. Each bag will contain papers with concert information, and items you can keep like fidgets and ear plugs.

Additional accommodating items such as noise-cancelling headphones, weighted blankets, pillows, will be available for use in the quiet rooms and concert hall for those who would like them.



Pre-concert Activities

We recommend arriving at least 15 minutes prior to the concert's start time of 2:30 pm. We also encourage you to come earlier for pre-concert activities available from 1:30-2:30.

There will be a music and healing activity, a sing along activity, and a dance activity for you to choose from! You can move around freely during the activity times.



Concert

The concert will be about 60 minutes long with a mix of soft and loud music, speaking portions with poems and other texts, and opportunities for participation. There will not be an intermission, but you are free to move around and leave or return at any time.



Relaxed Environment

Our Relaxed Family Concert experience takes place in an inclusive environment where all people are welcome to be who they are and move, vocalize, clap, or otherwise respond to the music freely at any time.

The auditorium house lights will remain on at a low level during the performance. You will have the flexibility to enter, exit or find a new seat as needed throughout the concert. You are also welcome to visit a quiet area or ask a volunteer for noise reduction headphones anytime someone in your party is feeling overwhelmed.



Quiet Spaces

Designated quiet spaces are available throughout the activities and concert. In these spaces, you'll find items such as weighted sensory supports and noise-cancelling headphones. You are welcome to visit anytime someone in your party is feeling overwhelmed or in need of a break.

During the concert, one of the quiet spaces will have digital video and audio feed of the performance. Pick up a lobby map or ask one of our ushers or volunteers to learn more.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located on each level. Accessible restrooms are located behind the sanctuary space where the concert will take place. Ask one of our ushers or volunteers to learn more. Toilets are manually flushed and you can use paper towels to dry your hands.



Photography and Video

During your visit, you may be photographed, filmed or recorded by Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh-designated photographers or videographers. If you do not wish to be photographed, filmed or recorded, please speak with an usher or volunteer. **If you are taking photos, please do not use flash photography, video or audio recording in the sanctuary.** (Flash photography is permissible in all other spaces.)



Electronic Devices

The use of electronic devices for accessibility purposes is welcome throughout the church. Throughout the day, please share your photos on social media.
#fromdarktolight #promiseoflight
#mendelssohnchoirofpgh #choralmusic
#mcpsensoryfriendly



Surveys

The Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh strives to provide the best possible experiences for our audiences. To help serve you better, please complete a post-concert survey for this event. Survey invitations will be sent via email after the concert. Thank you in advance for sharing your insights!

Contact Us

For more information, please contact Vinay Thomas at vthomas@themendelssohn.org.