Welcome to America’s oldest carol service, presented by the Memorial Church at Harvard University. In 1910, the newly appointed University Organist and Choirmaster, Archibald T. Davison, and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals, Edward C. Moore, devised the first annual Christmas Carol Service for Harvard University. The liturgy they prepared has remained virtually unchanged since: three lessons from scripture, interspersed with choral and congregational carols, beginning with “Adeste, fideles” sung in Latin. Over a century later, this service continues to be a cherished part of the festive season for the Harvard and Cambridge communities. As a courtesy, we ask that you silence all electronic devices. Photography and the use of recording equipment are not permitted during the service.
The tradition of the Christmas carol began in medieval Europe and has since blossomed into a repertoire that is one of the great treasures of the Christian world. Each generation enhances our understanding of the Christmas miracle through reinterpretation and replenishment: by the renewed attentions of poets, artists, and musicians, this beloved story retains its freshness and relevance. Welsh-Scottish poet Euan Tait’s powerful Christmas of the Witnesses presents a pertinent contemporary example:

Always the still, gentle breath
of Love’s most longing message:
“Do not be afraid, beloved.
Be at peace, my children.
Watch and be embraced.”
We, the watchers at the cradle
this radiant Christmas
are fragile as candles,
and joined this holy night
by love’s witnesses, soldiers,
children of love and sacrifice
in this place. Our hearts flow
with the Holy Child’s music,
our beings streams of light.

Our service opens in one of Harvard’s most moving spaces, the Memorial Room, which documents the names of those Harvard men who perished in World War I and contains the dramatic centerpiece Sacrifice by the American sculptor and author Malvina Hoffman. As we commemorate the centenary of the Armistice of 1918—which brought to an end four years of incomprehensible carnage on the battlefields of Northern Europe—these very walls, the university’s guardians of memory and of hope, add a note of poignancy to the proceedings. Ralph Vaughan Williams—whose 60th anniversary is marked this year—served in the Royal Army Medical Corps during World War I. He left behind two significant musical memorials to that conflict, including the cantata Dona nobis pacem—which final entreaty for peace we present at the close of today’s service. Furthermore, the congregation is invited to participate in the singing of Silent Night in English or in German: this practice memorializes that most moving episode of Christmas Day 1914, when soldiers from both sides of the trenches laid down their arms and climbed into no-man’s land to sing this beloved carol.

Tonight, we contemplate the Christmas message from a variety of countries and eras, with musical offerings from England, France, Italy, Switzerland, the United States of America, and Wales. In addition, the service features the world premiere of two commissioned carols: Child of the Manger by Italian composer Carlotta Ferrari, Professor of Music Composition at the European School of Economics, Florence; and Christmas of the Witnesses by Composer in Residence Carson Cooman. To bookend the service, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster Thomas Sheehan presents a selection of organ voluntaries, including Petr Eben’s festive Variations on Good King Wenceslas and Francis Pott’s virtuosic Improvisation on Adeste, fideles.
**THE 109th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**

*The congregation is asked to remain silent upon entering the Sanctuary.*

**PRELUDE**

| Greensleeves (1934) | Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)  
| | Arranged by Stanley Roper (1878–1953) |
| The Dawn of Redeeming Grace (2003) | Judith Bingham (b. 1952) |

**INTROIT**

Child of the Manger (2018)  
*Commissioned for the 109th Annual Christmas Carol Service, December 2018*

Child of the manger,  
Infant of Mary,  
Outcast and stranger,  
Lord of all!  
Child who inherits  
All our transgressions,  
All our demerits  
On him fall!

*In principio erat verbum,*  
*Et verbum erat apud Deum,*  
*Et Deus erat verbum.*  
*Hodie Christus natus est!*  
*Hodie salvator apparuit!*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Alleluia.*

Once the most holy  
Child of salvation  
Gentle and lowly  
Lived below;  
Now as our glorious  
Mighty redeemer,  
See him victorious  
O'er each foe.  
Prophets foretold him,  
Infant of wonder;  
Angels behold him  
On his throne;  
Worthy our savior  
Of all their praises;  
Happy forever  
Are his own.

*Verses by Mary Macdonald (1789–1872), translated from Scottish Gaelic by Lachlan Macbean (1853–1931)*  
*Refrain from John 1:1 (Vulgate) and Antiphon to the Magnificat at Vespers on Christmas Day*
HYMN IN PROCESSION

Adeste, fideles

First verse sung by the choir alone

The congregation standing

Adeste, fideles

Attributed to John Francis Wade (c.1711–1786)

Descant by David Willcocks (1919–2015)

Organ interludes by John Ferris (1926–2008)
re gem angleorum:
gen i tum, non fac tum:
cel sis De o: venite ad-
quis nos redama ret?
ver bum caro fac tum:

remus, venite ad remus, ve-

venite ad remus Dom inum.
SENTENCES FROM SCRIPTURE AND WELCOME

FIRST LESSON
Luke 1:26–38

CAROL
Ave Maria (1842) Pierre-Louis Dietsch (1808–1865)
After Jacques Arcadelt (ca. 1507–1568)
[Nous voyons que les hommes]

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum;
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
Et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, pray for us. Amen.

Traditional Latin

CAROL

There is no rose of such vertu
As is the rose that bare Jesu.
Alleluia.
For in this rose conteinèd was
Heaven and earth in litel space,
Res miranda. (Wonderful thing)
By that rose we may well see
There be one God in persons three,
Pares forma. (Equal in form)
The aungels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis Deo. (Glory to God in the highest)
Gaudemus. (Let us rejoice)
Leave we all this werldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth.
Transeamus. (Let us follow)

Anonymous 15th cent.
Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming

1 Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
2 Isaiah ’twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,
3 O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,

Of Jesse’s lineage coming as seers of old have sung,
with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere,

It came, a blossom bright, amid the cold of winter,
To show God’s love a-right, she bore to us a Saviour,
true man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us,

when half spent was the night.
when half spent was the night.
and share our every load.
CAROL

I Wonder As I Wander (1996)  
Carl Rütti (b. 1949)

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die  
For poor on'ry people like you and like I.  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, ’twas in a cow’s stall,  
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.  
But high from the heavens a star’s light did fall,  
And promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,  
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,  
Or all of God’s angels in heaven for to sing,  
He surely could have it, ’cause he was the King.

John Jacob Niles (1892–1980), alt.

CAROL

Traditional Welsh Carol  
Arranged by Edward Elwyn Jones (b. 1977)

Huna, blentyn, ar fy mynwes,  
Sleep, my child, upon my bosom,  
Clyd a chynnnes ydyw hon;  
It is snug and warm;  
Breichiau mam sy’n dynn amdanat,  
Your mother’s arms wrapped tightly around you,  
Cariad mam sy’n dynn amdanat,  
It is a mother’s love that lies in my breast.  
Ni chaiff dim amharu’th gyntun,  
Nothing shall disturb your slumber,  
Ni wna undyn â thi gam;  
Nobody will do you harm;  
Huna’n dawel, annwyl blentyn,  
Sleep in peace, dear child,  
Huna’n fwyn ar fron dy fam.  
Gently sleep on your mother’s breast.

Huna’n dawel heno, huna,  
Sleep in peace tonight, sleep,  
Huna’n fwyn, y thws ei lun;  
Gently sleep, my beautiful child;  
Pan yr wyt yn awr yn gwenu,  
Why do you now smile,  
Gwenu’n dirion yn dy hun?  
Smile so gently in your sleep?  
Ai angylion fry sy’n gwenu  
Is it that angels on high  
Arnati yn gwenu’n llon?  
Smile upon you as you happily smile?  
Tithau’n gwenu’n ol dan huno  
While you return the smile, still sleeping,  
Huno’n dawel ar fy mron.  
Sleeping in peace upon my breast.

Paid ag ofni, dim ond deilen  
Fear you not, ’tis but a leaf  
Gura, gura ar y ddôr;  
Beating, beating at the door;  
Paid ag ofni, ton fach unig  
Fear you not a lone wave’s  
Sua, sua ar lan y mór;  
Murmur, murmuring on the seashore;  
Huna blentyn, nid oes yma  
Sleep, my child, for there is nothing  
Ddim i roddi iti fraw;  
Here to frighten you.  
Gwena’n dawel yn fy mynwes  
Smile in peace here on my bosom  
Ar yr engyl gwynion draw.  
At the white angels yonder.

Traditional Welsh
SECOND LESSON
Luke 2:1–14

CAROL

While Shepherds Watched (“Sherburne”) (1783)

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind,
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and humankind.”

“To you, in David’s town, this day
Is born in David’s line
A Savior, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:”

“The heavenly babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song.

“All glory be to God on high,
And peace to all the earth.
Good will is brought to humankind
Through this, the Savior’s birth.”

Nahum Tate (1652–1715), alt.

CAROL

Ding Dong! Merrily on High (2007)

Ding dong! merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky is riven with angel-singing.

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E’en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And “Io, io, io!” by priest and people sungen.

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime your even time song, ye singers.

George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848–1934)
Angels We Have Heard on High

The congregation standing

French Melody, harmonized by Edward Shippen Barnes (1887–1958)

Gloria

1. Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
3. Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing,
4. See him in a manger laid whom the angels raise above,

and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

in excelsis Deo. Gloria
CAROL
The Shepherd’s Carol (2000)  
Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)
We stood on the hills, Lady,  
Our day’s work done,  
Watching the frosted meadows  
That winter had won.
The evening was calm, Lady,  
The air so still,  
Silence more lovely than music  
Folded the hill.
There was a star, Lady,  
Shone in the night,  
Larger than Venus it was  
And bright, so bright.
Oh, a voice from the sky, Lady,  
It seemed to us then  
Telling of God being born  
In the world of men.
And so we have come, Lady,  
Our day’s work done,  
Our love, our hopes, ourselves  
We give to your son.

Clive Sansom (1910–1981)

CAROL
Still, Still, Still (1958)  
Traditional Austrian Carol  
Arranged by Norman Luboff (1917–1987)
Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.  
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping,  
Holy star its vigil keeping.  
Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.
Sleep, sleep, sleep, ’tis the eve of our Savior’s birth.  
The night is peaceful all around you,  
Close your eyes, let sleep surround you.  
Sleep, sleep, sleep, ’tis the eve of our Savior’s birth.
Dream, dream, dream, of the joyous day to come.  
While guardian angels without number  
Watch you as you sweetly slumber.  
Dream, dream, dream, of the joyous day to come.

Marilyn Bergman (b. 1929) and Alan Bergman (b. 1925)
THIRD LESSON
Matthew 2:1–11

CAROL
The Three Kings (2000)
Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)
The first king was very young,
O balow, balow la lay,
With doleful ballads on his tongue,
O balow, balow la lay,
He came bearing a branch of myrrh
Than which no gall is bitterer,
O balow, balow la lay,
Gifts for a baby King, O.
The second king was a man in prime,
O balow, balow la lay,
The solemn priest of a solemn time,
O balow, balow la lay,
With eyes downcast and reverent feet
He brought his incense sad and sweet,
O balow, balow la lay,
Gifts for a baby King, O.
The third king was very old,
O balow, balow la lay,
Both his hands were full of gold,
O balow, balow la lay,
Many a gaud and glittering toy,
Baubles brave for a baby boy,
O balow, balow la lay,
Gifts for a baby King, O.

Dorothy L. Sayers (1893–1936)
HYMN

Personent hodie
The congregation standing

Personent hodie

The congregation standing

Piæ Cantiones, 1582
Adapted by Gustav Holst (1874–1934)
Descant by John Rutter (b. 1945)

1 Per-so-nent ho-di-e
2 In mun-do na-si-tur,
3 Ma-gi tres ve-ne-runt,
4 Om-nes cle-ri-cu-li,

vo-ces pu-er-u-laë, lau-dan-tes iu-cun-de
pan-nis in-vol-vi-tur, pra-se-pi po-ni-tur
par-vu-lum in-qui-runt, Beth-le-hem a-de-unt,
par-i-ter pu-e-ri, can-ten-tut an-ge-li:

qui no-bis est na-tus, sum-mo De-o da-tus,
sta-bu-lo bru-to-rum, rec-tor su-per-no-rum,
stel-lu-lam se-quen-do, ip-sum a-do-ran-do,
ad-ven-is-ti mun-do, lau-des ti-bi fun-do.

et de vi-r vir, et de vi-r vir,
Per-di-dit, dit, dit, per-di-dit, dit, dit,
au-rum,thus, thus, thus, au-rum thus, thus, thus,
Id-e-o, -o, -o, id-e-o, -o, -o

et de vi-r gi-ne-o ven-tre pro-cre-a-tus.
per-di-dit spo-li-a prin-ceps in-fer-no-rum.
au-rum,thus, et myrr-ham e-i of-fe-ren-do.
id-e-o glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o!
CAROL

All Bells in Paradise (2012)  
John Rutter

Deep in the cold of winter,  
Darkness and silence were everywhere;  
Softly and clearly, there came through the stillness  
A wonderful sound to hear:

All bells in paradise, I heard them ring,  
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;  
Welcoming our Savior, born on earth a heavenly King.  
All bells in paradise, I heard them ring:  
“Glory to God on high,” the angel voices sing.

Lost in awe and wonder,  
Doubting, I asked what this sign might be:  
Christ our Messiah revealed in a stable,  
A marvelous sight to see.

All bells in paradise, I heard them ring,  
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;  
Welcoming our Savior, born on earth a heavenly King.

He comes down in peace, a child in humility,  
The keys to the kingdom belong to the poor;  
Before him shall kneel the kings with their treasures,  
Gold, incense, and myrrh.

All bells in paradise, I heard them ring,  
Sounding in majesty the news that they bring;  
Welcoming our Savior, born on earth a heavenly King.  
All bells in paradise, I heard them ring:  
“Glory to God on high,” the angel voices sing.

The angel voices sweetly sing.

John Rutter

CAROL

Carson Cooman ’04 (b. 1982)

Always the still, gentle breath  
of Love’s most longing message:  
“Do not be afraid, beloved.  
Be at peace, my children.  
Watch and be embraced.”

We, the watchers at the cradle  
this radiant Christmas  
are fragile as candles,  
and joined this holy night  
by love’s witnesses, soldiers,  
children of love and sacrifice  
in this place. Our hearts flow  
with the Holy Child’s music,  
our beings streams of light.

Euan Tait (b. 1968)

PRAYERS AND THE LORD’S PRAYER
Stille Nacht

1 Stil - le Nacht! Heil - i -ge Nacht! Al - les schläft, ein - sam wacht
2 Stil - le Nacht! Heil - i -ge Nacht! Hir - ten erst kund -ge -macht
3 Stil - le Nacht! Heil - i -ge Nacht! Got - tes Sohn, o wie lacht

nur das trau-te heil -i -ge Paar. Hol - der Knab' im lock-ig - ten Haar,
durch der Eng - el Al - le-lu - ja, tönt es laut bei Fer - ne und Nah:
Lieb' aus dei - nem gött -li - chen Mund, da uns schlägt die ret -ten-de Stund'.

Schlaf' in himm - li - scher Ruh!
“Christ der Ret - ter ist da!
Christ in dei - ner Ge - burt!

Schlaf' in himm - li - scher Ruh!
Christ der Ret - ter ist da!”
Christ in dei - ner Ge - burt!
Silent Night

1 Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
2 Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
3 Silent night, holy night, Son of God, Love's pure light,

round yon Virgin Mother and child. Holy infant, so
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of re-

ten-der and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
al-le-lu-ia, Christ, the Saviour, is born! Christ, the Saviour is born.
deeing grace, Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.
CAROL

“Nation Shall Not Lift Up a Sword against Nation”  
from Dona nobis pacem (1936)  
Ralph Vaughan Williams

Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.  
And none shall make them afraid, neither shall the sword go through their land.  
Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.  
Open to me the gates of righteousness, I will go into them.  
Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled;  
And let them hear, and say, It is the truth.  
And it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues;  
And they shall come, and see my glory.  
And I will set a sign among them; and they shall declare my glory among the nations.  
For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me,  
So shall your seed and your name remain for ever.  
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.  
Dona nobis pacem.  
(Grant us peace.)

Isaiah 2:4, Leviticus 26:6, Psalms 85:10–11 and 118:19  
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
The congregation standing

Mendelssohn
Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)
Adapted by William H. Cummings (1831–1915)
Descant by David Wilcocks

1 Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King;
2 Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the ever-living Lord!
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings,

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate deity,
mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,

With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”
BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on “Adeste, fideles” (2005)  
Francis Pott (b. 1957)

LAST YEAR’S CAROL SERVICE

The recording of the 108th Annual Christmas Carol Service is now available online. Please visit our website at www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu for details.

CLERGY

Professor Jonathan L. Walton, Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister
The Reverend Alanna C. Sullivan, Associate Minister
The Reverend Westley P. Conn, Ministry Fellow
The Reverend Katherine A. Schofield, Interim Minister
Aric B. Flemming, Jr., MDiv III, Seminarian
KMarie Tejeda MDiv II, Seminarian

HARVARD UNIVERSITY CHOIR

Edward Elwyn Jones, Gund University Organist and Choirmaster
Thomas M. Sheehan, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster
Carson P. Cooman ’04, Research Associate in Music and Composer in Residence
Theodora Mautz ’19, Senior Choir Secretary
May Wang ’20, Junior Choir Secretary
Frank Kelley, Vocal Instructor

CHURCH STAFF

Charles Anderson, Director of Finance and Operations
Nancy McKeown, Financial Associate
Elizabeth A. Montgomery, Executive Assistant to the Pusey Minister
Adrienne Yapo, Creative and Communications Lead
Jeffrey Blackwell, Communications Specialist
Lara Glass, Student Program Fellow
Morgan A. McNeill, Student Program Assistant
Allison Berger, Building Manager
Jesús Romo Llamas, Events Coordinator
SPRING 2019

EVENSONG
Sunday, February 10, 3 PM
Appleton Chapel
Harvard University Choir

SPRING CONCERT
Sunday, March 3, 4 PM
Memorial Church Sanctuary
Oratorio *The Acts of the Apostles* by Carson Cooman
Harvard University Choir and orchestra

LUNCHTIME CONCERT
Monday, March 4, 12:15 PM
Memorial Church Sanctuary
Music of J. S. Bach and Francis Poulenc
Wolfgang David, violin
and David Gompper, piano

HOLY WEEK MUSICAL MEDITATION
Tuesday, April 16, 7 PM
Memorial Church Sanctuary
*Stabat Mater* by Francis Poulenc
and *Jesu, meine Freude* by J. S. Bach
Harvard University Choir

ORGAN RECITAL
Tuesday, May 21, 7:30 PM
Thomas Sheehan, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster,
The Memorial Church

HOLY WEEK ORGAN RECITAL
Wednesday, April 17, 7 PM
Memorial Church Sanctuary
Carson Cooman and Thomas Sheehan
perform organ improvisations inspired by the
Fourteen Stations of the Cross

SPRING CONCERT
Saturday, April 27, 7:30 PM
Memorial Church Sanctuary
*Judas Maccabaeus* by G. F. Handel,
Harvard University Choir and
Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra

ORGAN RECITAL
Sunday, May 5, 4 PM
Memorial Church Sanctuary
Carson Cooman
Research Associate in Music and Composer in Residence, The Memorial Church

EVENSONG
Sunday, May 12, 3 PM
Appleton Chapel
Harvard University Choir