

**The Memorial Church of Harvard University**  
**Music Notes for Sunday, November 27, 2022**

Jeremiah Ingalls was an important member of the group of self-taught composers (the so-called “Yankee tunesmiths”) active in New England during the period 1770–1820. These composers created an indigenous sacred repertoire readily accessible to all, which became instantly popular amid the explosion of religious fervor at that time. Ingalls is remembered primarily for his collection *The Christian Harmony* (1805), which contains the Advent hymn *Northfield*.

Musical cross-pollination existed between the composers of sacred music in the Northern and Southern states. John G. McCurry was a farmer, tailor, and singing teacher who lived in Northwest Georgia. His hymn *Raymond* is a major-key adaptation of the tune *North Salem* by Stephen Jenks, one of the Yankee tunesmiths. Jenks was based in Gloucester, Rhode Island.

To welcome in the new liturgical year, today’s organ music comprises two settings of the Advent hymn, *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (“Savior of the Nations, Come”) from Johann Sebastian Bach’s collection of large-scale chorale preludes known as the “Great Eighteen.” The prelude is plaintive in mood with florid elaborations of the melody in the treble; the postlude is a lively toccata which presents the chorale melody in the pedals.