

Welcome to

A CONCERT OF CAROLS AND CHRISTMAS MUSIC

by

THE WENDEL SINGERS

(conductor Joe Reeves,
accompanist Lynne Staveley)

and

THE YEP BRASS ENSEMBLE
(conductor Jackie Armitage)

at

Lidgett Park Methodist Church

Tuesday 21st December 2021

at 7.30pm



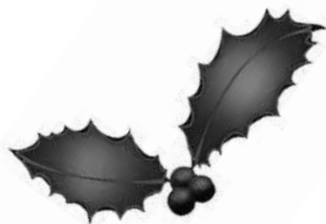
Choir, Band & Audience

Latin carol (*Adeste fideles*) by an unknown author, probably 18th cent, translated by an English Catholic priest, Frederick Oakley (1802-1880) in 1841. The tune is also of unknown authorship, first published in 1751 by John Francis Wade. This arrangement is by David Willcocks (1919-2015), Director of Music at King's College, Cambridge.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

God of God, light of light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest:
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.



Choir
The Truth From Above English
Traditional carol arranged

by R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

John Rutter (1945-)

Words and music composed when Rutter was an 18-year old undergraduate at Cambridge and published in 1967, the first of his many carols

Let Us Light a Candle

Words and music by June Clark (1966), who studied piano and composition at the Royal Academy of Music. Her first works were published whilst still a twenty-year-old student, launched as one of England's rare women composers. Alongside a career as an international pianist, she published many vocal and choral works. This piece is dedicated to the choir of St Alban's Cathedral, where she founded a Chamber Choir in 1958.

Band

O Come Emmanuel

by Thomas Helmore (1811-90),
arr. Julian Walls

I Saw Three Ships

Traditional English, arr Roger Harvey
(1949-) Roger Harvey is Professor of Trombone at the Royal College of Music and a prolific composer and arranger for brass

Choir

Ukrainian Carol of the Bells

Words by Peter J. Wilhousky, music by M. Leontovich. The tune, written in 1916, was originally set to an Ukrainian winter well-wishing song about a swallow. The American choral arranger Leontovich wrote new Christmas words for it in the 1930s.

Gaudete Traditional words and music arranged by David Lee (1926-)
Translation:

Rejoice! rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary, rejoice!

At this time of grace and longed-for blessing,
love faithfully offers a song of praise.

God is made human in this wonderful birth:
the world is cleansed through the rule of Christ.

The gate of heaven now opens which to us was closed,
sending forth transforming light through which holiness is found.

Therefore we meet in pure songs of joy:
we bless the Lord, king of our salvation.

Band

Coventry Carol

Traditional Arr. Roger Harvey

Ding Dong, Merrily on High

French Traditional Arr Roger Harvey

Choir

The Holly and The Ivy

English traditional carol arranged by Reginald Jacques (1894-1969). Dr Jacques had a distinguished musical career mainly in Oxford and London.

In the Bleak Midwinter. Words by Christina Rossetti (1830-94), music by Harold Darke (1888-1926) . Rossetti was a significant writer of children's books and a poet. Darke was for 50 years organist at St Michael's, Cornhill, in London. He composed much organ and choral music.

Choir, Band and Congregation

See Amid the Winter's Snow

Edward Caswell (1814-78) was an Anglican clergyman who converted to Roman Catholicism under the influence of John Henry Newman. He composed these words in 1858, shortly after his conversion. Sir John Goss (1800-80), a boy chorister in the Chapel Royal and later Professor at the Royal Academy of Music, wrote the tune in 1871. Goss was one of the finest composers of church music in his day.

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

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

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

Hail...

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
By Thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble Thee,
In Thy sweet humility.

Hail...



INTERVAL
Refreshments served

PART 2

Choir, Band and Congregation

O Little Town of Bethlehem

The author, Phillips Brookes (1835-93), was an American Anglican bishop. The tune *Forest Green* was a folk melody collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams from the Surrey village of Forest Green in 1903 and first published in 1906 in *The English Hymnal*.

O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive him still
The dear Christ enters in.



O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Choir

Show me the Child. Words by Michael Kirkup, music by Derek Hobbs (1943-), two Northumbrians who have written mainly cantatas and musicals with a local history flavour. This is part of a suite first performed in Alnwick Playhouse in 1996, based on the Gregorian chant for Christmas Day.

Hail Smiling Morn, by Reginald Spofforth (1769-1827).

Spofforth, a Nottinghamshire organist, wrote many glees, of which this was the most successful. It is performed at Christmas or Easter in Yorkshire pubs, particularly in Saddleworth, Huddersfield and Bradford.

Band

Christmas Song

Mel Torme, arr Alan Fernie

Winter Wonderland

Felix Bernard, arr Sandy Smith

Choir

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter (1945-)

Choir, Band and Audience

Hark, the herald angels sing!

Words written in 1739 by Charles Wesley and modified by George Whitefield in 1758 Wesley said it should be sung to a solemn tune. The tune for 'Christ the Lord is risen today' was often used. The tune we now use was written by Felix Mendelssohn as part of *Festegesang*, a cantata celebrating Gutenberg's printing press, which Mendelssohn said should never be used for sacred words. In 1855, William Hayman Cummings, organist at Waltham Abbey, ignored them both and put the words and music together, making a unique and inseparable marriage. The descant is by David Willcocks.

Hark! The herald-angels sing
"Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald-angels sing
"Glory to the new-born king."



Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald-angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the Heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness.
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the new-born king."

END OF CONCERT

The money this year is being used to support a range of charities that the church usually supports out of normal expenditure but cannot because of a budget deficit resulting from the pandemic. The charities supported are:

- WYDAN (West Yorkshire Destitute Asylum Network)
- Bible Society (which distributes bibles across the world)
- St Gemma's Hospice
- Methodist Homes (the largest provider of care homes in England)
- Churches Together in Roundhay
- Our own benevolent fund - which is used by the minister to give small grants to anyone who is in desperate need
- Methodist Church Connexion – which is often split into various funds such as World Mission, Home Mission, Property, Fund for Presbyters and Deacons, LWPT, etc)

Thank you for your support

What is Christmas?

by Arnold Kellett (2009)

Not turkey and trimmings
On a sumptuous table
But a little brown baby
Born in a stable.

Not mountainous puddings
And heaps of mince pies
But the motherhood glow
In a Jewish girl's eyes.

Not crackers and candles
And cakes richly iced
But the humble appearing
Of Jesus, the Christ.
Beware of abundance!
Remember how odd
That an inn full of feasting
Had no room for God.

Christmas means caring,
And tasting afresh
The thrill of believing
That God became flesh.