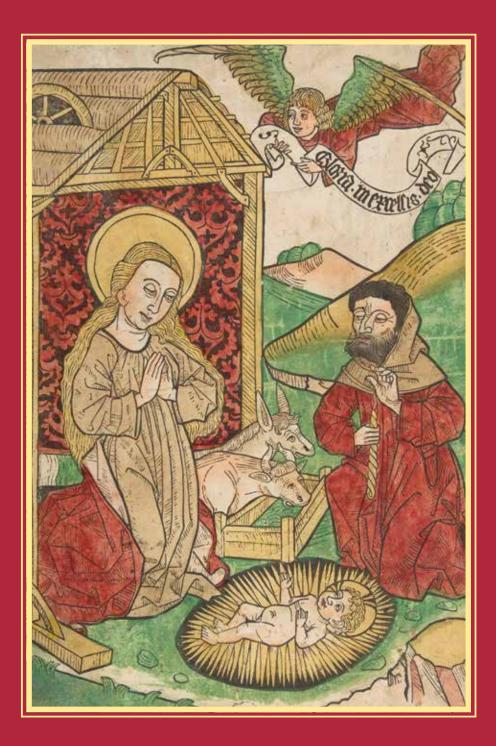
# The 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Service



# 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. It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old, From angels, bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to men From heav'n's all-gracious King." The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.

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 and culture enhances our understanding of the Christmas miracle through reinterpretation and replenishment: through the renewed attentions of poets, artists, and musicians, this beloved story retains its freshness and relevance. Tonight, we contemplate the Christmas message from a variety of countries and eras, with festive offerings from England, Italy, Switzerland, the United States of America, and Wales.

Our service opens in the Memorial Room, which documents the names of Harvard's men who perished in World War One: during the ongoing centenary of that sad conflict, this very building adds its note of poignancy to the proceedings. Towards the end of the service, 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 over one hundred years ago when, on Christmas Day 1914, soldiers from both sides of the trenches laid down their arms and climbed into no-man's land to sing this beloved carol.

In addition, the service features the world premiere of two American carols commissioned for this service: *Hunger Carol* by Mark Miller, Lecturer in Sacred Music at Yale University, is a powerful setting of a thought-provoking text by the New Zealand poet Shirley Murray; and *Gentle Joseph Heard a Warning* by Composer in Residence Carson Cooman. It is a pleasure to present works by close friends and colleagues, including Steve Pilkington (Director of Chapel Music at Westminster Choir College), Barry Rose (formerly of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and a frequent visitor to the Memorial Church), and Nicholas White (Director of Chapel Music at St. Paul's School, Concord, NH, where the Harvard University Choir spends its annual retreat). We also mark the 450<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Claudio Monteverdi—whose music we are featuring throughout this academic year—with a selection from the 1610 Vespers, *Ave maris stella*.

Carson Cooman's *Fantasia on "Greensleeves*" was comissioned by Italian organist Marco Lo Muscio for a recital project consisting entirely of settings of this famous English folk melody. Also in the organ prelude we commemorate the tenth anniversary of the death of Czech composer Petr Eben and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of the French organist and composer Olivier Messiaen. Eben's work often displays both his Czech heritage and his devout Catholicism, and this chorale prelude on a Bohemian Christmas chorale also quotes the Gregorian introit for the third mass of Christmas Day. *La Nativité* is perhaps Messiaen's most well-known large-scale organ work; this series of *tableaux* makes use of Messiaen's characteristic harmonies and fascination with bird song. The three movements heard reflect the Children of God, the Shepherds, and the Angels, respectively. The prelude concludes with English virtuoso organist W. T. Best's transcription of Mendelssohn's Overture to *St. Paul*, which is based on the Advent chorale "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme." The postlude is Mark Miller's festive toccata on the famous Christmas carol "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen."

For lo! the days are hast'ning on, By prophet bards foretold, When, with the ever-circling years, Comes 'round the Age of Gold; When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling, And the whole world give back the song Which now the angels sing. The congregation is asked to remain silent upon entering the Sanctuary.

# PRELUDE

Fantasia on "Greensleeves", Op. 1131 (2015) from Ten Chorale Preludes (1971) In Natali Domino from *La Nativité du Seigneur* (1935) Les Enfants de Dieu Les Bergers Les Anges Overture to the Oratorio *St. Paul* (1834–36)

Carson Cooman '04 (b. 1982) Petr Eben (1929–2007)

Olivier Messiaen (1908–1992)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847) arr. William Thomas Best (1826–1897)

# INTROIT

I Wonder As I Wander (1933, arr. 1994)

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

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

If Jesus had wanted any wee thing, A star in the sky, or a bird on a wing, Or all of God's angels in heaven to sing, He surely could have had it, 'cause he was the king. John Jacob Niles (1892–1980) arr. Steve Pilkington (b. 1952)

John Jacob Niles

#### 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 maris stella, SV 206:12 (1610)

Ave maris stella, Dei Mater alma, Atque semper virgo, Felix cœli porta.

Sumens illud Ave Gabrielis ore, Funda nos in pace, Mutans Evæ nomen.

Solve vincla reis, Profer lumen cæcis, Mala nostra pelle, Bona cuncta posce.

Sit laus Deo Patri, Summo Christo decus, Spiritui Sancto, Tribus honor unus. Amen.

#### CAROL

De Virgine Maria (2014) In hoc anni circulo Vita datur sæculo, Nato nobis Parvulo De Virgine Maria.

> Verbum caro factum est De Virgine Maria.

O beata femina, Cuius ventris Gloria Mundi lavat crimina De Virgine Maria.

Stella Solem protulit, Sol salutem contulit, Carnem veram abstulit De Virgine Maria.

Fons de suo rivulo Nascitur pro populo Quem tulit de vinculo De Virgine Maria.

Laus, honor, virtus Domino Deo Patri et Filio, Sancto simul Paracleto De Virgine Maria. Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643)

Hail O star of the ocean, God's own Mother blest, Ever sinless virgin, Gate of heavenly rest.

Taking that sweet AVE, Which from Gabriel came, Peace confirm within us, Reversing EvA's name.

Break the sinner's fetters, Make our blindness day, Chase all evils from us, For all blessings pray.

Praise to God the Father, Honor to the Son, In the Holy Spirit, Be the glory One. Amen.

Anonymous 8<sup>th</sup> cent.

Carl Rütti (b. 1949)

In this season of the year Life did unto us appear: When our Lord was born most dear By the Virgin Mary.

> God's own Word our flesh did take, By the Virgin Mary.

O most blessed on this day, In whose womb our Savior lay, That hath washed our sins away, By the Virgin Mary.

From that Star a Sun doth rise, Healing our infirmities, Very Flesh our flesh supplies, By the Virgin Mary.

From that Fount a Stream doth spring For his people's comforting, Where they all lay languishing: By the Virgin Mary.

To God the Father, God the Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One, Be glory, praise, and benison, By the Virgin Mary.

Anonymous 12<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



I Sing of a Maiden (1936)

I sing of a maiden That is makeless. King of all kings To her son she ches.

He came all so still Where his mother was, As dew in April That falleth on the grass.

> Mother and maiden Was never none but she: Well may such a lady God's mother be.

Patrick Hadley (1899–1973)

He came all so still To his mother's bower, As dew in April That falleth on the flower.

He came all so still Where his mother lay, As dew in April That falleth on the spray.

Anonymous 15<sup>th</sup> cent.

#### CAROL

It Came upon the Midnight Clear (1850, arr. 2000)

It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old, From angels, bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to men From heav'n's all-gracious King." The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled, And still their heav'nly music floats O'er all the weary world; Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov'ring wing. And ever o'er its Babel sounds, The blessed angels sing. Richard Storrs Willis (1819–1900) arr. Barry Rose (b. 1934)

Yet with the woes of sin and strife The world has suffered long; Beneath the angels' strain have rolled Two thousand years of wrong, And man, at war with man, hears not The love song which they bring, O hush the noise, ye men of strife, And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hast'ning on, By prophet bards foretold, When, with the ever-circling years, Comes 'round the Age of Gold; When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling, And the whole world give back the song Which now the angels sing.

Edmund Sears (1810–1876)

#### SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1–14

Shepherd's Pipe Carol (1967)

Going through the hills on a night all starry On the way to Bethlehem, Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping On the way to Bethlehem.

> Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is Come to bring us peace on earth, and he's lying Cradled there at Bethlehem."

"Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily On the way to Bethlehem, Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely On the way to Bethlehem?"

"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely On the way to Bethlehem; But a King will hear me play sweet lullables When I get to Bethlehem."

> Angels in the sky came down from on high, Hovered o'er the manger where the babe was lying Cradled in the arms of his mother Mary, Sleeping now at Bethlehem.

"Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily, Is he there at Bethlehem?" "I will find him soon by the star shining brightly In the sky o'er Bethlehem."

"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily, Come with you to Bethlehem? Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle, Is it far to Bethlehem?"

> Angels in the sky brought this messsage nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the infant King is Born this night in lowly stable yonder, Born for you at Bethlehem."

# CAROL

Gentle Joseph Heard a Warning, Op. 1252 (2017) Gentle Joseph heard a warning from an angel in the night; valiant Mary, maiden mother, roused from sleep, prepared for flight: thus the Christ-child's family lived out what the prophet had foretold, That he might be called from Egypt as God's people were of old.

Targets of a tyrant's army, seeking safety, fleeing strife, leaving house and land and kindred, spurred by dreams of peaceful life; through the desert of unknowing

and the night of doubt they went,

guided by God's promised presence,

by that trust made confident.

Give us, God, such faith and courage when we move from place to place, and to those who come among us, make us channels of your grace. Let us see in every stranger refugees from Bethlehem, help us offer each one welcome and receive the Christ in them.

Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

John Rutter

Carson Cooman'04

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Angels We Have Heard on High *The congregation standing* 

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



The Bell Carol (2011)

Philip Ledger (1937–2012)

I heard the bells on Christmas Day Their old familiar carols play, And mild and sweet the words repeat Of peace on earth this Christmastide. Till, ringing, singing on its way, The world revolved from night to day, A voice, a chime, a chant sublime Of peace on earth this Christmastide.

And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said,

"For hate is strong, and mocks the song Of peace on earth this Christmastide."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead; nor does he sleep! The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, With peace on earth this Christmastide."

from "Christmas Bells" (1863), Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807–1882)

#### CAROL

What Child Is This? (2001)

Traditional English arr. Paul Halley (b. 1952)

Ave Maria.

(Hail Mary.)

What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?

> This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear: for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, Come, peasant, king, to own him; The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone him.

William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898)

THIRD LESSON

Matthew 2:1–11

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day, Op. 75, No. 2 (1965)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance To see the legend of my play, To call my true love to my dance.

> Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love; This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure, Of her I took fleshly substance; Thus was I knit to man's nature, To call my true love to my dance.

In a manger laid and wrapped I was, So very poor this was my chance, Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, To call my true love to my dance.

Then afterwards baptized I was; The Holy Ghost on me did glance, My Father's voice heard from above, To call my true love to my dance.

#### CAROL

See, amid the Winter's Snow (2013)

See, amid the winter's snow, Born for us on earth below, See, the tender lamb appears, Promised from eternal years.

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the starry skies; He who, throned in height sublime, Sits among the cherubim.

> Hail, thou ever blessed morn, Hail redemption's happy dawn, Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Say, ye holy shepherds, say, What your joyful news today; Wherefore have ye left your sheep On the lonely mountain steep?

"As we watched at dead of night, Lo, we saw a wondrous light: Angels singing 'Peace on earth' Told us of the Savior's birth."

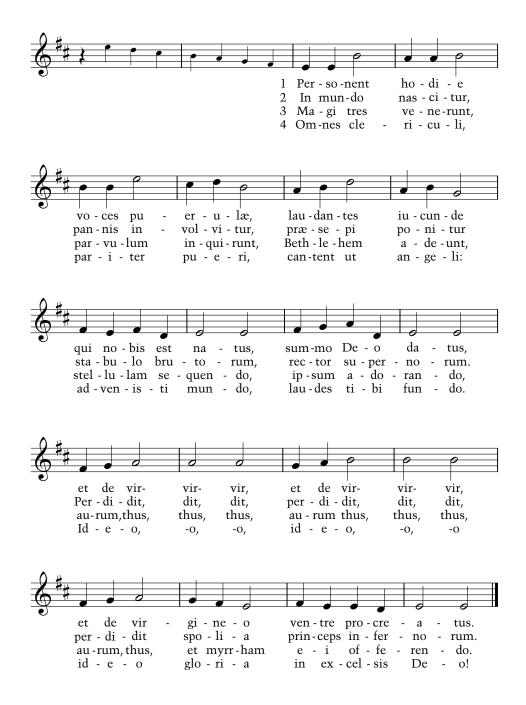
Sacred infant, all divine, What a tender love was thine, Thus to come from highest bliss Down to such a world as this.

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child, By thy face so meek and mild, Teach us to resemble thee, In thy sweet humility. John Gardner (1917–2011)

English Traditional

Nicholas White (b. 1967)

Personent hodie The congregation standing Personent hodie Piæ Cantiones, 1582 Adapted by Gustav Holst (1874–1934)



O magnum mysterium (1994) O magnum mysterium, Et admirabile sacramentum, Ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, Iacentem in præsepio! Beata Virgo, cuius viscera Meruerunt portare Dominum Christum. Alleluia.

#### Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

O great mystery, And wonderful sacrament, That animals should see the new-born Lord, Lying in a manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb Was worthy to bear Christ the Lord. Alleluia.

Anonymous

### 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



Hunger Carol (2017) Commissioned for the 108th Annual Christmas Carol Service, December 2017. Child of joy and peace, born to every raceby your star, the wise will know you, East and West their homage show you, look into your face, child of joy and peace. Born among the poor on a stable floor, cold and raw, you know our hunger, weep our tears and share our angeryet you tell us more born among the poor: Every child needs bread till the world is fed; you give bread, your hands enable all to gather round one table. Christmas must be shared, every child needs bread. Son of poverty, shame us till we see self-concerned, how we deny you, by our greed we crucify you on a Christmas tree, Son of poverty.

Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

#### CAROL

Ar hyd y nos (arr. 2012)

Holl amrantau'r sêr ddywedant Ar hyd y nos "Dyma'r ffordd i fro gogoniant," Ar hyd y nos. Golau arall yw tywyllwch I arddangos gwir brydferthwch Teulu'r nefoedd mewn tawelwch Ar hyd y nos. O mor siriol, gwena seren Ar hyd y nos

I oleuo'i chwaer ddaearen Ar hyd y nos. Nos yw henaint pan ddaw cystudd Ond i harddu dyn a'i hwyrddydd Rhown ein golau gwan i'n gilydd Ar hyd y nos.

arr. Edward Elwyn Jones (b. 1977) All the stars' twinkles say All through the night "This is the way to the realm of glory," All through the night. Other light is darkness To show true beauty The heavenly family in peace All through the night. O, how cheerful smiles the star, All through the night To light its earthly sister All through the night.

Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)

Traditional Welsh

Old age is night when affliction comes But to beautify man in his late days We'll put our weak light together All through the night.

John Ceiriog Hughes (1832–1887)

Mark Miller (b. 1967)

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

Toccata on "God Rest Ye Merry" (1999)

Mark Miller

# AUDIO OF LAST YEAR'S CAROL SERVICE

Audio of the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Service is now available to download for free. Please visit our website at **www.memorialchurch.harvard.edu** for details.

# **Lesson Readers**

Sunday, December 10

Grace La '92, Professor of Architecture, Graduate School of Design Katie O'Dair, Dean of Students, Harvard College David Gergen LLB '67, Public Service Professor of Public Leadership, John F. Kennedy School of Government

#### Tuesday, December 12

Suzannah Clark, Chair, Department of Music Robin Kelsey PhD '00, Dean of Arts and Humanities, Faculty of Arts and Sciences Abraham Rebollo '20, Harvard College

## 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* Aric B. Flemming, Jr. MDiv II, *Seminarian* Jane Moran MDiv III, *Seminarian* Michael Robinson MDiv III, *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 Cara Jacobson '18, Senior Choir Secretary Theodora Mautz '19, Junior Choir Secretary Frank Kelley, Vocal Instructor Shannon Larkin, Vocal Instructor Phoebe Carrai, Director of the Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra

# 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 Michael Hricz, Administrative Coordinator Allison Berger, Building Manager Jesús Romo Llamas, Events Coordinator

# **SPRING 2018**

#### **EVENSONG**

Sunday, February 4, 4 Рм Appleton Chapel

Harvard University Choir; Barry Rose, guest conductor

#### **ORGAN RECITAL**

#### Sunday, February 25, 4 PM

Janet Hunt, Director of Music, Saint John's Seminary, Boston

#### SPRING CONCERT

Sunday, March 4, 4 рм Memorial Church Sanctuary

Concert opera *Tobias and the Angel* by Jonathan Dove; Harvard University Choir and orchestra

#### HOLY WEEK MUSICAL MEDITATION

Tuesday, March 27, 7 рм Memorial Church Sanctuary

*Ein deutsches Requiem* by Johannes Brahms; Harvard University Choir

# HOLY WEEK ORGAN RECITAL

Wednesday, March 28, 7 PM Memorial Church Sanctuary

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

#### ARTS FIRST CONCERT

Saturday, April 28, 7:30 рм Memorial Church Sanctuary

Vespers (1610) by Claudio Monteverdi; Harvard University Choir and Harvard Baroque Chamber Orchestra

#### **ORGAN RECITAL**

#### Sunday, April 29, 4 рм Memorial Church Sanctuary

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

#### **EVENSONG**

Sunday, May 6, 4 рм Appleton Chapel

Sung by the Harvard University Choir

#### ORGAN RECITAL

#### Tuesday, May 15, 7:30 рм

Ross Wood, Associate Organist, Parish of All Saints, Ashmont, Boston



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