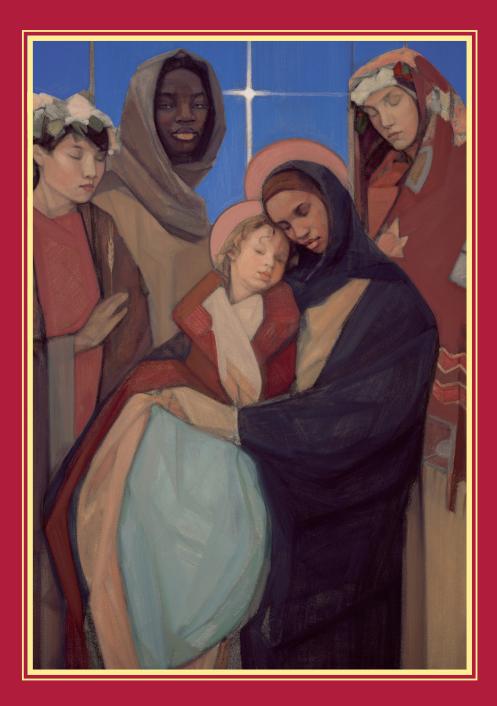
# The 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Service



# The Harvard University Choir

**W**ELCOME 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 60<sup>th</sup> 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*—whose 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 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Service

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

#### PRELUDE

Fantasia di natale su "Adeste, fideles" (2015)	Carlotta Ferrari (b. 1975)
Greensleeves (1934)	Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958) Arranged by Stanley Roper (1878–1953)
Christmas, Op. 80 (1918)	Arthur Foote (1853–1937)
The Dawn of Redeeming Grace (2003)	Judith Bingham (b. 1952)
A Festive Voluntary: Variations on Good King Wenceslas (1986)	Petr Eben (1929–2007)

#### INTROIT

Child of the Manger (2018)

Carlotta Ferrari

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. (In the beginning was the word,)
(And the word was with God,)
(And the word was God.)
(Today Christ is born!)
(Today the savior appears!)
(Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia.)

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 (1711–1786) Descant by David Willcocks (1919–2015) Organ interludes by John Ferris (1926–2008)





#### SENTENCES FROM SCRIPTURE AND WELCOME

#### FIRST LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

#### CAROL

Ave Maria (1842)

Benedicta tu in mulieribus,

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum;

Et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis. Amen.

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

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" from A Ceremony of Carols, Op	o. 28 (1942)	Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)
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 h	ighest)
Gaudeamus.	(Let us rejoice)	
Leave we all this werldly mirth,		
And follow we this joyful birth.		
Transeamus.	(Let us follow)	
		Anonymous 15 <sup>th</sup> cent.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming *The congregation standing* 

Es ist ein Ros' Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1599 Harmonized by Michael Praetorius, 1609



#### CAROL

#### I Wonder As I Wander (1996)

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. Carl Rütti (b. 1949)

John Jacob Niles (1892–1980), alt.

#### CAROL

Suo-gân (2003)

Huna, blentyn, ar fy mynwes, Clyd a chynnes ydyw hon; Breichiau mam sy'n dynn amdanat, Cariad mam sy dan fy mron. Ni chaiff dim amharu'th gyntun, Ni wna undyn â thi gam; Huna'n dawel, annwyl blentyn, Huna'n fwyn ar fron dy fam.

Huna'n dawel heno, huna, Huna'n fwyn, y tlws ei lun; Pam yr wyt yn awr yn gwenu, Gwenu'n dirion yn dy hun? Ai angylion fry sy'n gwenu Arnat ti yn gwenu'n llon? Tithau'n gwenu'n ôl dan huno, Huno'n dawel ar fy mron.

Paid ag ofni, dim ond deilen Gura, gura ar y ddôr; Paid ag ofni, ton fach unig Sua, sua ar lan y môr; Huna blentyn, nid oes yma Ddim i roddi iti fraw; Gwena'n dawel yn fy mynwes Ar yr engyl gwynion draw.

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

Sleep, my child, upon my bosom, It is snug and warm; Your mother's arms wrapped tightly around you, It is a mother's love that lies in my breast. Nothing shall disturb your slumber, Nobody will do you harm; Sleep in peace, dear child, Gently sleep on your mother's breast.

Sleep in peace tonight, sleep, Gently sleep, my beautiful child; Why do you now smile, Smile so gently in your sleep? Is it that angels on high Smile upon you as you happily smile? While you return the smile, still sleeping, Sleeping in peace upon my breast.

Fear you not, 'tis but a leaf Beating, beating at the door; Fear you not a lone wave's Murmur, murmuring on the seashore; Sleep, my child, for there is nothing Here to frighten you. Smile in peace here on my bosom 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." Daniel Read (1757-1836)

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 evetime song, ye singers. Traditional French Arranged by Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848–1934)

Angels We Have Heard on High *The congregation standing* 

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



#### CAROL

The Shepherd's Carol (2000)

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. Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

Clive Sansom (1910–1981)

#### CAROL

Still, Still, Still (1958)

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.

Traditional Austrian Carol Arranged by Norman Luboff (1917–1987)

Marilyn Bergman (b. 1929) and Alan Bergman (b. 1925)

#### THIRD LESSON

Matthew 2:1–11

#### CAROL

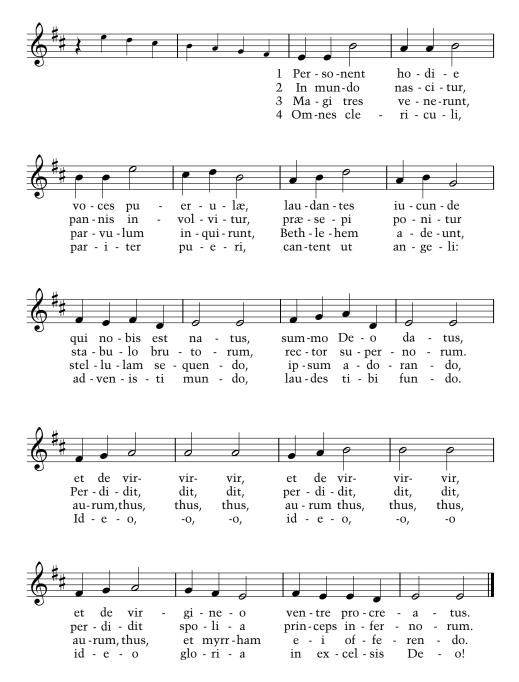
The Three Kings (2000) The first king was very young, *O balow, balow la lay,* With doleful ballads on his tongue, *O balow, balow la lay,* He came bearing a branch of myrrh Than which no gall is bitterer, *O balow, balow la lay, Gifts for a baby King, O.* The second king was a man in prime, *O balow, balow la lay,* The solemn priest of a solemn time, *O balow, balow la lay,* With ever downcast and reverent fort

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.*  Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)

Dorothy L. Sayers (1893–1936)

Personent hodie The congregation standing Personent hodie Piæ Cantiones, 1582 Adapted by Gustav Holst (1874–1934) Descant by John Rutter (b. 1945)



#### CAROL

All Bells in Paradise (2012)

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; All bells in paradise, I heard them ring, 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; All bells in paradise, I heard them ring, Welcoming our Savior, born on earth a heavenly King. John Rutter

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; All bells in paradise, I heard them ring, 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

Carson Cooman '04 (b. 1982)

#### CAROL

Christmas of the Witnesses, Op. 1319 (2018)

Composed for the 109th Annual Christmas Carol Service, December 2018

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 / Silent Night The congregation seated The hymn may be sung in German or in English English version on next page Stille Nacht Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863) Descants by Murray Forbes Somerville (b. 1948)





#### Silent Night



#### 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. (Grant us peace.)

Dona nobis pacem.

Isaiah 2:4, Leviticus 26:6, Psalms 85:10-11 and 118:19 Isaiah 43:9, 66:18-19, 22, Luke 2:14 (KJV), alt.

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing *The congregation standing* 

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



#### POSTLUDE

Improvisation on "Adeste, fideles" (2005)

Francis Pott (b. 1957)

# LAST YEAR'S CAROL SERVICE

The recording of the 108<sup>th</sup> 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 рм 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 рм Memorial Church Sanctuary

Stabat Mater by Francis Poulenc and Jesu, meine Freude by J. S. Bach Harvard University Choir

#### HOLY WEEK ORGAN RECITAL

#### Wednesday, April 17, 7 рм 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 рм Memorial Church Sanctuary

Judas Maccabaeus by G. F. Handel, Harvard University Choir and Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra

#### **ORGAN RECITAL**

Sunday, May 5, 4 рм Memorial Church Sanctuary

Carson Cooman Research Associate in Music and Composer in Residence, The Memorial Church

#### EVENSONG

Sunday, May 12, 3 рм Appleton Chapel

Harvard University Choir

#### **ORGAN RECITAL**

#### Tuesday, May 21, 7:30 рм

Thomas Sheehan, Associate University Organist and Choirmaster, The Memorial Church



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