## The Memorial Church of Harvard University Music Notes for Sunday, December 11, 2022

British composer Judith Weir studied with Sir John Tavener and Robin Holloway, and she is currently *Master of the King's Music*. The Marian plainsong hymn *Ave maris stella* opens with the interval of a rising fifth, which becomes a feature throughout Weir's elaboration of it

American composer Howard Helvey is Organist and Choirmaster of Calvary Episcopal Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, and wrote *The Advent of Our King* for the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Services at Harvard. *The Long-Expected Hour* is Helvey's arrangement of an early American ballad, which sets an Advent text by the poet Thomas Campbell.

Kenneth Leighton held university appointments at Leeds and Oxford before becoming Reid Professor of Music at Edinburgh in 1970; his Fantasy on Veni Emmanuel highlights the composer's distinctive harmonic vocabulary. Craig Phillips is Director of Music at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Beverly Hills, California. His ebullient Toccata on "Antioch," reworks and expands the famous hymn tune by Lowell Mason, whose music was first published and promoted by Boston's Handel and Haydn Society.