

# CHRISTMAS IN THREE MOVEMENTS

## CHRISTMAS EVE

### *Candlelight Service*

December 24, 2018 – 11:00 PM

#### The Prelude:

“Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella”	arr. Denis Bédard
“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”	arr. John R. Watkinson
“Grand Angelic March” (Angels from the Realms of Glory)	arr. Eric N. Robertson
“At the Manger” (Infant Holy, Infant Lowly/Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine/ The Friendly Beasts)	arr. Michael Helman
“Carol of the Bells”	arr. Arthur Frackenpohl
“Noel on <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> ”	Larry Visser
“Coventry Carol”	arr. Don Gillis
“Gesù Bambino”	arr. Karen Thompson
“O Holy Night”	arr. Arthur Frackenpohl
“Stille Nacht” (Silent Night)	arr. James E. Weber

#### The Chiming of the Hour

#### The Introit:

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” arr. John Rutter

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.*

*King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood; Lord of lords, in human vesture in the body and the blood he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the Light of light descendeth from the realm of endless day, that the powers of hell may vanquish as the darkness clears away.*

*(Congregation join on verse 4)*

**At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, “Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord most high.”**

#### \*The Call to Worship

He came as a baby in a manger.

**O come, let us adore him.**

He came in a lowly stable.

**O come, let us adore him.**

Shepherds brought their worship.

**O come, let us adore him.**

Angels sang his praise.

**O come, let us adore him.**

Magi brought their gifts.

**O come, let us adore him.**

What, then, shall we do?

**O come, let us adore him.**

#### \*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 76

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

*(please rise at the conductor’s cue)*

arr. Cathy Moglebust

Introduction

Verse 1 – all in unison

Verse 2 – all in unison

Interlude

Verse 3 – all in unison

Verse 4 – all in unison

#### \* The Greeting

#### \*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

#### The Welcome

The Reading: Luke 2:1-20

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### I. TO COME IN HASTE

*“And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.”*

Let us come to the stable to meet the Savior.

**Wake up, sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.** (Ephesians 5:14)

#### The Anthem:

“Let Our Gladness Have No End”

Mark Sedio

*Let our gladness have no end, hallelujah! For to earth did Christ descend. hallelujah! On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to save us. Prophesied in days of old, hallelujah! God has sent the one foretold, hallelujah! On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to save us; Christ the Son of God, to save us. Hallelujah! See the loveliest blooming rose, hallelujah! From the branch of Jesse grows, hallelu, hallelujah! On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to save; Christ, God’s Son, Christ to save us. Into flesh is made the Word, hallelujah! Our true refuge, Lord, our Lord,*

*hallelujah! On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to save us; Christ, the Son of God!*

#### The Meditation

#### The Interpretive Dance

#### \*The Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 81:1,2,5

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

*(please rise at the conductor’s cue)*

Organ Introduction

Verse 1 – all in unison

Verse 2 – all in harmony

Verse 5 – all in unison

### II. TO WONDER

*“And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.”*

Let us come to the stable to meet the Savior.

**Let us give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for humankind.** (Psalm 107:8)

#### The Anthem:

“What Sweeter Music”

John Rutter

*What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string! Dark and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honor to this day that sees December turned to May. Why does the chilling winter’s morn smile like a field beset with corn? Or smell like a meadow newly shorn thus on the sudden? Come and see the cause, why things thus fragrant be: ’tis he is born, whose quickening birth gives life and luster, public mirth to heaven and the under-earth. We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sunshine and his showers, turns the patient ground to flowers, turns all the patient ground to flowers. The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to welcome him. The nobler part of all the house here is the heart, which we will give him; and bequeath this holly and this ivy wreath to do him honor, who’s our King, and Lord of all this revelling. What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King.*

#### The Meditation

#### The Interpretive Dance

#### The Carol: Worship & Rejoice 225:1-3

“I Wonder as I Wander”

### III. TO PONDER

*“But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.”*

Let us come to the stable to meet the Savior.

**How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.** (Psalm 139:17-18)

The Anthem:

“Today the Virgin”

John Tavener

*Today the virgin comes to the cave to give birth to the Word eternal:*

*Refrain: Rejoice, O world! With the angels and the shepherds give glory to the Child! Alleluia!*

*Mary, my wife, O Mary, my wife! What do I see? I took you blameless before the Lord from the priests of the temple. What do I see? (Refrain)*

*Joseph, the bridegroom, O Joseph, the bridegroom! Do not fear; God in his mercy has come down to earth. He takes flesh in my womb for all the world to see. (Refrain)*

*Mary, my bride, O Mary, my bride! What do I see? You, a virgin giving birth; strange mystery! (Refrain)*

*Joseph, the bridegroom. O Joseph, the bridegroom! Do not fear. God in his mercy has come down to earth. He takes flesh in my womb for all the world to see. (Refrain)*

*Warned by the angel, we believe that Mary gives birth inexplicable to the infant, Christ our God. (Refrain)*

The Meditation

The Interpretive Dance

The Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 85:1-3

“Silent Night! Holy Night”

(sing stanza 3 a cappella)

The Litany for the Christ Candle:

Leader: Our long season of waiting is over. Jesus Christ is born today.

**People: O come, let us adore him!**

Leader: The Light shines in the darkness,

**People: and the darkness has not overcome it.**

The Christ Candle is lit in silence

The Chiming of the Hour

\*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 80

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

arr. Sir David Willcocks

(please rise at the conductor’s cue)

Brass Fanfare Introduction

Verse 1 – all in harmony

Verse 2 – all in harmony

Brass Fanfare Interlude

Verse 3 – all in unison

\*The Postlude: “On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

arr. Raymond H. Haan

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister

Rev. Ruth Boven – liturgist

Dr. Larry Visser – organist

Greg Wells, Aaron Good – trumpet

Leah Bouwman – french horn

Pete Tigchelaar – trombone

Mark Lago – tuba

Perrin Rynders – timpani, percussion

Bells Jubilate, Kurt Stroh – director

Chancel Choir, Merle Mustert – director

Julia Fletcher – liturgical dancer

Alanna Rynders – oboe

Olivia Huizenga – Cross Bearer

Elaina Huizenga – Bible Bearer

Hans Pruis – Reader

Guest instrumentalists **Greg Wells** and **Mark Lago**, both instrumental teachers at Northview Public School join several LaGrave member instrumentalists in offering the ministry of music this evening.

**Christmas Banners at LaGrave:** The primary sanctuary color of Christmas is white, symbolizing the purity and holiness of Jesus. The Christ child born in the manger was truly God and truly man. The only respect in which his humanity differed from you and me is that Jesus was perfect and lived a sinless life. It was that very sinless life that enabled him to take our sins upon himself.

The gold color represents the kingship of Christ. The colors in the banners bring together the First Advent, purple; the birth of Christ, white; and the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent, gold, in the joy and celebration of Christmas. Christ, our King, is born!



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