

Mark Sedio Named 2025 Raabe Prize Winner



The Association of Lutheran Church Musicians is pleased to announce that Mark Sedio is the recipient of the **2025 Raabe Prize for Excellence in Sacred Composition** for his choral submission, "[Nada me falta](#)."

Mark Sedio served as Cantor at Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis from 2000-2021. Prior to his appointment at Central, Sedio was Cantor at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN, from 1984-2000 and Director of Music at Saint Paul Lutheran in Davenport, IA, 1979-1982. He has held various faculty and instructor positions at Augsburg University, Gustavus Adolphus College, and Luther Seminary. An Augsburg alumnus (1976) he currently serves as University Organist.

Sedio is an active recitalist, clinician, conductor, and composer, having presented hymn festivals and workshops throughout North America and Europe. Over 125 of his compositions for organ, piano, and choral and instrumental ensembles are available from a variety of publishers. His hymn tunes, texts, and harmonizations appear in various denominational hymnals and hymnal supplements. A love of foreign language acquisition and linguistics combined with interest in folk music and styles has led to a keen interest in global church music.

Mark holds the M.A. degree in choral conducting from the University of Iowa (1979) and has

studied in the M.Div. program at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, and the Liturgical Studies program at St. John's University, Collegeville, MN. A charter member of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, Sedio served on the organization's founding board and as its first Director of Ecclesiastical Concerns. He is an ordained deacon in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and lives in the Twin Cities with his spouse Jeffrey Sartain, an ELCA pastor, and their Lhasa Apso Ibsen. "[Nada me falta](#)" is published by Augsburg Fortress.

The selection committee, headed by Dr. Thomas Schmidt, included the following comments regarding "Nada me falta" in their report to the ALCM board:

"Among the 48 entries in the Raabe Competition this year, there were quite a number of excellent compositions. The committee had a lively and fruitful discussion and came to a unanimous consensus. The winning piece, "Nada me falta" by Mark Sedio, is an infectious bilingual setting of Psalm 23 accompanied by organ and percussion. It employs a refrain that can be sung by the congregation, has varied verses for SATB choir, and is well constructed throughout. We see it being used widely in our congregations."



The Raabe Prize for Excellence in Sacred Composition is awarded every two years for a single musical work, published or unpublished and written within the last five years, that reflects a larger history of excellence on the part of the composer. Dr. William and Rev. Nancy Raabe of Philadelphia, PA, endowed this prize to recognize and encourage significant accomplishments in composition contributing to the body of sacred music for the church in the Lutheran heritage. Visit www.alcm.org for more information about the Raabe Prize.