

# Casavant Frères



## ***Sun City, Arizona – American Lutheran Church of Sun City***

Three manuals and pedals, 42 stops, 56 ranks  
Movable drawknob console, compass 61/32  
Electric slider action  
Opus 3798, 2001  
Photograph: Stanley Scheer

When the congregation of American Lutheran Church in Sun City, Arizona built their church no thought was given to placing a pipe organ in the building. Over the years the director of music built an active music program that is impressive in both quality and number of participants. After many years of using an electronic organ, a donor approached the organist to ask about the possibilities of installing a pipe organ and the organ project was born. The building was dry acoustically and the congregational singing was difficult at best. The church's fine choral ensembles had to work diligently to produce sound that was not enhanced by the space. Therefore it was important to engage an acoustician to find solutions to the acoustical problems prior to the installation of the new organ. The improved room is much more kind to music and it is now a joy to sing and hear music in this space.

As we studied the various possibilities for positioning the organ we needed to find a solution that would allow the instrument to be used to its fullest capacity for choral accompaniment. The choir sings from a raised loft at the front of the nave on the right side of the building so it was important to keep the manual divisions, especially the expressive sections, as close to the choristers as possible. Fortunately there was a large open area in the right front corner adjacent to the choir loft that had enough space and height to locate the Swell and Choir divisions. New casework was designed to frame the central stained glass window that remains the focal point of the church. The Great division is placed in the right case where it is close to the choir while the upper part of the pedal division is located in the left case. The wall behind the case containing the pedal division was opened into a space behind that previously held air-handling units in order to provide a home for the large open wood pipes and the other tall space-consuming pedal stops. The chamber formerly housing the electronic organ speakers became the new home to the Solo division. From its position to the right of the window, the Tuba speaks with authority into the church from this elevated position, which also gives the soft flute céleste an ethereal quality.

<b>Great Organ</b>		<b>Swell Organ</b>	
Violin Bass (Ext.)	16	Diapason	8
Open Diapason	8	Major Flute	8
Violin	8	Viole de Gambe	8
Chimney Flute	8	Voix Céleste (GG)	8
Harmonic Flute (common bass)	8	Octave	4
Octave	4	Harmonic Flute	4
Open Flute	4	Nazard	2-2/3
Major Quint	2-2/3	Octavin	2
Super Octave	2	Tierce	1-3/5
Fourniture IV	1-1/3	Plein Jeu V	2
Bassoon	16	Contra Trumpet	16
Trumpet	8	Harmonic Trumpet	8
Great Unison Off		Oboe	8
Chimes		Vox Humana	8
		Tremulant	
		Swell 16', Unison Off, Swell 4'	
<b>Choir Organ</b>		<b>Pedal Organ</b>	
Salicional	8	Contrabass <sup>1</sup>	32
Bourdon	8	Contra Bourdon <sup>1</sup>	32
Principal	4	Contrabass	16
Spindle Flute	4	Violin Bass (Great)	16
Principal	2	Sub Bass	16
Quint	1-1/3	Open Diapason	8
Sesquialtera II	2-2/3	Violin (Great)	8
Fourniture III	1	Stopped Flute (Ext.)	8
Cromorne	8	Octave	4
Tremulant		Mixture IV	2-2/3
Choir 16', Unison Off, Choir 4'			

<sup>1</sup> Digital

<b>Solo Organ</b>		<b>Pedal Organ (continued)</b>	
Flutes Célestes II (TC, from 8')	16	Contra Bombarde <sup>1</sup>	32
Flutes Célestes II	8	Bombarde	16
Flutes Célestes II (from 8')	4	Bassoon (Great)	16
Solo Organ (continued)		Trumpet (Ext.)	8
Tuba Magna (TC, from 8')	16	Pedal Organ (continued)	
Tuba Mirabilis	8	Clarion (Ext.)	4
Tuba Clarion (Ext.)	4	Chimes	
		<sup>1</sup> Digital	

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