

Singing in church

by [Peter Meister](#) in the [July 15, 2020](#) issue

for W. H. Auden

*Creator Spirit, Come* I bellow as Herr Beer  
picks up our slim offerings  
“Whitsunday in Kirchstetten”

A bass somewhere invented sticky notes  
for zipping around in his hymnal. In our choir,  
the back row includes an engineer  
who does amazing stuff; a lawyer-priest;  
a guy down on his luck; and other mentors  
with miracles strewn throughout their week  
and deeper past.

Funny enough to wake—  
but don’t get me started on the tenors  
and other sects.

Hushed, bowed  
before the One, Who is, you were  
circumspect about your private sphere,  
Anglican, discreetly including God.  
Happy belting, happy keeping still  
to hear so many voices blending well.