



Almost 14 months have passed since Russia attacked Ukraine. Thousands of people were killed, millions fled away from the war zone. Hundreds of cities, towns and villages have been completely wiped out. It is only thanks to the courage of the Ukrainian Defense Forces, coupled with generous military, technical and financial support provided by the USA and its Allies that Ukraine withstands the aggression and is able to resist and to defend its land and freedom.

# UKRAINE

## WAR, CULTURE, AND MUSIC

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-7:00pm

Faith Lutheran Church

7750 Beneva Rd, Sarasota, FL 34238

<https://www.faithlutheransrq.com/>



Dr. Taras Filenko

**A concert celebrating Ukrainian music and culture**

**(Free admission)**

Join the Ukrainian community at the Faith Lutheran Church of Sarasota for a special evening celebrating Ukrainian culture. It will feature renowned concert pianist and Ukrainian music historian Dr. Taras Filenko.

This concert presents a unique opportunity to experience classical, romantic, and modern music by Ukrainian composers and understand the importance of music to the survival of Ukrainian cultural life.

**Voluntary donations** from this event will be directed to the not-for-profit organizations providing humanitarian support to Ukraine:

UNWLA United National Women's League of America - <https://www.unwla.org/>

International Rescue Committee - <https://my.care.org/>

Together for Ukraine - <https://togetherforukraine.us/>

**For information:**

UNWLA - Nadia Kachalenko: 201-978-8778; [nkachalenko@gmail.com](mailto:nkachalenko@gmail.com)

Faith Lutheran Church of Sarasota: 941-924-4664



### Dr. Taras Filenko

Dr. Taras Filenko is a noted scholar and performer of Ukrainian music. A graduate of the National Academy of Music in Kyiv, Dr. Filenko went on to serve as a member of the faculty and eventually as Associate Dean of Conducting and Voice. From the Academy, he was awarded a Ph.D. in historic musicology in 1989, later earning a doctorate in Ethnomusicology from the University of Pittsburgh in 1998.

For over forty years, Dr. Filenko has worked in the fields of History of Music, Ethnomusicology, and Music Performance (piano, organ, and choir directing), successfully combining his work as scholar, teacher, and performer. He has presented concerts throughout Europe and North America, making numerous media appearances promoting the works of contemporary Ukrainian composers.

Dr. Filenko is a recipient of Fulbright and Petesh Scholarships. The themes of his academic publications (more than 100) embrace ethnic studies, musical culture and politics, ethnomusicology, and music and poetry. Together with his mother, Tamara Bulat, he authored *The World of Mykola Lysenko: Ethnic Identity, Music Culture and Politics*, (2001). A Ukrainian version of this important work was published in 2009. Dr. Filenko has participated in numerous musicological conferences and in international symposiums in Austria, Belgium, France, Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Russia, Canada, and the United States.

Since the war of Russian aggression against Ukraine began on February 24, 2022, Dr. Filenko has volunteered his talent for numerous lectures and concerts to raise funds for humanitarian relief for the Ukrainian people. Focusing on the performance of Ukrainian composers, and, when possible, providing talks on the history of Ukrainian musical culture, these events have been highly praised, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for Ukrainian charities. In just the past few months, Dr. Filenko has performed in Pittsburgh, New York City, Sag Harbor, Chapel Hill, San Diego, and other locations.