SAN FRANCISCO BACH CHOIR

MAGEN SOLOMON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

91st Season

2026—2027

FESTIVE BELLS & CANDLELIGHT

Ringing in the Holidays

Saturday, December 5, 2026, 4:00 PM

Sunday, December 6, 2026, 4:00 PM

Calvary Presbyterian Church, San Francisco

NOTES FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to our holiday celebration! We're so glad you could join us as we approach the shortest and darkest day of the year with candlelight and as we ring in the new year with the sound of hundreds of bells! It is our great pleasure and honor to welcome back the **Velocity Handbell Ensemble** to create our musical magic today. If you were with us two years ago, you heard the magic that just four of their players created. Today you will hear and witness even more magic as all eleven players, in astonishing coordination, fill the church with color and brilliance. It's not often that one can see, as well as hear, how sound is made and I'm guessing you'll find them as mesmerizing as I do!

Our program ranges widely from the early Renaissance to 2026: from Thomas Tallis, the great English composer of the early 1500s, to the premiere of a piece by our friend and colleague Michael Kaulkin. And, special this year, there are three pieces celebrating the animals of the Christmas story. (Children, and all who appreciate silliness, will particularly enjoy the first of these...)

There will be familiar favorites as well: the Bach Choir's very *un*traditional Boar's Head Carol (with verses for vegetarians), our meditation on bringing light, shape-note hymns, processionals, and singalong carols. When we all sing "Silent Night" **please join us in illuminating the church** by switching on your mini-LED candles. Later, join us in creating the magical darkness when the singers extinguish their candles.

At this busy time of year, we hope you can take a moment to relax and breathe deeply, to open your senses to the **comfort and joy of community**, allowing yourself to ride the emotions of the music and to reach out to the people sitting around you and share, for a few precious minutes, a sense of peace among family, friends, and even strangers.

Looking ahead, we will offer our free-and-open-to-everyone event, **Many Voices, One Art**. On **Saturday March 6**, there will be a dozen different music-oriented workshops for singers of all levels. (Make sure you join our mailing list: visit www.sfbach.org or email us at info@sfbach.org.)

On May 22nd and 23rd, **we will be taking a trip to Vienna** with five works by composers who are deeply connected to that musical city. We will be joined by the wonderful **Oakland Civic Orchestra** (Martha Stoddard, conductor) for Brahms' sweeping meditation on the Fates, a rich Mendelssohn overture, a brilliant brass fanfare, and Beethoven's beloved *Mass in C*.

Finally, my deepest gratitude to our wonderful singers, staff, and Board. Their extraordinary talent and commitment make our music possible. I am also so grateful that you, our generous audience and community, have come to share our music. Although much of the world is in turmoil, I hope that, in this special season, our shared love of music and our respect and affection for each other will strengthen us to continue the hard work of mending, healing, and caring for all that is broken in the world.

With best wishes,



FESTIVE BELLS & CANDLELIGHT

Ringing in the Holidays

SAN FRANCISCO BACH CHOIR
Magen Solomon, *Artistic Director*
Christopher Wemp, *Assistant Conductor*
Dara Phung, *Collaborative Pianist*
Velocity Handbell Ensemble

WELCOME

Personent Hodie — Gustav Holst, arr. (1874-1934)

Conditor Alme Siderum — Richard Robert Rossi, arr. (b. 1962)

THE STAR

Cuando el Rey Nimrod — Ladino traditional, Tina Harrington, arr. (b. 1961)

Joy! — George Frideric Handel (1685-1769), C.J. Caminiti, arr.
Velocity Handbell Ensemble

Morning Star — Charles B. Griffin (b. 1968)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day — John Gardner (1917-2011)

THE FRIENDLY BEASTS

On Christimas Day — Brian Holmes (b. 1946)

The Friendly Beasts — Alice Parker, arr. (1925-2023)
Christopher Wemp, *Conductor*

Carol of the Creatures (world premiere) — Michael Kaulkin (b. 1967)

MARY & THE CHILD

Spanish Carol — Felipe Pedrell (1841-1922), Jeffrey Van, arr.

Magnificat from the "Dorian Service" — Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

The Coventry Carol — Steve Pilkington, arr. (b. 1956)

Ave Maria — Carl Czerny (1791-1857), Martin Banner, arr.

ANTICIPATION

SING-ALONG: Angels We Have Heard on High

Intermezzo (from Nutcracker) — Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893), Mikhail Pletner, arr.
Dara Phung, *Piano*

Alla' Baja Jesucristo — Trad. Peruvian Carol, Mitchell Eithun, arr.
Velocity Handbell Ensemble

THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATES

The Boar's Head Carol — Anon. 15th c. English

Sherburne — Daniel Read (1757-1836)

Judea (A Virgin Unspotted) — William Billings (1746-1800)

Christopher Wemp, *Conductor*

The Snow Lay on the Ground — Alex Guebert, arr.

Velocity Handbell Ensemble

Zachariah's Prophecy — Maia Aprahamian (1935-2011)

Soloists: James Bainton, Tricia Bell, Bill Boyd, Mahala Bundy, Mike Burch, Rhys Cheung, David Conant, Rebecca Conant, Joan Curry, Lisa Ochs, Tim Smith, Rosie Ward, Christopher Wemp

IN NATURE

Now the Holly Bears a Berry — Trad. English Carol, Jason W. Krug, arr.

Velocity Handbell Ensemble

God Bless the Moon — Jean Ritchie (1922-2015), David Düsing, arr. (1943-2014)

SING-ALONG: Silent Night

AUDIENCE CANDLES ON

Evergreen — Daniel Pinkham (1923-2026)

REFLECTION

Greensleeves — Cameron Scott Hagler, arr.

Velocity Handbell Ensemble

Given Not Lent — Fred Cummins (b. 1951)

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland — Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

In the Bleak Midwinter — Gustav Holst (1874-1934), Mark Longfield, arr.

Velocity Handbell Ensemble

AUDIENCE CANDLES OFF (WITH THE CHOIR)

SING-ALONG: Joy to the World

❖❖❖

VELOCITY HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

P.L. Grove, *Artistic Director*

David Anderson, Jennifer Bundy, Carol Flint, P.L. Grove, Mark Henderson, Karen Martin, Anna McKnight-Matney, Rachel Newton, Tim Rossi, Jason Tiller, Sandi Walker-Tansley

BIOGRAPHIES

The **San Francisco Bach Choir** is an auditioned choir offering dedicated singers the opportunity to study and perform both Early Music and the diverse repertoire of great works from other eras and genres. Founded in 1936, it is one of the oldest continuously performing community choirs in the western United States. The Choir uses historically informed performance practice and performs with world-class professional instrumentalists and soloists, both period and modern.

Now in her thirteenth season with the SF Bach Choir, Artistic Director **Magen Solomon** has been active in early music as a conductor, singer, scholar, and editor for over four decades. She has been the Artistic Director of the San Francisco Choral Artists since 1995; together, they have premiered over 300 choral works, performed at major choral conferences, released three CDs, and have twice won the Chorus America/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming. She has served as Artistic Director of the Oakland

Symphony Chorus, Stockton Chorale, and California Bach Society, and has taught and conducted at the University of Southern California, UC Berkeley, Santa Clara University, and Smith and Mount Holyoke colleges. Active across the US and abroad as a clinician, teacher, and guest conductor, Dr. Solomon has directed Pro Coro Canada, the UC Santa Cruz Chamber Singers, and other ensembles, and has collaborated on performances of major choral works with Michael Morgan, Michael Tilson Thomas, Nicolas McGegan, Helmuth Rilling, Kent Nagano, and Christoph von Dohnányi, among others. For 14 years she edited the "New Voices in Research" column in the ACDA Choral Journal and has published an edition of Johannes Eccard's Newe deutzsche Lieder (1578) with A-R Editions.

Christopher Wemp strives to create inclusive singing environments that explore how choral music inspires us to thrive. He has led international music collaborations across four continents, directs local community and school ensembles, and manages the publishing platform adscensio.org. He holds three degrees from Santa Clara University.

Dara Phung is a San Francisco-based pianist and music director. She is collaborative pianist for the San Francisco Bach Choir and the Young Women's Choral Projects of San Francisco, and has accompanied YWCP's premiere ensemble on tours to Canada, New Zealand, and Puerto Rico. Dara is the music director at Noe Valley Church, where she leads the adult choir and youth choral scholars program. When she's not working with choirs, Dara enjoys playing ragtime, accompanying classes at the San Francisco Ballet School, and performing with Teatro Mistral's Opera Cocktales at Martuni's. Dara holds a music degree from the University of Southern California, where she studied with Kevin Fitz-Gerald.

Velocity is a community handbell ensemble based in the California Bay Area that has played all across the United States. A nonprofit 501c3 corporation, Velocity is dedicated to moving the artistry of handbells towards musical excellence with a high standard of performance.

Formed in 2001 as a small ensemble, ***Velocity*** has at the heart of its mission statement the words "have fun!" The group has continually astounded its audiences, first with its ability to play up to six octaves of handbells with only six ringers, and more recently in configurations from two to eleven ringers. Locally, Velocity has performed at SFMOMA, with the Ashmolean Singers, twice with the San Francisco Choral Artists (Magen Solomon, conductor), and twice with the San Francisco Gay Mens' Chorus (Tim Seelig, conductor).

P.L. Grove uses her bachelor's degree in handbells and her 50 years of experience with the instrument to guide her decisions as Velocity's Artistic Director, but the group often performs "conductorless." It is the group's ability to create a true sense of velocity – the right rate of speed at each moment in order to create music that ebbs and flows...music that moves – that gives the group their name.

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SAN FRANCISCO BACH CHOIR

2026–2027 SEASON

May 22-23: *Glorious Vienna: Beethoven, Brahms, & Mendelssohn*
in collaboration with Oakland Civic Orchestra

Sing with us – auditions coming up!
Rehearsals Tuesdays 7–10 PM (beginning January 12th, 2027) at Calvary Presbyterian, SF Audition info and sign-up: sfbach.org/join

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Support our Year-End Campaign!

Make a gift to SFBC to support the music that moves and connects us.

Please visit http://tiny.cc/SFBachChoir2026

or send your tax-deductible contribution to:
SFBC, 2443 Fillmore Street, No. 195, SF, CA 94115
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K.E. Brown, in honor of Sarah Jelley and Jack Miller – with sincere gratitude for generous and talented cousins!

Maura Church, in honor of the SFBC Board of Directors

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Marianne D'Emidio Caston, in memory of Kathy Clement, Kathy's beautiful art graced the program for years!

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Judy Goldstein, in loving memory of David Babbitt and Kathy Clement

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Katherine McStravick, in honor of Laurie Olsen

Mardith Louisell, in memory of Claudia Krawchuk

Jack Miller, in honor of Hardy Burl, who made St. Nick seem sedate.

Laurie Olsen, in loving memory of Kathy Clement, her rich alto voice, infectious laugh, beautiful graphics, friendship, and years of dedicated contribution to our choir.

Kate Siepmann, in honor of Laurie Olsen

Susan Sherk, in memory of Kathy Clement, dear friend and longtime member of the choir.

The Solomon-Augers, in honor of Magen's leadership and in memory of our mother, Doris Vercoe Solomon, also a choral conductor.

Judy Stone, in honor of Laurie Olsen, in celebration of 50 years of friendship and singing together in the SF Bach Choir

Christine Valentine, in honor of Beckett Madden-Woods

The San Francisco Bach Choir would like to thank our generous and loyal donors who have made this music possible and who inspire us to bring transcendent experiences to our audiences.

We want to hear from you!

What you enjoyed, what you want to hear in the future, what we could do better.
Please fill out our audience survey.
You'll have a chance to get a free pair of tickets to an upcoming concert.



Join us around the fire as we "roast" again the texts and melodies so beloved of the holiday season. Over the centuries, composers have been inspired, again and again, by the texts of "Ave Maria" and "There is No Rose," and by the melodies of "The Coventry Carol" and even "Jingle Bells!" We'll share a few of these settings—from across the centuries and across cultures—pairing beloved old chestnuts with newly discovered voices, including those of our *Composers-in-* and *Not-in-Residence.*

TICKETS & DETAILS - **WWW.SFCA.ORG** Buy **in advance**, and **PAY WHAT YOU WILL**!

SAN FRANCISCO
CHORAL ARTISTS
MAGEN SOLOMON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



DECEMBER 2026

SUN 13 SAN FRANCISCO
NOE VALLEY MINISTRY
1021 SANCHEZ ST • 4PM

SAT 19 PALO ALTO
ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
555 WAVERLEY ST • 7:30PM

SUN 20 OAKLAND
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
114 MONTECITO AVE • 4PM

TEXT AND TRANSLATIONS

Festive Bells & Candlelight: Ringing in the Holidays

PERSONENT HODIE (Holst, arr.)

Personent hodie voces puerulæ,
laudantes jucunde qui nobis est natus,
summo Deo datus, et de vir, vir, vir (2x)
et de virgineo ventre procreatus.

Let the voices of children resound today,
joyfully praising Him who is born to us,
given by God most high,
and conceived in a virginal womb.

In mundo nascitur, pannis involvitur
præsepi ponitur stabulo brutorum,
rector supernorum. Perdidit, dit, dit (2x)
perdidit spolia princeps infernorum.

He was born into the world, wrapped in swaddling clothes,
and laid in a manger
In a stable for animals, the master of the heavens.
The prince of Hell has lost his spoils.

Magi tres venerunt, parvulum inquirunt,
Bethlehem adeunt, stellulam sequendo,
ipsum adorando, aurum, thus, thus, thus (2x)
aurum, thus, et myrrham ei offerendo.

Three Magi came, they sought the little one,
They go to Bethlehem, following a star.
to worship him,
and offer him gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Omnes clericuli, pariter pueri,
cantent ut angeli: advenisti mundo,
laudes tibi fundo. Ideo, o, o, (2x)
Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

Let all the junior clerics, and the boys, sing like angels:
You have come into the world,
I pour out praises to you.
Therefore, glory to God in the highest!

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM (Rossi, arr.)

LOVING CREATOR OF THE STARS

Conditor alme siderum,
aeterna lux credentium,
Christe, redemptor omnium,
exaudi preces supplicum.

Loving Creator of the stars,
eternal light of the faithful,
Christ, Redeemer of all,
hear the prayers of your suppliants.

Qui condolens interitu
mortis perire saeculum,
salvasti mundum languidum,
donans reis remedium,

You who, taking pity on the world
as it was perishing by death's ruinous force,
saved the languishing world,
providing a remedy for the guilty,

Vergente mundi vespere,
uti sponsus de thalamo,
egressus honestissima
Virginis matris clausula.

As the world's eventide was falling,
like a bridegroom from his nuptial chamber
came forth from the Virgin mother's
most noble womb.

Cuius forti potentiae
genu curvantur omnia;
caelestia, terrestrial
nutu fatentur subdita.

Before your mighty power,
all things bend the knee;
those of heaven and of earth
acknowledge themselves subject to your will.

Te, Sancte, fide quaesumus,
venture iudex saeculi,
conserva nos in tempore
hostis a telo perfidi.

O Holy One, we beseech you in faith,
O you who will come as Judge of the world,
preserve us in time
from the dart of the perfidious enemy.

Sit, Christe, rex piissime,
tibi Patrique gloria
cum Spiritu Paraclito,
in sempiterna saecula. Amen.

O Christ, most loving King,
glory be to You and to the Father
with the Spirit, the Paraclete,
for ever and ever. Amen.

– hymn for Sunday Vespers, Advent, 16 December

CUANDO EL REY NIMROD (Harrington, arr.)

Cuando el Rey Nimrod al campo salia
mirava en el cielo y en la estrelleria
vido una luz santa en la juderia
que havia de nascer Avraham Avinu.
Refrain: Avraham Avinu, Padre querido
Padre bendicho, luz de Yisrael!

La mujer der Terach quedo prenyada
de dia en dia el le preguntava
"De que teneix la cara tan de mudada?"
Ella ya savia el bien que tenia.
Refrain: Avraham Avinu…

Saludemos al compadre y tambien al moel
que por su Zekhut mos venga
el Goel y Rahma a todo Yisrael,
cierto loaremos al Verdadero.
Refrain: Avraham Avinu…

When King Nimrod was going out to the fields
He was looking at heaven and at the stars
He saw a holy light above the Jewish quarter
[A sign] that Abraham, our father, must have been born.
Refrain: Abraham Avinu [our Father], dear father
Blessed Father, Light of Israel!

Terach's wife was pregnant
and each day he would ask her
"Why do you look so pale?"
She already knew the blessing she had.
Refrain: Abraham Avinu...

We greet the godfather and the circumciser,
Because of his merit the Redeemer
and Merciful One [God] will come to all Israel,
And we give praises to the True One.
Refrain: Abraham Avinu...

– Sephardic folk song

MORNING STAR (Griffin)

Bright and far, silver as a bell shining like a ship in the night,
Morning star, surely you bode well: in the dark, a sliver of light.
Let sorrow cease, burn the darkness away, bring a day of peace.

Where you are you'll forever stay, constant and undying your beams.
Morning star, light the pearly way from a night of slumber and dreams.
Upon this feast let the world begin rising in the east.

Not a sound from the meadow lark, quiet are the cattle and sheep,
All around dreaming in the dark. Gaze upon the world as they sleep.
Before the daylight breaks and rouses cows and fish
Before the lark awakes, before her call,
Find the morning star and make a silent wish
For peace on earth and hope for all.

– Hilary Bell (b. 1966)

TOMORROW SHALL BE MY DANCING DAY (Gardner)

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;
Chorus: Sing, oh! my love, oh! 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.
Chorus: Sing, oh! my love…

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was
So very poor, this was my chance
Between an ox and a silly poor ass
To call my true love to my dance.
Chorus: Sing, oh! my love…

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

– 16th century (?)

ON CHRISTIMAS DAY (Holmes)

Refrain: On Christimas day the animals sing to serenade the infant King
The doves all coo, the cows all moo, the horses neigh... on Christimas day.
The lambs all bleat, the robins tweet, the donkeys bray... on Christimas day.
The eagles shriek, the mice all squeak, the hounds all bay... on Christimas day.
The frogs all burp, the crickets chirp, likewise the jay... on Christimas day.

– Fenwicke & Brian Holmes

THE FRIENDLY BEASTS (Parker)

Jesus, our brother, kind and good,
Was humbly born in a stable rude
And the friendly beasts around Him stood
Jesus, our brother, kind and good.

I, said the donkey, all shaggy and brown,
I carried His mother up hill and down.
I carried His mother to Bethlehem Town.
I, said the donkey, all shaggy and brown.

I, said the cow, all white and red,
I gave Him my manger for His bed.
I gave Him my hay to pillow His head.
I, said the cow, all white and red.

I, said the sheep, with curly horn,
I gave Him my wool for a blanket warm.
He wore my coat on Christmas morn.
I, said the sheep, with curly horn.

I, said the dove, from the rafters high,
I cooed Him to sleep so He would not cry.
We cooed Him to sleep, my love and I.
I, said the dove, from the rafters high.

Thus every beast, by some good spell,
In the stable rude was glad to tell
Of the gift He gave Emmanuel
The gift He gave Emmanuel
The gift He gave Emmanuel.

CAROL OF THE CREATURES (Kaulkin)
(a Christmas folk-song)

The little Jesus came to town;
The wind blew up the wind blew down;
Out in the street the wind was bold.
Now who would house Him from the cold?
Veni, Domine

Then opened wide a stable door
Fain were the rushes on the floor;
The Ox put forth a horned head:

"Come, little Lord, here make Thy bed."
Veni, Domine

Uprose the Sheep were folded near:
"Thou Lamb of God, come, enter here."
He entered there to rush and reed,
Who was the Lamb of God indeed.
Veni, Domine

The little Jesus came to town;
With ox and sheep He laid Him down.
Peace to the byre, peace to the fold,
For that they housed Him from the cold.
Veni, Domine

– Lissete Woodworth Reese (1856-1935) (Latin refrain added by the composer)

SPANISH CAROL (Van, arr.)

Up now, laggardly lasses, Up, awake and away!
Out and gone before cockcrow, on the road before day!
Mary meek and gentle, Rose of Jericho,
Bore a babe and laid him in a manger low,
See the tears in his eyes, now; sleep my pretty one, sleep.
Let him dream when he can, now; sleep my innocent, sleep.
Ah, my precious jewel, great the grief and pain,
Suffered through the wide world for the sins of men.

– J. Perez Ballesteros (1833-1918) (trans. J.B.Trend)

MAGNIFICAT (Tallis)

My soul magnifies the Lord.
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden;
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is His name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations
He hath showed strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek
He hath filled the hungry he hath filled with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering His mercy, hath holpen His servant Israel;
As He promised to our forefathers, to Abraham and his seed forever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

– The Canticle of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Luke 1:46-55). Traditional doxology of Roman liturgy appended

COVENTRY CAROL (Pilkington, arr.)

Lully, Lullay, thou little tiny child,
By, by lully, lullay.
O sisters, too, how may we do,
For to preserve this day,
This poor Youngling for whom we sing,
By by, lully, lullay?
Lully, Lullay…
Herod, the king, in his raging
Charged he hath this day
His men of might in his own sight
All young children to slay.
Lully, Lullay…

That woe is me, poor child for thee!
And ever morn and day,
For thy parting nor say nor sing
By by, lully, lullay.
Lully, Lullay…

– Robert Croo, 1534

AVE MARIA (Czerny)

Ave Maria, gratia plena: Dominus tecum,	Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you;
Benedicta tu in mulieribus	Blessed are you among women,
Et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus,	And blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,	Holy Mary, Mother of God,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,	pray for us sinners,
nunc et in hora mortis. Amen.	now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH (SINGALONG)

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (x2)

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be,
which inspire your heav'nly song.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (x2)

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! (x2)

THE BOAR'S HEAD CAROL (with additional Bach Choir verses)

1. The boar's head in hand bear I,
Bedecked with bays and rosemary
And I pray you my masters be merry
Quod estis in convivio [as many as are at the feast]
Caput apri defero [I bring in the boar's head,]
Reddens laudes Domino [giving thanks to the Lord]

2. The cheese plate aloft I bring.
That vegetarians may sing.
Though you eschew the flesh of pork
Still raise a glass and wield your fork!
Caput CHEESE PLATE defero [I bring in the cheese plate]
Reddens laudes Domino [giving thanks to the Lord]

3. The boar's head, as I understand,
Is the rarest dish in all the land
Which thus bedecked with a gay garland;
Let us servire cantico [serve it with a song]
Caput apri defero [I bring in the boar's head,]
Reddens laudes Domino [giving thanks to the Lord]

4. Fie then, sirs, and shame on you!
Abhor the boar, and serve tofu

This gorgeous block of gleaming white,
hic bean-um bonum servio!
Caput TOFU defero [I bring in the tofu block,]
Reddens laudes Domino [giving thanks to the Lord]

5. Our steward hath provided this
In honor of the Queen of Bliss,
Which on this day to be served is
In Reginensi Atrio [in Queen's Hall]
Caput apri defero [I bring in the boar's head,]
Reddens laudes Domino [giving thanks to the Lord]

6. A house divided shall surely fall
Our table here is set for all.
Be ye vegan, paleo,
or non discriminatio! [or undiscriminating]
Caput TUTTO.... [(We welcome) everyone]
Reddens laudes Domino [giving thanks to the Lord]

7. We feast upon, with hungry eyes,
this gath'ring of such pleasing size.
We raise a glass to the audience
Familia homo sapiens! [the family of humans]
Caput AUDIENCE... [(We welcome) the audience]
Reddens laudes Domino [giving thanks to the Lord]

A VIRGIN UNSPOTTED (Billings)

A Virgin Unspotted by Prophet foretold
Should bring forth a Savior who now we behold
To be our Redeemer from Death, Hell, and Sin
Which Adam's transgressions involved us in.
Then let us be merry, put sorrows away,
Our Savior, Christ Jesus, was born on this day.

Through Bethlehem's city, in Jewry, it was,
That Joseph and Mary together did pass,
And for to be taxed when thither they came,
Since Caesar Augustus commanded the same
Then let us be merry, put sorrows away,

But Mary's full time being come, as we find,
She brought forth her first born to save all mankind.
The inn being full, for this heavenly guest,
No place there was found where to lay him to rest.
Then let us be merry, put sorrows away,

SHERBURNE (Read)

While shepherds watch'd their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around.

All Glory be to God on high
And to the earth be peace.
Good will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.

– Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

ZACHARIAH'S PROPHECY (Aprahamian)

Give light to those who walk in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet in the way of peace.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High
Give light...

For you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
Give light...

To give knowledge of salvation to his people
in the forgiveness of their sins,
Give light...

Through the tender mercies of our God.
Give light...

When the day shall dawn upon us from on high,
Give light...

Alleluia!

GOD BLESS THE MOON (Ritchie/Düsing, arr.)

I see the moon, and the moon sees me,
God bless the moon and God bless me,
There's grace in the cabin and grace in the hall
And the grace of God is over us all.

I see the moon, and the moon sees me,
The moon sees somebody I want to see,
God bless the moon and God bless me,
And God bless the somebody I want to see.

I see the moon, and the moon sees me,
God bless the moon and God bless me,
There's grace in the cabin and grace in the hall
And the grace of God is over us all.

Yes, grace in the cabin and grace in the hall
And the grace of God is over us all.

SILENT NIGHT (SINGALONG)

Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!

EVERGREEN (Pinkham)

How fine the sweetness from the bough,
Evergreen, ever living,
Like the prayer offered now
For a whole world's forgiving:
While the Christ Child is sleeping.
Worlds of woe in his keeping,
Worlds of Joy in his dream.
Lord, redeem us,
    Redeem us!
That when thou art waking,
The hearts we uplift
Shall be thy Christmas gift
And be well worth thy taking

How bright the radiance of the tree
Evergreen, everlasting,
Like the feastday to be
After long years of fasting
Bright in hope Christmas morning
To the Christ Child returning,
Once again we believe.
Lord receive us,
    Receive us!

When we come before thee,
The heart's joy we bring Noel!
Noel! Shall sing
And forever adore thee

– Robert Hillyer (1895-1961)

GIVEN NOT LENT (Cummins)

Given not lent,
And not withdrawn -- once sent,
This Infant of mankind, this One,
Is still the little welcome Son.

New every year,
New born, and newly dear,
He comes with tidings and a song,
the ages long, the ages long;

Even as the cold
keen winters grow not old,
As childhood is so fresh, foreseen,
And spring in the familiar green --

Sudden as sweet
Come the expected feet.
All joy is young and new all art,
and He, too, Whom we have by heart.

– Alice Meynell (1947-1922) original title "Unto us a Son is Given"

NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND (Bach)

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland
der Jungfrauen Kind erkannt
daß sich wunder alle Welt
Gott solch' Geburt ihm bestellt.

Now come, savior of the Gentiles,
Acknowledged child of the Virgin,
Who caused the world to marvel
That God bestowed upon him such a birth.

– Martin Luther (1483-1546)

JOY TO THE WORLD (SINGALONG)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come.
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing, (2x)
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns.
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, (2x)
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, (2x)
And wonders and wonders of His love!

❖❖❖

VOLUNTEERS

Our sincere thanks to our many volunteers from within the choir and our community. Their talents, energy, and dedication make all this possible.

Concert Production: Polly Adema, Mahala Bundy, Rebecca Conant, David Conant, Abigail Farrell, Don Hodge, Rebecca Hogenhuis, Rachel Jansen, Francis Kim, Casey Leones, Craig Middleton, Lee Morrow, Lisa Ochs, Douglas Pleasure, Tim Smith, Bert Vander Meeren, Gary Walker

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