

## Cornerstone University Chorale UK 2025 Tour Student Reflections

*Each paragraph is a separate, personal story of the way God worked in a student's life.*

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*The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy (Ps 126:3).*

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I am just beginning to uncover the many blessings God has given through our UK tour. This month was a season of endings for me including the last day at my internship, graduation from Cornerstone, and saying goodbye to being a part of such an amazing choral group. Living with our theme of Hallelujah on tour, I was ushered into a heart posture of reflection on God's faithfulness through my four years at Cornerstone. Chorale has been an important part of my life and I am overjoyed to have been able to sing the praises of God in the UK and see the impact on the lives of those we touched as well as on my own heart.

*Bergen Lindahl, Senior, Social Work  
Fargo, North Dakota*

God revealed His perfect love to me throughout tour through music, devotionals, sermons, prayers, nature, and more. This was significant since I have listened to the devil's lies that I am not good enough most of my life. Low self-esteem is something that is so intertwined within my subconscious that part of me does not believe the truth of God's love. Moving on from the mountain-top experience of tour, I can't wait to see how God continues to move my heart and to heal and fill my spirit with his perfect love.

*Makayla Weaver, Sophomore, Vocal Music Education  
Allendale, Michigan*

Our tour to the UK was very impactful for me as God reinforced the fact that he is the one who sustains us and gives us strength. There were days I felt weak and spiritually attacked, but when I turned to the Lord

in prayer he filled and sustained me. I had many conversations on tour in which people said they could hear God speak through us. And I truly believe that is what happened. We are God's vessels, and he made music through us. Tour also helped grow my understanding of community with other believers. Worshiping with believers from around the world gave me a glimpse of heaven. I'm grateful for my tour experience because I saw God's will unfold.

*Abigail Byykkonen, Freshman, Vocal Music Education  
Hastings, Michigan*







The Lord showed me so many things on our tour. I was filled with awe as we traveled and got to experience so much of God's beautiful creation and meet so many wonderful people in each country.

One very special moment occurred at our concert at Down Cathedral in Downpatrick, N. Ireland. I was very tired after almost 2 weeks of touring, and I didn't have much energy to perform that day. As soon as we began to sing our songs of praise, I was filled with the Holy Spirit which resulted in a joy that I couldn't contain! I was filled with so much emotion that I had the biggest smile on my face for the remainder of our concert and the rest of that weekend. God blessed me on this tour by surrounding me with many amazing friends and teaching me something new every time we sang. I'm so thankful that I was given this opportunity to travel with my Chorale family to bring the message of the Gospel to the United Kingdom!

*Anastasia Kurtz, Freshman, Vocal Music Education  
West Branch, Michigan*

Throughout our tour, I was able to learn much about history, perform in beautiful cathedrals, and hear many stories of how God has been working. As a blind person, while I cannot see the architecture of the buildings we performed in or visited, I was able to learn the story of worship and God's work within those walls over the centuries and perceive it through the stories of Chorale members and with those who were impacted by our music. God made me aware of his presence even in the unseen beauty of the buildings and countries that we experienced. We were living and singing God's story and sharing the message of hope and joy across the UK and Ireland.

*Nasko Cleland, Sophomore, Ministry/Biblical Studies  
Battle Creek, Michigan*



I saw the Lord show up in relationships with my brothers and sisters in Chorale. The Lord used this tour to deepen meaningful connections I already had, and I was blessed to have positive experiences with everyone I spent time with. I also saw how the Lord moved people through our ministry, especially in our concerts. He is also taking our performance of "[Do Not Be Afraid](#)" much farther than the churches we sang in via [live recordings](#) on the internet.

*Adam Rasmussen, Senior, Vocal Music & Secondary Math Education  
Traverse City, Michigan*



God has been showing me the wonder of the Body of Christ in the lives of individual believers. I used to believe that, though God heals and restores through secondary means, the “best” way of healing was an instantaneous fix of the problem. It wasn’t until this year in Chorale, and specifically this trip, that I’ve come to understand that God’s “plan A” of healing is often through people. Just as the human body works together with all of its facets to heal, restore itself, and function healthily, so it is in the Body of Christ. We are meant to lift one another up and help each other heal. On this tour, I got to experience deeply what it means to be a part of the work God was doing in His Body and contribute to bringing that wonder to life.

*Makenna Blakeley, Freshman, Ministry/Music  
Farmington, Michigan*



There are few words that grasp the deep and meaningful transformation that occurs on a trip like this. We left campus with a word—“Hallelujah.” For me, Hallelujah came to life as we sang across the United Kingdom ministering to thousands in cathedrals and local churches. We also ministered to people on the street, bus drivers, tour guides, hotel staff, and within our Chorale family. Some days Hallelujah comes easily and other days it’s a broken Hallelujah. Our praise resists what the world says should break us and instead declares who holds tomorrow. Hallelujah draws us back to the truth of who He is within the storm, within the brokenness. It reveals the Comforter, the One who leads through any storm and loves us more than we’ll ever know. We came together as 30 voices with unique stories and proclaimed a collective Hallelujah. Our ministry was made stronger by the effects it had in our personal lives allowing us to pour even more into everyone we met along the way. We were blessed to share the ministry of Hallelujah. And our Hallelujah doesn’t end here. It’s eternal.

*Cora Yoder, Junior Business Administration/Worship Arts  
Hesston, Kansas*



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